

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RALEIGH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

MARY WEBB, individually, and in her
capacity as Administratrix of the
Estate of Robert A. Webb,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-C-406-H
Honorable John A. Hutchinson

RALEIGH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT;
RALEIGH COUNTY COMMISSION;
SHERIFF DANNY MOORE, individually and
in his official capacity; CHIEF DEPUTY
STEVE TANNER, individually and in his
official capacity; DEPUTY GREG S. KADE,
individually and in his official capacity;
and DEPUTY JOHN E. HAJASH, individually and
in his official capacity,

Defendants.

The following is a transcript of a taped
conversation between Sheriff Danny Moore and Deputy
John E. Hajash.

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1 DEPUTY HAJASH: I wanted you to meet my fiancé
2 before she ran off.

3 SHERIFF MOORE: How are you?

4 FEMALE VOICE: Fine. How are you?

5 DEPUTY HAJASH: Sheriff, this is (inaudible.)

6 SHERIFF MOORE: You doing okay?

7 FEMALE VOICE: Yeah, I'm (inaudible.)

8 DEPUTY HAJASH: I wanted to come to you, I was
9 wanting to tell you this, but I was afraid if I went over
10 Steve's head, you know how Steve is.

11 SHERIFF MOORE: Uh-huh.

12 DEPUTY HAJASH: If you go over his head, it's
13 going to be on, probably the end of the world.

14 SHERIFF MOORE: Right.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: That's why I didn't want to come
16 to you. Because he's fussed at everybody for going over
17 each others' heads and stuff like that.

18 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, we have a chain-of-
19 command, but something like this, though, it's not -- we
20 talk about you all the time and we talk about you
21 (inaudible) and all. Do you remember the first time you
22 came up here?

23 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

24 SHERIFF MOORE: Wanted us to hire you. You was,

1 what, 18?

2 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

3 SHERIFF MOORE: Passed everything. And what did
4 I tell you?

5 DEPUTY HAJASH: Too young.

6 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. And I was hesitant. The
7 second time I was real hesitant about hiring you because
8 of your age and but, by law, you were considered an adult.
9 Do you remember some of the things we talked about?

10 DEPUTY HAJASH: Some of them.

11 SHERIFF MOORE: About what could happen?

12 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

13 SHERIFF MOORE: Okay. If you couldn't handle it
14 or not, yeah, you know, you assured me. Well, the first
15 thing I want to ask you, and you explain it to me because
16 I'm having a hard time understanding. What makes you
17 think that you took the life of Webb?

18 DEPUTY HAJASH: What do you mean?

19 SHERIFF MOORE: Just think. What makes you
20 think you took his life? You shot him.

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: And one of my bullets hit him.

22 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, but it hit him. That's
23 all it did. He was shot first by who?

24 DEPUTY HAJASH: Kade.

1 SHERIFF MOORE: With what?

2 DEPUTY HAJASH: Shotgun.

3 SHERIFF MOORE: He was dead before he hit the
4 ground. You just shot into a nothing, a piece of clay.
5 You know? And now, for some reason, you can't let loose
6 of it and go on about your job, going about saving other
7 people. You saved -- you saved peoples' lives that night.
8 You saved your own life, you saved Kade's life, you saved
9 your, you know, your future. Because if it had been
10 reversed, this young lady wouldn't be sitting here, you
11 wouldn't be sitting here, and you know, I don't know what
12 you -- why you are punishing yourself when if the drug and
13 everything come back that this man was drunk and on drugs,
14 that if you hadn't have done your duty, somebody would
15 have died that night. An innocent person.

16 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

17 SHERIFF MOORE: Somebody. Because he was having
18 it in his mind he was shooting up the neighborhood. And
19 why you're punishing yourself, I don't know. I don't
20 understand it. Because, you know, we talked about this
21 when you were first hired here. And you're much older
22 now, and you've seen a lot of things that, you know, the
23 Bible says, "Renderance of Caesar for other Caesars, and
24 what is God, what is God's." Well, you know, you've done

1 your job, your duty. You've rendered unto Caesar, how is
2 the government, what you're supposed to do. Your job.
3 Now, God will forgive you. Read your Bible. It ain't
4 something you're going to go to hell over. God don't send
5 people to hell for doing their duty for society. He makes
6 that plain. He makes that plain. And he's had -- God has
7 had, when he come -- when Moses went on the mountain to
8 get the Ten Commandments --

9 DEPUTY HAJASH: Uh-huh.

10 SHERIFF MOORE: -- the people that he left down
11 there, they made a golden (inaudible) to worship. Well,
12 when he come down and found out what God did, God had
13 3,000 people killed. God did. God kills people every
14 day. So he's not going to hold that against you for doing
15 your job. And, no, technically, you ain't killed nobody
16 on paper, you know. I mean, you shot a guy, but he was
17 dead before he hit the ground. My lord, he had a .00 --

18 DEPUTY HAJASH: Buckshot in him.

19 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, .38 slugs is what they
20 are. And then, I know you're having problems dealing with
21 it, but you shouldn't. Yeah, it's a horrible thing, but,
22 you know, you're a young man. You're going to -- you got
23 another years and years on this job, if you desire to
24 stay. Which we hope you do. But we got to get you

1 through this mess. And here there's right ways and wrong
2 ways to do things. Okay? And you're going to have to get
3 your mind straight because the letter that that guy wrote,
4 technically, I'm supposed to relieve you of duty. Period.
5 I mean, didn't Tanner explain that to you?

6 DEPUTY HAJASH: Not like that.

7 SHERIFF MOORE: I've got to take your gun and
8 badge because it says that -- well, you know what the
9 letter said. And I don't know, now, we set you up with
10 the guy that, you know, that you said he wasn't helping.
11 Well, no, he, you know, he -- psychology, you have got to
12 get another person. This guy don't you from Adam. You
13 walk in here, I don't know you from Adam. Let's say I'm a
14 psychologist. I've got to talk to you about everything in
15 the world to get an insight to who you are, what kind of
16 personality you are. All the stuff, personal about you,
17 before I can ever start to treat you. We've got to talk
18 about everything. I don't have a clue what he's talking
19 -- but he's supposed to talk to you about everything under
20 the sun trying to get your (inaudible) life.

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: It is --

22 SHERIFF MOORE: To get to know you. That's what
23 -- you keep going back and back and back so you develop a
24 relationship. Then by developing a relationship, you get

1 to open up more to each other.

2 DEPUTY HAJASH: Uh-huh.

3 SHERIFF MOORE: You know, why is this bothering
4 you? I mean, you know, you technically done the world a
5 favor. Period. And the thing is, you have got to take --
6 when you talked and you were first hired, you know, we
7 talked about you could be -- you know, you have -- you, as
8 carrying a badge and a gun, and you took an oath. You
9 fulfilled that oath and that obligation to the best of
10 your ability. You went home that night. That's the
11 number one rule. Go home.

12 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

13 SHERIFF MOORE: Because you got a -- you're a
14 young man. You got your whole life -- yeah, I feel bad
15 for the kids and all that, but those children can't help
16 because their daddy was a --

17 DEPUTY HAJASH: Lunatic.

18 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. They can't help it. He
19 was a loony. And momma knows it. That's the reason she
20 divorced him. Everybody knew it.

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: What, they were divorced?

22 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, I think so.

23 DEPUTY HAJASH: I didn't know that.

24 SHERIFF MOORE: Or were getting ready to get a

1 divorce or something. I don't know. I've heard awful
2 rumors. But you did what you had to do. Nobody said,
3 "We're going to give you a choice here." Okay? But thank
4 God you reacted the way you did, the way you were supposed
5 to, the way you was trained to. Okay? And I'm thankful
6 for that. You did the right choice, you made the right
7 choices. Now, it bothers you. How much more would it
8 bother you if you all had not even went and he killed --
9 went through some door up there and killed some kid,
10 because you would refuse to go?

11 DEPUTY HAJASH: It would have been bad.

12 SHERIFF MOORE: Absolutely. Absolutely. But
13 you're, you know, I don't know, this is a man's job. Any
14 way you look at it. This ain't for wimps. And you wasn't
15 a wimp. You did your job. But now you have to deal with
16 it. You have to get over it. Because if you stay in
17 you're liable to have to do it again. And I don't want
18 you going out there and try to second guess and get
19 yourself blowed away. You watch enough TV, you know what
20 can happen.

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

22 SHERIFF MOORE: You know. You're a grown man.
23 And you did what you were supposed to do. What we pay you
24 to do.

1 DEPUTY HAJASH: My thing is, I mean, I don't
2 want this to come out the wrong way, but, you know, being
3 involved in the shooting, that -- it don't bother me at
4 all. But I have dreams. I has nothing to do with that.
5 But ever since then I've just had shooting dreams. Like I
6 make them up in my mind when I'm sleeping. I mean,
7 situations I've never been in, never seen the
8 surroundings. Like, I make up like it's -- I had a dream
9 two or three nights ago that I was in a car trying to get
10 away from somebody on Cranberry Road, but it was a
11 different road.

12 SHERIFF MOORE: Everybody dreams. When I
13 -- thank God, I've been shot at, but I've never had, thank
14 God I've never had to kill anybody. But everybody has
15 dreams. I mean, you're not the only one.

16 DEPUTY HAJASH: And it's an every night thing,
17 too.

18 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, but that's because you're
19 -- you, for some reason, why is it fuel? What are you
20 doing to keep it fresh in your memory?

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: I have no idea.

22 SHERIFF MOORE: Do you keep a diary or anything?

23 DEPUTY HAJASH: No. I never wrote anything down
24 about the actual shooting or anything. I never done

1 nothing about it.

2 SHERIFF MOORE: But dreams are dreams. But now
3 when you let dreams start to control you, as a man, then
4 that's when the problem -- you know, everybody dreams.
5 Everybody, you know, different dreams, different things.

6 DEPUTY HAJASH: That's why I went to --

7 SHERIFF MOORE: But when you -- well, they might
8 not have the answer for you. It's something you might
9 have to do. Something you might have to live with, you
10 know, psychologists are only good for so much. You know?

11 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

12 SHERIFF MOORE: But until you let go of the
13 guilt that you feel, then you'll never be able to do your
14 job.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: True.

16 SHERIFF MOORE: And, you know, there's a right
17 way and wrong way to do things here. And I hope Tanner
18 explained the right way here. But that letter that your
19 doctor sent, you know, I'm supposed to take your gun and
20 badge. What did that letter say?

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: I'll need to return to work when
22 I'm stable.

23 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. I'm not supposed to let
24 an unstable person carry a gun and a badge, right? I

1 mean, you know, you correct me if you think I'm wrong.

2 And I don't think you're unstable.

3 DEPUTY HAJASH: Not like that, no.

4 SHERIFF MOORE: No, no. I still think you can
5 do your job out here. But, you know, sick time and
6 vacation time, if I take your gun and badge you're going
7 to be on sick leave. And if it's indefinite, then I don't
8 know what you're going to do. You all are getting ready
9 to get married, your sick time is going to run out and
10 then you're just going to be absent without pay. Because
11 nobody want -- you know, and another thing you're going to
12 have to do, quit listening to shit house ?? rumors. My
13 God, every Tom, Dick and Harry has got dreams. And the
14 only opinion that counts around here is mine.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: Well, I don't pay any attention
16 to them. I hear them, but I don't pay attention to them.

17 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, don't. But there's a
18 right way and a wrong way. You don't just take off and
19 don't show up and nobody knows why. We're here to help
20 you. We don't want to lose you. But, you know, if we do
21 what, you know, you need to go see a doctor. Because if
22 you don't, here in the next day or two I'm going to have
23 to relieve you and put you on sick time, and take your gun
24 and badge until I get a clear report from him that you are

1 stable enough to come back to work. But I don't know what
2 he was thinking he was doing you a favor, but he didn't.
3 I don't know, you know, he might be -- is he a friend of
4 yours or something?

5 DEPUTY HAJASH: No.

6 SHERIFF MOORE: I mean, you dump our guy. Our
7 guy has dealt with this thing before.

8 DEPUTY HAJASH: Well, he didn't call me back for
9 a month and --

10 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah.

11 DEPUTY HAJASH: He just never called me back.

12 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. Well, you need to call
13 him and say, "Listen, I still need to talk to you some
14 more."

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: I called him twice. He said
16 call and leave him a message.

17 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, did you tell Tanner that?
18 Because Tanner can call him and put a fire under him.

19 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah, I told Tanner.

20 SHERIFF MOORE: Okay.

21 DEPUTY HAJASH: He told me I should have called
22 every day and went out there in person and --

23 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. Looks like you got a
24 problem. But we're paying him, you know. I'm trying to

1 help you because Workers' Comp won't pay for it. It will
2 come out of your pocket.

3 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

4 SHERIFF MOORE: And Johnson's done this thing
5 before. He treats people like this. And I don't know the
6 man personally, never met him, never talked to him. But I
7 know I got him to help people. The thing is, you ain't
8 killed nobody. (Inaudible) hit the ground. And, you
9 know, you're going to have to, well, pardon my French, but
10 you're going to have to grow a pair of balls and say,
11 "Hey, I did the world a favor." And, you know, a lot of
12 people don't like the way we look at things, and a lot of
13 people -- but it's a fact. Because I would rather have
14 been up there and him laying there than you laying there.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

16 SHERIFF MOORE: Especially, you know, under
17 circumstances that he was a nut, on pills and on drugs and
18 liquor, his alcohol content.

19 DEPUTY HAJASH: .220?

20 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. But you've got to get
21 going with your life and get it out of your mind. It's
22 over. It's done. There's nothing -- there's nothing in
23 the world that can change it. Nothing. Absolutely
24 nothing. It's done. So don't ruin your life because of

1 this idiot. And these kids, they're going to grow up,
2 they're going to know that he was an idiot when the facts
3 come out.

4 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

5 SHERIFF MOORE: And you're going to look them
6 dead in the eye and say, "Hey, guys, he made the decision.
7 I didn't." You ain't killed nobody. You know, he was
8 dead before he hit the ground. And, you know, you -- this
9 is what you do. And you ain't the first that's ever done
10 it and you won't be the last. But that's what you get
11 paid to do, your duty.

12 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

13 SHERIFF MOORE: And if you have any, I mean any
14 qualms, any questions about being able to do it, then you
15 need to maybe take a harder look at finding another
16 profession. So if you like this profession you're going
17 to have to get over it and buckle up and do it. And
18 tearing yourself apart for no reason. For no reason.
19 Because people are going to be illegal, they're going to
20 keep doing it, keep doing it and keep doing it. But
21 people like you, me and everybody else that wears a gun
22 and a badge stops it. But, you know, this sheriff is one
23 of the oldest professions in history. There's been
24 sheriffs since 16 -- way back before 1600s, in England.

1 And here in (inaudible) since 1850, when we were still
2 Virginia, there's been a sheriff here. Except before the
3 Civil War, there's no sheriff in Raleigh County. But, you
4 know, there's tradition there that (inaudible) and you did
5 it. But now you've got to let it go and go on about your
6 life. You all are getting married, you're going to have a
7 family, you should have a family, you're going to have
8 children. And think about them. You did what you had to
9 do. And there's -- and the only person that can do that,
10 you can go to a psychologist all you want, but it's going
11 to have to come from within you. You're going to have to
12 let it go. Let it go. And quit, when you go to bed, quit
13 -- you're subconsciously thinking about it. And I'm going
14 to tell you a story about me. Carl Jones was a sergeant
15 back in the police department and, of course, I was, too.
16 We grew up together at Mabscott. I knew him my whole
17 life. He was my best friend. We shot together.

18 DEPUTY HAJASH: Is that street named after him?

19 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, it sure is. That's him.

20 DEPUTY HAJASH: I'm sorry about that.

21 SHERIFF MOORE: He was a sergeant. Yeah.

22 That's where he lived, up on that street.

23 DEPUTY HAJASH: Was it?

24 SHERIFF MOORE: Uh-huh. Well, and (inaudible.)

1 And so we traveled everywhere together and we always
2 roomed together. Okay. But we didn't sleep together. We
3 always roomed together in twin beds, so I could cut costs.
4 We would go shooting out west, because I used to shoot
5 pistols, competition, and he did, too. Well, I took him
6 out there, there was an FOP Convention in Bluefield. So
7 he said he was feeling bad. He said he went to the doctor
8 that day and was feeling bad. And he said, "We'll take my
9 car if you'll drive." I said okay. So he come and got me
10 and I drove down. And he had been to the doctor
11 (inaudible) and he always high blood pressure. Well, the
12 doctor put him on some medication. Well, the next night
13 he wouldn't eat supper. We had our FOP meeting all day,
14 and he said, "No, my chest is killing me. I'm hurting
15 bad." So I got him a plate after supper and took it to
16 him, and he still wouldn't eat. So I went down and was
17 playing cards. It was about 11 or 12 at night. I went to
18 the room and he was sitting up in bed. He said, "My chest
19 is killing me." I said, "Well, let's go to the hospital."
20 He said, "All right. Let's go." So he put his clothes
21 on, I put mine on, we got down to the car, got in the car
22 and was going over to the hospital. And he said, "Well,
23 let's go to Princeton Hospital. That's a pretty good
24 hospital." Well, we got over there and he said, "Man," he

1 said, "I feel a whole lot better." He said, "Just take me
2 home." Because this is at Princeton, he lived at Shady.
3 He said, "Danny, just -- I'll tell you what he said. He
4 said, "I feel better now. It must have been indigestion
5 or something." So he said, "Just take me home. We'll go
6 home." It's like 12 or 1 by this time. He said, "Let's
7 go home and let's, in the morning, if I don't feel any
8 better, I'll go see my doctor as soon as come back down
9 tomorrow." I said, "Are you sure?" He said, "Yeah."
10 Well, we passed the Princeton Hospital, got on the
11 interstate coming home. Right there at Flat Top, you
12 know, on the Turnpike?

13 DEPUTY HAJASH: Uh-huh.

14 SHERIFF MOORE: The towers on the right?

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

16 SHERIFF MOORE: Got right along in there and he
17 said, "Danny," he said, "This is the best I have felt all
18 day long." And I said, "Boy, I'm glad." Within five
19 seconds, he screamed the top of his voice, my name, and
20 went like that. Fell. Fell over. I swerved off the
21 Turnpike, got on those gravels, got out of the car, ran
22 over there, pulled him out, he wasn't breathing. I did
23 CPR on him forever and a day. I was wringing wet. Scared
24 he was dead. I don't even remember who, what, some

1 passerby come by and I screamed at him, you know, we
2 didn't have cell phones in them days. I screamed
3 (inaudible) but we did. I screamed at him to call for an
4 ambulance. Well, when I was doing CPR on him, after God
5 knows how long, the gas what I was breathing into him, it
6 was going plum through him and out his rectum. I knew he
7 was dead. Heart attack. And I'm sitting there shaking,
8 sweating, by best friend laying there dead. Well, the
9 ambulance came took him. I went to see the doctor. And
10 the doctor said that his heart exploded. Massive. He
11 said, "He could have been right here in our emergency
12 room, we could not have saved him." Knowing that, that
13 there was nothing I could have done, for six months that's
14 all I dreamed about, I had panic attacks, I ended up in a
15 hospital, getting my heart checked because I thought it
16 was going to happen to me. I did all of this stuff. I
17 mean, you -- I mean, I know what you're going through. I
18 had panic attacks. I was having -- I was having heart
19 attacks. I went to the hospital, they done all these
20 tests, heart monitor, EKG, kept me over there in the
21 hospital.

22 DEPUTY HAJASH: I went through all that, too.

23 SHERIFF MOORE: And they said, "There's nothing
24 wrong with you. It's up here." So I went home, told my

1 wife, I said, "Danny's got to straighten this out." I'm
2 not going to -- I might die, I'm going to die, I know, but
3 it ain't going to be my heart. It ain't going to -- now,
4 this has been some 10 or 15 years ago. So I thought I was
5 -- my heart was busting. I couldn't get it out of my
6 mind. Finally, I just said, I just said, "Lord, you're
7 going to have to help me. I ain't going to have no heart
8 attack." If I do, it's going to be down the road. I
9 mean, I might, now I might. But back then, and I put it
10 in its place. It took me a while. It took me a couple
11 weeks, but I put it in its place. You did all -- I did
12 all I could do to save him. I can't change it. It's
13 done. The Good Lord brought him home. The Good Lord
14 called this man, wherever he's going to go, the Good Lord
15 got tired of it. Up there, out in his underwear and T-
16 shirt and scaring the kids, scaring the neighbors. And
17 this had been going on, as you know, for a long time.

18 DEPUTY HAJASH: Uh-huh.

19 SHERIFF MOORE: And I just had to put it in its
20 place. I had to say, "Listen, shape up." And, you know,
21 "It's done and you had to -- "You did the best you could.
22 Let it rest." And I did. And now, you know, I see kids
23 all the time and I'll -- you know, they were supportive,
24 but the thing is, you did all you could do. You can't

1 change it. (Inaudible) You've got to live your life.
2 You guys are going to have a life together. And you've
3 got to turn loose of this one so you can have a new one.
4 You got to have, you know, especially if you have a child.
5 Which I hope you do. They're wonderful. My grandkids are
6 better, but that's 40 years down the road, or 50. And,
7 you know, and things is -- so here's where we stand. You
8 need to make an appointment with this doctor that wrote
9 that you're unfit for duty. Talk to him, find out does he
10 think you're unfit. Because if he does, then I'm going to
11 have to put you on sick leave until he clears you.
12 Because if you come back on duty with that slip, and you
13 have to do it again, then I'm going to be sued for letting
14 you out there. Nobody is trying to get rid of you.
15 Shoot, you done it. I didn't. You know, we had you fixed
16 up. So you're going -- now, if he says, no, that you
17 still need some help, well, then say, "Well, let's have a
18 session every day or every week until I can get cleared."
19 And then if he doesn't clear you, and then you come back
20 here and see me, with your gun and badge, and I'll put you
21 on sick leave. And then I don't know how much sick leave,
22 vacation can last. When it runs out you ain't going to be
23 paid. But you've got to put it behind you and get it
24 straightened out. Because no employer, I don't care if

1 it's any field, I don't care if you're a secretary
2 somewhere, you bring in a slip like that they can't let
3 you work. They just can't do it. It's just -- you're
4 kind of tying my hands on it, as what I can do and can't
5 do.

6 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

7 SHERIFF MOORE: But, you know, panic attacks,
8 I've had it all. I'm telling you what, I -- but it was
9 all uphill. Then I finally said, "Hey, get a hold of
10 yourself." And I got my -- get your Bible out and read a
11 little bit of the Bible. I believe -- I believe that will
12 help. I know it helped me. And a lot of people around
13 here and, you know, drink and carry on and do drugs, and
14 be on alcohol. But those are just substitutes. And I
15 know your family, they're good religious people. And, of
16 course, I'm a religious man. I ain't always been, but I
17 know it worked for me. There's nothing you can do that
18 it's not covered in the Bible. But you can go and -- but
19 you do what you feel is right. But if I don't get a slip
20 that clears you to work, then you're just going to have to
21 go on sick time, and I don't know how much you got left,
22 sick time, vacation time until -- and then after so many
23 months you can't find out your problem, you don't have
24 enough time vested to get a pension.

1 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

2 SHERIFF MOORE: But now, now you've heard me run
3 off at the mouth. Now you tell me what you want.

4 DEPUTY HAJASH: I want to work. I just want
5 some help with the dreams. That's the only thing I want.

6 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, two things. The Lord
7 helps those who help their self. You're going to have to
8 get -- you're going to have to make up your mind to get it
9 out of your mind. Because it's you. It ain't nobody
10 else. It's, you know -- and nobody might be able to help
11 you. You know, who knows. But I know where I would be
12 going. I would be getting my Bible and I would be praying
13 about it. And if you ain't -- if you've never been saved
14 then you need to get some of your friends to pray for you.
15 Because God don't listen to people that's not saved. And
16 I can show you that in the Bible. Okay? So if that's the
17 case, then you need to get some of your family to pray for
18 you. And they don't have to come to your house and they
19 don't have to lay hands on your if they want to or you
20 want them to. But to pray for you. I mean, (inaudible)
21 go to bed and say their prayers, I believe in it. And one
22 day every human being will come to the point they need
23 prayer, because they have got nowhere to turn, they have
24 got nobody to help. Then all of the sudden they realize

1 there is a real God. And, of course, when I was young I
2 didn't think about it. I was too busy drinking and
3 everything. But you're to a point now, you're going to
4 have to have some extra help. We don't want to lose you.
5 We need to make an appointment as soon as possible with
6 this doctor, with that excuse, take it to him and say,
7 "Does this mean what the Sheriff thinks it means?" And if
8 he says, "Well, I'm not going to release you," then if you
9 don't find another doctor to counteract that or whatever,
10 then bring me your gun and badge and we'll put you on sick
11 leave until you come back with something that says you're
12 capable of returning to work. Because I can't. I can't
13 be responsible if a doctor feels that way.

14 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

15 SHERIFF MOORE: I mean, you know, it's nothing
16 against you or anybody else. It's the facts of life. But
17 you're going to have to buckle up and, you know, make up
18 your mind who you want to go see and whatever. You want
19 to go back to Johnson, that's fine. I'll ask Tanner to
20 call him and make you another quick appointment. But you
21 need to go back to this one doctor there and get some kind
22 of a release or something.

23 DEPUTY HAJASH: Mr. Johnson never called me back
24 in a month. And he just -- like he didn't care. Like he

1 forgot about me.

2 SHERIFF MOORE: Okay. Well, I'll --

3 DEPUTY HAJASH: And we seen each other once a
4 week or once every two weeks, wasn't it?

5 FEMALE VOICE: Once every two weeks, then once
6 you went back to (inaudible.)

7 SHERIFF MOORE: I'll make --

8 FEMALE VOICE: The last one (inaudible) about
9 five minutes.

10 SHERIFF MOORE: I'll make a phone call.

11 FEMALE VOICE: The first one he was in, what,
12 30, 45 minutes. And then the second time he was in there
13 five minutes.

14 SHERIFF MOORE: Uh-huh.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: I told him I was having real bad
16 chest pain a couple days before. And he said, "Well,
17 let's see what the test results are before we have another
18 meeting."

19 FEMALE VOICE: (Inaudible) or whatever it is,
20 and if he don't get help then (inaudible) someone else or
21 (inaudible.)

22 SHERIFF MOORE: Now, do what now?

23 FEMALE VOICE: PTSD, Post Traumatic Stress
24 Disorder.

1 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah. Well, they got fancy
2 words. But the bottom line is, you got to remember two
3 things when dealing with psychologists and psychiatrists.
4 Their job is to take the worst extreme and attack it,
5 trying to, you know, downplay it to the level that he
6 feels comfortable with. Now, if they still feel that way,
7 that's why I've got to take his gun and badge, and your
8 career in law enforcement is over. If they don't, you
9 know, clear you. Somebody, whoever you go to, I mean,
10 that, you know, they made the statement. I didn't. And
11 then, you know, it's just up to you. I mean, I can't
12 change what you've already done. So -- and we don't want
13 to lose you because you're a good officer, a good deputy.
14 But you have -- but the thing is, it could happen again.
15 You come back to work tomorrow, it could happen tomorrow
16 night. Who knows.

17 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah. It's the luck of the
18 draw.

19 SHERIFF MOORE: And that's something you -- when
20 I hire people, and they're married, I bring their wife in,
21 too. Because I don't -- I don't want no misunderstanding.
22 I want you to remember, you know, when you come here and
23 talk to me, because I don't want no illusions about this
24 job. This is a big time job. You have, like we talked,

1 you know, you have life and death in your hands. And that
2 is the job. And it's a job that nobody wants. Only
3 special -- you might not think it, but only special people
4 can do this job. And then I talked to the wives, too.
5 "Wonder if this does happen, can you live with it?"

6 FEMALE VOICE: I'm going to be honest with you.
7 I don't like his job, but I will support him in what he
8 wants to do.

9 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, and you should because
10 it's his life. It's going to be your livelihood, it's
11 going to pay the bills, raise your children.

12 FEMALE VOICE: I know.

13 SHERIFF MOORE: And it's a good job, but, yeah,
14 sometimes it's an unfortunate job.

15 FEMALE VOICE: I know.

16 SHERIFF MOORE: And like he and I talked when he
17 first -- the first time he come in, he was 18 years old.
18 I wouldn't hire him. Too young. I don't think you -- I
19 didn't even want to hire him the second time because of
20 his age. And we had that conversation, you know, "Can you
21 handle this?" And, of course, everybody says the same,
22 "Oh, yeah, I can do it." You know, "I can do it." But in
23 realty --

24 FEMALE VOICE: It's different.

1 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, sure, it's different when
2 you have to do it. It's a lot different. Reality sets
3 in. Police officers get killed. Unfortunately, I've seen
4 two in my time. Just here in Raleigh County. And two
5 killed and one shot up real bad. And it's worse when one
6 of them gets killed because then you say, "What a waste.
7 The guy is protecting, doing his job protecting people,
8 gets killed." You know, it's a lot different than a crud
9 ball out here.

10 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

11 SHERIFF MOORE: Well, that's about the only
12 thing I can tell you. You know, don't come back to work
13 until -- if he can't change that, just bring that in here
14 and put on your record until we can get one -- because
15 I've got to have something to show that you're off sick.
16 And then when your sick time or vacation time run out, you
17 know, there's nothing I can do. You know, you're just off
18 sick without pay.

19 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

20 SHERIFF MOORE: So, and I, you know, you might
21 -- whatever that doctor's name was, you might take that
22 and say, you know, you want to just tell him whatever it
23 is that you feel is right in your heart. I mean, I can't
24 tell you what (inaudible) and I can't make that decision.

1 That's between you and the doctor. That's out of my
2 hands. But I don't want you to do something that you
3 don't feel comfortable with or you don't feel comfortable
4 with.

5 DEPUTY HAJASH: Here's another question I was
6 going to ask you. Is there any off road positions maybe I
7 could do just to try to see if it goes away?

8 SHERIFF MOORE: No. Well, the problem is, if I
9 do that for you then somebody else gets sick or breaks a
10 leg, they're going to expect the same treatment. And I
11 can't. I can't. See, when I had my back surgery, that's
12 what I thought. I go back and -- but they wouldn't do it
13 (inaudible.) You know, you're either fit to do your duty
14 or you're not.

15 DEPUTY HAJASH: Yeah.

16 SHERIFF MOORE: There ain't no in between. We
17 have secretaries out there. That's what we pay them for.
18 We have, you know, you're a police officer. If you cannot
19 do your duty, then you got to make other arrangements.
20 You know, there's just no in between. You're a deputy
21 sheriff. You cannot perform your duties in safety of
22 yourself and others, then you can't do it. And I don't
23 know that. Only you know what you can do and can't do,
24 you know. You know, you go back, if it's just the dreams,

1 you don't think it would -- you know, you need to speak
2 up, take charge. You need to take charge. Just like you
3 would if you went to a scene somewhere. You have to take
4 charge. Say, "Doc, I'm having these dreams, and I don't
5 think it will, you know," if you feel this way. If you
6 don't think that will effect you doing you duties, tell
7 him. Say, "I'm having dreams, but I don't think it's
8 going to effect -- but I'm not scared to do my duty." I
9 mean, you got to communicate with these people. And then
10 if you don't, if you say, "Doc, I don't think I can do my
11 duty," well, fine. That's between you and him. I'm not
12 going to be judgmental here. Whatever you want, is what
13 you need to do. Whatever you feel is right for you and
14 your future family. I can't, you know, I don't -- you
15 know, I just told you what I went through and I -- and I
16 didn't go to no psychiatrist, I didn't go to psychology, I
17 didn't do nothing. I said, "Lord, help me because this is
18 all in my mind. I know it " And, Carl, I love him. He
19 was like a brother to me. I done all I can do and I can't
20 change it. And it happens. And you're going to -- and if
21 you come back on this job, you're going to see some things
22 a lot worse than that. You know, you might not be
23 involved in it, but you're going to see things. Suicide,
24 heads blowed off, I mean, all kinds of stuff out here.

1 Murders. I mean, you know, you're young, you got a long
2 career to go.

3 DEPUTY HAJASH: That stuff don't even bother me.

4 SHERIFF MOORE: Yeah, that's what I'm saying.

5 And it shouldn't, either. You know, first of all, you
6 didn't kill the man. He was dead before he hit the
7 ground. And second of all, you did, you did what you get
8 paid to do. What you took an oath to do. And you went
9 home.

10 DEPUTY HAJASH: That's the important part.

11 SHERIFF MOORE: That is the most important part.
12 Right?

13 FEMALE VOICE: He better come home.

14 SHERIFF MOORE: Absolutely. That's the most
15 important part. I've got to go teach a class. But, you
16 know, think about it this evening. If you think you can
17 do your duty, then go to the doctor and tell him. Say,
18 "I'm having dreams about this, but I can still perform my
19 duty. I mean, I want to go back to work here." If not,
20 just bring it back in to me and I'll take it over to
21 Steve, and you can take sick time or vacation time until
22 you run out, until you can find out what you want to do.
23 Just so you keep getting pay. I don't have any idea how
24 much you got left, sick time or --

1 DEPUTY HAJASH: I think Steve said until June
2 1st. June 1st -- I brought it in the 15th, I wouldn't get
3 paid.

4 SHERIFF MOORE: Okay. So you do what John needs
5 to do, because we're supporting you. We don't want you to
6 -- if I wasn't supporting you I wouldn't have got this --
7 paying this doctor out of my -- our pocket, my budget. I
8 wouldn't be doing it. I would say, "Yeah, you're on your
9 own." But we care about you and, you know, you're a good
10 officer. But it's up to you. I mean, I can't
11 (inaudible.) You can make this thing work. Alcohol and
12 drugs is not the answer. I don't know what to (inaudible)
13 You ought to be proud of that fact. Not be worried about
14 having dreams about it. You ought to be proud of the fact
15 you did what you're supposed to do. And you did something
16 that very few men will ever have to do. But at least you
17 can stand up like a man and say, "Yeah, I did my duty."
18 Ain't nobody here say you didn't, because you did. If you
19 went up there and shrieked your duties and hid and fell
20 down and ran or something, you would have been the
21 laughing stock of every police agency in the state. And
22 then fired to begin with. But you didn't. And these
23 guys, you know, they know you did your duty and they look
24 up to. They won't admit it, but they look up to you

1 because you did your duty. And they ask their self,
2 "Could I do my duty if I'm ever called upon?" And it will
3 be, some day, one of them, "Can I do what John did when
4 it's my turn." And I hope the answer is yes. (Inaudible)
5 if it's not. They'll be very lucky.

6 DEPUTY HAJASH: (Inaudible) a person will.

7 SHERIFF MOORE: That's right. But, guys, get
8 your Bibles out and read them. Start reading the Bible a
9 little bit. It ain't going to hurt you. There's a lot of
10 interesting stories in there, you know. People had to
11 kill people all the time then. They didn't go to hell for
12 it. And you're not. You did exactly what Caesar, the
13 man, you took an oath for God and (inaudible.) Just like
14 them boys overseas, getting shot at, killing people,
15 running up to them and shooting. God's not going to hold
16 them responsible for that.

17 DEPUTY HAJASH: The only thing I can do.

18 SHERIFF MOORE: Exactly right. And you need to
19 read your Bible. That will do you as much good as anybody
20 would. You're caught between a rock and a hard place.
21 I've been there. I had those feelings and I had the panic
22 attacks. Stood up in bed, sat up in bed, fall asleep
23 sitting there because I couldn't lay down. I mean, it was
24 all right here in my head, and I knew it. And I had a

1 hard time getting it out, but finally I did. "Lord, get
2 this thing out of my head." You need to get your family
3 to start praying for you. I believe in that. Get her
4 family to start praying for you. I do believe and, you
5 know, it's a divine intervention, and I believe.
6 (Inaudible) because I go to church regular and I believe
7 in it. And the older you get, especially when you have
8 children of your own, the more you will believe in it.
9 When you got them little fellows and they get sick, nobody
10 can help them sometimes, and you will be calling people to
11 pray for them. Because if you're not saved, God does not
12 listen to your prayers. And I can show you that in the
13 Bible. But once you're saved you become a child of God,
14 and he'll listen to your prayers because he knows you
15 believe in him. And if you believe in praying to him,
16 then what he said, if you -- well, "Why don't you go ahead
17 and repent your sins and become one of my children?" So
18 if you're not -- your saved then, go to your relatives
19 that are good Christian people and say, "Listen, I need
20 prayer. Pass the word. Get people to start praying for
21 me." Don't tell them why. Just tell them you need
22 prayer. Because you don't want this thing to get out in
23 the public, spread like wildfire, and people will say,
24 "Oh, John, yeah, he can't do this and he can't do that."

1 That's bull. It's nobody's business.

2 DEPUTY HAJASH: No.

3 SHERIFF MOORE: Just tell them that you need
4 prayer. God knows. Okay?

5 DEPUTY HAJASH: All right. Thank you, sir.

6 SHERIFF MOORE: I don't want to lose you.

7 {CONCLUSION}

8