STATE OF MINNESOTA	DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF RAMSEY	SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
State of Minnesota,  Plaintiff, vs.	) ) FELONY ) Jury Trial ) 62-CR-21-6868 )
Brian James Kjellberg,  Defendant.	) ) March 27, 2023 )
	) 

HEARD BEFORE

THE HONORABLE LEONARDO CASTRO

Volume I

REPORTED BY:

Colleen Maloney, Official Court Reporter 15 W Kellogg Boulevard, Chambers 1350 St. Paul, Minnesota 55102 (651)266-8194

## APPEARANCES

Makenzie Lee, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney, appeared for and on behalf of the State.

Hassan Tahir, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney, appeared for and on behalf of the State.

Earl Gray, Attorney at Law, appeared with and on behalf of the Defendant.

Amanda Montgomery, Attorney at Law, appeared with and on behalf of the Defendant Kjellberg.

EXHIBITS

NUMBER PAGE ADMITTED

96

## JUDICIAL BRANCH

Τ	PROCEEDINGS
2	THE LAW CLERK: All rise.
3	THE COURT: Good morning. You may be seated.
4	MR. TAHIR: Good morning.
5	THE COURT: All right. Calling Page 1, Line
6	1, State of Minnesota versus Brian Kjellberg. The
7	matter is here for a jury trial. If I can have
8	everybody just please identify themselves for the
9	record.
10	MR. TAHIR: Good morning, Your Honor. Hassan
11	Tahir, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney, appearing on
12	behalf of the State.
13	MS. LEE: Makenzie Lee, also on behalf of the
14	State.
15	MR. GRAY: Good morning, Your Honor. Earl
16	Gray, appearing on behalf of Brian Kjellberg, the
17	Defendant.
18	MS. MONTGOMERY: Good morning, Your Honor.
19	Amanda Montgomery, also representing Mr. Kjellberg.
20	THE DEFENDANT: Good morning, Your Honor.
21	Mr. Kjellberg.
22	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Kjellberg.
23	I don't believe that we'll have a jury until
24	about 9:30 or so would be my guess. So are there any
25	issues that we need to address this morning?

1 MR. TAHIR: I don't believe so, Your Honor. 2 I've got a copy of the updated jury questionnaire. 3 Thank you to the Court for providing that to us here 4 this morning. There is no objection to that from the 5 State. 6 THE COURT: And as far as the questionnaires, 7 our plan is to email it to you, okay? We'll just scan 8 it and email each of you a copy of each and then if you 9 would -- so we would be able to get that done, I'm 10 hopeful, this morning. And then if we can get together 11 sometime this afternoon and make a decision on who 12 everybody agrees should be removed for cause, who we 13 should do individual voir dire on, and proceed from 14 there. 15 MR. GRAY: How many jurors will we be looking 16 at, Judge? 17 THE COURT: It's a good question. Hold on 18 You're asking how many total? for a second. 19 MR. GRAY: Yes. 20 THE LAW CLERK: Forty. 21 THE COURT: Forty. 22 MR. GRAY: And we're going to pick -- is it 23 two alternates or one alternate or two? 24 Whatever your preference is, two THE COURT: 25 or one alternate?

1	MR. GRAY: I'd rather have two.
2	MR. TAHIR: That's fine, Your Honor.
3	THE COURT: Two alternates. And it looks
4	like they might fit. That's why I'm counting the
5	chairs. Some of these courtrooms don't fit two
6	alternates, but I guess we'll make it work.
7	MR. GRAY: They don't have to sit on the
8	wooden chairs?
9	THE COURT: No, let's hope not. I generally
10	don't make them sit on those wooden chairs. They're
11	pretty uncomfortable.
12	MR. GRAY: Yes.
13	THE COURT: All right. Are there any
14	electronic needs that are going to need to be met or
15	not yet?
16	MS. MONTGOMERY: The only thing that I can
17	think of is the exhibits. We don't have them
18	electronically right now, so I don't know if the
19	courtroom has an ELMO, the old fashioned?
20	THE LAW CLERK: Yeah, we can get one.
21	THE COURT: We do have an ELMO, but do you
22	have them electronically?
23	MS. MONTGOMERY: I can scan them with the
24	exhibit stickers, I don't have them like that right
25	now. I can do that, if that's what the Court prefers.

1 THE COURT: Because then we can put them on 2 the screens, I don't know -- is that something we can 3 do? 4 THE LAW CLERK: Yeah. You then can connect 5 right there from your laptop. THE COURT: What do we connect to? There's 6 7 like 400 cables down there. 8 THE LAW CLERK: Yeah, there should be cables. 9 Yep, that will be it. 10 MR. TAHIR: Are there two of them? 11 THE LAW CLERK: Yeah, there's two of them. 12 MS. MONTGOMERY: Yes, that works for mine. 13 THE LAW CLERK: Okay. 14 THE COURT: And -- well, we wouldn't be using 15 it this morning, so take an opportunity to try that out 16 and make sure it works. 17 So really nothing from the Defense either as it relates to any issues that we need to address this 18 19 morning or anything we can get out of the way before we 20 have a jury come down? I know there was a question as 21 to the self-defense question, but what I did was: 22 took the two that were there, and I essentially 23 combined them into one. 24 MS. MONTGOMERY: It be should be Number 22. 25 THE COURT: Yeah, I'm sorry. Was that

1 Question 22? 2 MR. GRAY: Yes. 3 Your Honor, their numbers go MS. MONTGOMERY: 4 to 96. Should we start at 200? I thought the Court 5 maybe said 500? THE COURT: Where do you end? 6 7 MR. TAHIR: 96, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: Okay. I mean 200 would be great 9 just in case. 10 MS. MONTGOMERY: Okay. Sure. 11 THE COURT: Just in case we pop into the 12 hundreds. 13 All right. And there's nothing related to exhibits that we have to deal with? 14 15 MR. GRAY: Well --16 THE COURT: Because that would be a first. 17 MR. GRAY: There are five exhibits dealing with the medical examiner, and I don't know if we need 18 19 pictures of the heart. We aren't contesting that the 20 tire deflater did not cause the death of Mr. Stewart. 21 I don't think they're necessary. There's two pictures 22 of the heart and five pictures -- oh, yeah, there's One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, 23 24 nine, ten, eleven, there's 12 pictures of the medical 25 examiner's work, and it's Dr. Froloff as I understand

1 And I doubt it we'll ask him more than one or two I mean, I don't know why we have all of the 2 questions. 3 photos. 4 THE COURT: All right. Do you have the 5 photos available? I do, Your Honor. 6 MR. TAHIR: 7 THE COURT: Can I see those? 8 MR. TAHIR: Is it okay if I hand the Court my 9 laptop? They're saved on here. 10 THE COURT: Yes. Are they numbered on there? 11 MR. TAHIR: They are, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: Excellent. 13 MR. GRAY: And the problem I have with them 14 is that there is a zipper going down the man's stomach 15 which was done by the hospital, and it -- we're not 16 contesting that. There is no reason to show that he 17 was -- he was stabbed, but the cut down the body is by 18 the hospital. But take a look at them and see. 19 THE COURT: Okay. 20 MR. TAHIR: And my apologies, Your Honor, it will just be a moment while I load it on my screen 21 22 here. 23 MR. GRAY: The timing, we start -- what times 24 do we start in the morning? So I can --25 That's a good question. THE COURT: Well, I

1	think we'll start at 9:00.
2	MR. GRAY: Okay.
3	THE COURT: If I can get you folks here at
4	8:45.
5	MR. GRAY: All right.
6	THE COURT: So that if there is anything we
7	need to deal with, I'll ask the jury to get here at
8	8:45 as well.
9	MR. GRAY: And we end at?
10	MR. GRAY: Generally 4:30.
11	MR. GRAY: Lunch time?
12	THE COURT: Lunch time is generally at noon,
13	an hour or an hour and a half, you know, if we have a
14	witness that's close to being done we go past that.
15	MR. GRAY: Nowadays with some judges they go
16	by their own schedule.
17	THE COURT: In this case?
18	MR. GRAY: Some cases around the State of
19	Minnesota. That's as far as I'll go.
20	MR. TAHIR: Your Honor, it's Exhibit 7
21	through 21.
22	THE COURT: All right.
23	All right. So in reviewing the pictures, I'm
24	going to and again, it's Exhibit 7 through 21. I'm
25	excluding Exhibit 8 and Exhibit 14 and 15. Exhibit 14

and 15 are the pictures of the heart that's been removed from the body and Exhibit 8 seems to be a duplicate.

MR. GRAY: I'm sorry, Judge. I didn't hear you.

THE COURT: Exhibit 14 and 15 are pictures of the heart that has been removed from the body, so I don't believe that has any significant relevance and its probative value -- its prejudicial effect seems to outweigh its probative value. Exhibit 8 seems to be a duplicate. I don't think we can help the other pictures with the cut and stitching down the center. I think the State has to prove that the victim is dead or the alleged victim is dead, and I think it's necessary for them to show those pictures.

MR. TAHIR: Your Honor, if I could just be heard on Exhibit 8. That actually isn't a duplicate. Exhibit 7 shows the left side of Mr. Stewart's body and the Exhibit 8 shows the right side. From the two, I think it would be more appropriate to exclude Exhibit 7 since that doesn't show the wound. Exhibit 8, however, on the right side of the body does show the wound.

THE COURT: All right. And then you have a couple other pictures of the wound. I don't have any problem with that. I will exclude 7 and include 8.

1	MR. GRAY: So we change from 8 to 7?
2	THE COURT: Right. So the ones excluded are
3	7, 14, and 15.
4	MR. GRAY: Okay.
5	THE COURT: And most of the and 16 through
6	21 are pictures of his hand. I'm guessing to show some
7	kind of defensive wound, just a guess on my part.
8	MR. TAHIR: Something like that, Your Honor,
9	yes.
10	THE COURT: All right. And did you mention
11	something about a stipulation?
12	MR. GRAY: Yes. The State and us have agreed
13	to rather than introducing an exhibit on Arundel
14	Stewart's condition to remain law-abiding, they've
15	agreed to a stipulation that on November 29th of 2021,
16	Arundel Stewart was before a Judge and he was ordered
17	as a condition of release to remain law-abiding.
18	That's the stipulation.
19	THE COURT: And when is that going to be read
20	into the record
21	MR. GRAY: Um.
22	THE COURT: during your case-in-chief?
23	MR. GRAY: Yes, we'll start off with that.
24	THE COURT: Anything else?
25	MR. GRAY: Well, I don't believe we have

1 anything, Your Honor. 2 MR. TAHIR: Just one thing, Your Honor, and 3 I've already discussed this with Mr. Gray and 4 Ms. Montgomery. I plan on playing a portion of 5 surveillance video during my opening statement. 6 Defense doesn't object. I just wanted the Court to be 7 aware. 8 THE COURT: And when you say "surveillance video," what is it? 9 10 MR. TAHIR: It's a video taken from one of 11 the neighbors that captures the encounter between 12 Defendant and Mr. Stewart. It's a little difficult to

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on that video.

So I plan on playing it in my opening and, of course, we will play it during our case-in-chief, and likely in closing arguments as well, as I imagine the Defense will.

see exactly what happens, but I think at the core of

this case is interpreting what that video shows and

what it doesn't show and what can and cannot be heard

THE COURT: All right. And what's the exhibit number?

MR. TAHIR: The Exhibit Number for that is -it will be introduced -- there are three copies of the
video. There is a video in its entirety, which is

1 Exhibit 94. There is the unzoomed clip of the 2 encounter itself, which is Exhibit 95. And then I've 3 got Exhibit 96, which actually zooms in to the end of 4 the alley where Mr. Kjellberg and Mr. Stewart come 5 together. 6 So in my opening statement it will be Exhibit 7 96 that I will be playing, the zoomed-in clip, which is about, I'd say, a minute to a minute and a half. 8 9 THE COURT: As far as Exhibit 96, any 10 objection? 11 MR. GRAY: We've seen it. That's fine. No 12 objection. 13 THE COURT: All right. So Exhibit 96 is 14 admitted. 15 Anything else you can think of? All right. 16 With respect to one of our motions MR. GRAY: 17 in limine, one of the motions was that the police officers that did the investigation in this case cannot 18 19 tell the jury what they see on the video. They're 20 giving their opinion. The jury has the video to watch. They're not to be told what they see by the witnesses, 21 22 and there is case law on that, but I don't have it here but there wasn't any objection to that I don't believe. 23 24 THE COURT: All right. And those videos are 25 being introduced through?

MR. TAHIR: Through the neighbor and the investigator that reviewed them. That will be towards the tail end of our case. I think the motion in limine specifically dealt with what's heard on the video, not what's seen. The investigator will not try to interpret what's heard on the video at all. I will not ask her any questions regarding that.

In terms of what's seen, I will ask her to identify the two people that are there. There is an

In terms of what's seen, I will ask her to identify the two people that are there. There is an individual that comes running up the alley. I'd like the investigator to be able to say that that's

Mr. Stewart. There is another individual that's standing by a building next to a vehicle. I will ask the investigator who that is, and that's Mr. Kjellberg. Just so the jury is -- has some context to what they're seeing. Otherwise it will be very difficult for them to figure out who is who. But beyond that, I'm not going to ask her to describe what they're doing or anything like that, that's a determination for the jury to make.

THE COURT: Or what's happening.

MR. TAHIR: Correct.

THE COURT: So essentially just identifying

the individuals?

You don't have any objection to that?

1	MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor. And as long as
2	we received a transcript of the surveillance clip it's
3	called, and as long as we stick by the transcript
4	that's fine.
5	THE COURT: All right.
6	MR. TAHIR: There are a number of inaudibles
7	there. I mean, that's open to interpretation. I
8	wasn't able to transcribe them because I think
9	reasonable minds might differ as to what that says.
10	But we will be arguing in closing argument
11	that it says one thing that the Defense might disagree
12	with, but on paper it says inaudible.
13	THE COURT: All right.
14	MR. GRAY: That's about it.
15	THE COURT: Okay. Where are we at with the
16	jury?
17	THE LAW CLERK: I haven't heard anything yet,
18	but I can go down there to see if they're ready.
19	THE COURT: All right. Well, you folks are
20	going to be here. We'll inform you when the jury is
21	ready to go.
22	MR. GRAY: Okay. So you're going email us
23	the juror questionnaires?
24	THE COURT: Right.
25	MR. GRAY: The answers.

1 THE COURT: The answered ones, yes. 2 MR. GRAY: And we wait here for it, or we go 3 back to our office? 4 THE COURT: When we're done with the 5 introduction, I think you can head back --6 MR. GRAY: Okay. 7 THE COURT: -- to your office. Yeah, I'm not 8 going to do it yet. Bring them up, give them the 9 introduction, explain what's going on. I tell them 10 that as soon as they're all done with the questionnaire, I'll send them home and then I'll let 11 12 them know that not all of them will likely be called in 13 tomorrow but many of them will be. 14 MR. GRAY: Okay. 15 THE COURT: And then we try to scatter that 16 time so that they're not all sitting around all day 17 with nothing to do, because we'll know based on the numbers which ones are coming in first and which ones 18 19 aren't. And we'll know by the end of the day tomorrow 20 which ones we want to just eliminate and say, you know, 21 report back in tomorrow morning for other trials. 22 MR. GRAY: Okay. So we'll probably be 23 starting this case on evidence and that tomorrow 24 afternoon? 25 If we can get a jury picked by THE COURT:

1 tomorrow. 2 MR. GRAY: Okay. 3 Yes. THE COURT: If we can get a jury picked 4 absolutely, at the latest Wednesday morning. We should 5 be able to have a jury selected by then. All right. 6 MR. GRAY: Yep. 7 MR. TAHIR: Thank you, Your Honor. 8 (A brief break was taken.) 9 THE COURT: All rise. You may be seated. 10 THE COURT: Good morning, Ladies and 11 Gentlemen. 12 THE JURY: Good morning (as a whole). 13 THE COURT: My name is Judge Castro, and I 14 will be presiding over this matter. And as soon as my 15 law clerk gets me my notebook, which I forgot, then I 16 can start. 17 Here we go. All right. Ladies and Gentlemen, you have been summoned to the District Court 18 19 of Ramsey County today for the purpose of jury 20 selection in a criminal case. My name is Judge 21 Leonardo Castro, and I will be presiding over this 22 It is important that you are able to see and hear everything that is going on and -- especially when 23 24 the questions are being asked. If any of you have 25 difficulty hearing or understanding what is being said,

1 please bring that to my attention as soon as possible. Does anyone at this time have any difficulty 2 3 seeing or hearing what I'm saying? 4 THE JURY: (No audible response.) 5 THE COURT: All right. I see no one. 6 All right. Do you have your oath? 7 THE LAW CLERK: Mm-hmm. 8 THE COURT: I am going to ask you all to 9 please rise at this time and raise your right hand and 10 take the oath. 11 THE LAW CLERK: You do swear that you will 12 truthfully answer all questions about your 13 qualifications to serve as a juror so help you God? 14 THE JURY: I do (as a whole). 15 Thank you. You may be seated. THE COURT: 16 As I stated, this is a criminal case. A complaint has 17 been filed alleging that on December 2, 2021, while in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, the Defendant, 18 19 Mr. Kjellberg, committed the offense of Murder in the 20 Second Degree Without Intent but While Committing a 21 Felony offense. 22 To this charge Mr. Kjellberg has pled not The mere fact that Mr. Kjellberg has been 23 quilty. 24 charged and has been brought before this Court by the 25 ordinary processes of the law should not be viewed by

1 you in any way as evidence of quilt or in any way as 2 suggesting his guilt. Again, to this charge, Mr. Brian 3 Kjellberg has pled not quilty. This plea denies the 4 charges and places upon the State of Minnesota, by the 5 way of the Ramsey County Attorney's Office, the burden 6 of proving his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. 7 State is the represented by Mr. Hassan Tahir. 8 MR. TAHIR: Good morning. 9 THE COURT: And Ms. Makenzie Lee. 10 MS. LEE: Good morning. 11 THE COURT: Mr. Kjellberg is represented by 12 Mr. Earl Gray. 13 MR. GRAY: Good morning. 14 THE COURT: And Ms. Amanda Montgomery. 15 MS. MONTGOMERY: Good morning. 16 And Mr. Kjellberg, would you THE COURT: 17 please rise as well? 18 Good morning. THE DEFENDANT: 19 THE COURT: So Ladies and Gentlemen, here is 20 the procedure that we will follow in selecting a jury You will be given a questionnaire, which 21 in this case. 22 you will be asked to fill out completely under the oath 23 that you just took. In order to minimize any 24 embarrassment or any invasion of privacy that may 25 result from questions that you have to answer, we're

going to begin by having you fill out that questionnaire.

Now, you should know that although that questionnaire will remain nonpublic -- and that's the way I will order it to be filed when it is filed at the end of the trial -- there may be a time when the confidential nature of that questionnaire may be become unsealed by some court order for some reason which I couldn't think of right now to tell you, but there is always that possibility, all right?

Now, after I'm done speaking with you, then you're going to be escorted to another courtroom where my law clerk will pass out the questionnaire to each of you. Please fill it out completely. Please remember that you are answering these questions under the oath that you just took. After you have completed the questionnaire, please sign it, please give it back to the law clerk. When everyone is done filling out the questionnaire, I will then release you all for the day and have some of you return tomorrow.

I may -- I probably wouldn't have all of you return at once. I tend to stagger your return to minimize the amount of time that you are sitting around and waiting for other jurors to be selected throughout this process.

Although know -- please be assured that there will be waiting times throughout a jury trial. And so before I send you off to fill out those questionnaires, I want to give you some general rules of the law that applies in a criminal case. In the questionnaire you may be asked whether you will accept those rules of law and follow those rules of law, and you should have these instructions in mind when you are answering those questions.

The Defendant, Brian Kjellberg, is presumed innocent. For you to find the Defendant guilty, the State must prove his guilt. The Defendant does not have to call witnesses, introduce evidence, ask questions, or otherwise prove his innocence. The presumption of innocence remains with him unless and until the Defendant has been proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

There will be times during jury selection and during trial that we take a break or a recess. During such times, please do not discuss the case with each other. You will have plenty of time to do that -- for those of you who are selected to serve -- when you deliberate on the matter. Do not talk to anyone involved in the case, that is the Defendant, the lawyers, the witnesses. If anyone tries to discuss the

case with you, please bring that to my attention as soon as possible.

During breaks, do not talk to your family, friends, or others about the case. You may tell them that you are serving on a -- as a juror in a criminal case, and that's all you should tell them. Do not report your experience as a juror while the trial and deliberations are going on. Do not email, do not blog, do not tweet, text, or post anything on any social media site about this case, and do not visit any chat rooms where the case may be discussed. Do not read or listen to news reports about the case. Do not do your own investigation. Do not ask others about the case. Do not visit any of the locations that may be mentioned throughout the trial.

Do not do any research about the case either by written means, print means, electronic, or internet media. Do not research on the internet or otherwise, anything associated with the case.

This includes the law, the issues in the case, the evidence, the parties, the witnesses, the lawyers, myself, or others associated with the case.

Now, I know with this fabulous tool we have called Google it's very tempting to do that. But I ask you, please, for the purposes of providing both the State

and Mr. Kjellberg a fair trial, do not do any research or investigation about the case.

If you do not follow these instructions it may jeopardize the trial, and we may be required to try this case over again.

To ensure both that -- both the Defendant and the State receive a fair trial by an impartial jury, it will be necessary for me and the attorneys, again, to ask you certain questions that you must answer under oath. Please do not take offense to the questions you are being asked. Your contribution to this important and serious matter is best assured by your honest answers to those questions.

Some of you who are called to be questioned will be excused from serving on this jury. If you are excused, it does not mean that anyone doubts that you are a fair person. It simply means that this may not be the most appropriate jury for you to serve on. And trust me, we have a lot more going on in the building and so if this one won't work for you, we'll find one that will.

All right. I am going to say that we all have feelings, assumptions, perceptions, fears, and stereotypes about others. We refer to these as biases. Some biases we are aware of, and others we might not be

fully aware of and we call these unconscious and implicit bias. No matter how unbiased we think we are, our brains are hardwired to make unconscious decisions. We look at others and filter what they say through the lens of our own personal experiences and background.

Because we all do this, we often see life and evaluate others and evaluate evidence in a way that tends to favor people who are like ourselves, who have had a similar life experience as our own. We can also have biases about people like ourselves. I always tend to say that we are tougher on our own. Bias can affect our thoughts, how we remember, what we see, and what we hear, whom we believe, whom we disbelieve, and how we make important decisions in our life.

As jurors, you will be asked to make an important decision about this case. You must take the time that you need to reflect carefully and thoughtfully about the evidence, think about the decision you are making, and examine it for bias.

Reconsider your first impressions of the people and the evidence in the case if it's appropriate to do so. If the people involved in this case were from different backgrounds, for example, richer or poorer, more or less educated, older or younger, or from a different gender, gender identity, race, religion, or sexual

orientation, ask yourself: Would you still view them and the evidence in the same way?

During your deliberations, for those of you who are selected to serve on this jury, listen to one another. Listen to one another and help each other resist any urge to reach a verdict influenced by bias. Each of you have different backgrounds and will be viewing the case in light of your own insights, assumptions, and biases. Listen to different perspectives which may help to better identify the possible effects of those hidden biases and will help you in your decision making.

Resist jumping to conclusions based on personal likes or dislikes, on generalizations and gut feelings, on prejudices, on sympathies, on stereotypes, and on unconscious biases. The law demands that you make a fair decision based only on the evidence, your individual evaluations of that evidence, your reason and common sense, and the instructions as I give them to you.

All right. At this time you will be escorted to another courtroom to fill out the questionnaire.

Please make sure you have all your belongings. Do not leave anything in the courthouse -- do not leave the courthouse -- I'm sorry -- until you receive

1 instructions on when and where you are to return. 2 may ask you, again, not to return until later in the 3 day tomorrow, but you'll receive notice of that. 4 All right. Any questions about logistics, 5 folks? 6 THE JURY: (No audible response.) 7 THE COURT: All right. I see none. Thank 8 you. 9 Zach, they're all yours. 10 THE LAW CLERK: All right. We will be going 11 up to the 14th floor. Please meet out in the lobby 12 like you did on the 13th floor. 13 (The prospective jury exited the courtroom.) 14 THE COURT: Anything else, folks? 15 MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your 16 Honor. 17 MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: So, I mean, let's assume they get 19 done by 11:00 or so filling those out. We can get 20 those scanned to you by -- before noon. Last time I 21 said that it was a colossal failure, but we're going to 22 hopefully get them to you before noon. And so how much time do you think you need to 23 24 look at those before we can get you back here and kind 25 of go through them?

1	MR. GRAY: There are 40 of them?
2	THE COURT: There's 40 of them, yeah.
3	MR. GRAY: Well, we got 20/20. I don't know.
4	THE COURT: I'm looking at Ms. Montgomery.
5	I'm not looking at you.
6	MR. GRAY: Oh.
7	MS. MONTGOMERY: Maybe 2:00?
8	THE COURT: Yeah, that would be fine. 2:30?
9	Could we just shoot for 2:30?
10	MR. TAHIR: Yeah, 2:30 works.
11	THE COURT: All right. We'll see you back
12	here at 2:30, and then we can make some decisions.
13	Well, you know, let me just say this: I
14	guess the decisions aren't going to take very long.
15	Let's just say 3:00. We'll get through some decisions
16	and then we will figure out how to stagger them for
17	showing up tomorrow, all right? Thank you.
18	(A brief break was taken.)
19	THE LAW CLERK: All rise.
20	THE COURT: Thank you. You may be seated.
21	THE COURT: All right. We're back on the
22	record in State of Minnesota versus Kjellberg. We're
23	here to make a determination on juror voir dire.
24	All right. So my preference is to just go
25	one by one and first determine if you believe there is

1 a need to individually voir dire this particular juror, 2 or we can remove a particular juror for cause and if we 3 can get agreement for that we can do that. All right? 4 First we have -- and I go by the juror 5 numbers as they're seated, so number one would be 6 Ms. Lindberg, Sarah Lindberg. Anything from the State 7 on Ms. Lindberg? No, Your Honor. 8 MR. TAHIR: 9 Anything from the Defense? THE COURT: 10 MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor. She's okay. 11 THE COURT: So she can be -- the hospital 12 chaplain can be part of the panel voir dire. 13 MR. GRAY: Sure. 14 MR. TAHIR: Yes. 15 THE COURT: All right. 16 MR. GRAY: What was that, Judge? She could 17 be the one what? 18 THE COURT: So we'll do the panel after we do 19 individual folks that you want to do individually that 20 may have something to share that you may not want to 21 hear -- the rest of the jury, or they privately may not 22 want to share it in front of the rest of the jury 23 panel. 24 MR. GRAY: Okay. 25 All right. THE COURT:

1	MR. GRAY: And then after that we address the
2	whole panel?
3	THE COURT: After that you address the whole
4	panel.
5	MR. GRAY: Got you. Thanks.
6	THE COURT: The ones we do individually,
7	we're probably going to need to make a decision on the
8	spot.
9	MR. GRAY: Okay.
10	THE COURT: All right.
11	MR. TAHIR: All right.
12	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 2,
13	Ms. Kiaira Fletcher-Toney. I have her marked down as
14	either individual or for cause. Her father was
15	murdered based on information she provided, and a close
16	friend of hers was murdered. Anything from the State?
17	MR. GRAY: I think we have an agreement that
18	we put her aside.
19	MR. TAHIR: Well, to question her
20	individually, not to put her to the side. Sorry if you
21	misinterpreted that.
22	MR. GRAY: I misunderstood.
23	MR. TAHIR: No, I didn't mean to mislead you,
24	Mr. Gray. We would like to question her individually,
25	Your Honor.

1	MR. GRAY: Okay.
2	THE COURT: All right.
3	All right. Juror Number 3, Mr. Momo Helb.
4	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
5	Honor.
6	MR. GRAY: Well, we figured out that he gets
7	\$20 a day for parking so with taxes they take taxes
8	out of that, Judge?
9	THE COURT: I don't know the answer to that
10	question.
11	MR. GRAY: Hmm.
12	THE COURT: I think there is the bill in
13	front of the legislature now ups it to \$50, so it's
14	about time assuming it passes. But yes.
15	MR. GRAY: It's unbelievable.
16	THE COURT: But yes, parking is too
17	expensive, and so we're going to tell them to park at
18	the Lowry which is I think only \$8 and is not waiting
19	in line for a half hour for god's sakes.
20	MR. GRAY: Off the subject.
21	THE COURT: All right.
22	(A brief discussion was held off the record.)
23	THE COURT: We're back on the record. All
24	right. So Ms. Fletcher-Toney will be individually voir
25	dired.

Mr. Momo Helb, anything from the defense? 1 No, Your Honor. 2 MR. GRAY: 3 All right. So he's good for the THE COURT: 4 panel. 5 Number 4, Jennifer Kostraski. The forensic 6 scientist. Anything from the Defense? 7 MR. GRAY: We were talking beforehand that we failed with these questionnaires, because we didn't ask 8 anybody where they worked. 9 10 THE COURT: Where they worked. That's right, 11 yeah. MR. GRAY: So if she works with the State as 12 13 a forensic psychologist -- forensic scientist. says in here that she would favor any forensic 14 15 scientist that worked for State, I believe. That's not 16 a quote, but that's something that she said. 17 if she doesn't work for the State, she doesn't -- I don't think we need to question her, but if she does, I 18 19 think we have to question her. 20 THE COURT: Even if you question her, it's nothing that needs to be done individually? She can be 21 22 questioned as part of the panel? 23 MR. GRAY: She says she regularly testifies 24 as part of her job, so I have a hunch that she works 25 for the State.

1	THE COURT: Yep.
2	MR. GRAY: So that wouldn't be cause to
3	THE COURT: No.
4	MR. GRAY: Okay.
5	THE COURT: I don't think that would be cause
6	to remove her because she worked for the State,
7	especially since I'm not so sure there is a lot of
8	scientific evidence in this case that's being
9	challenged.
10	MR. GRAY: No.
11	THE COURT: All right. So we'll allow her to
12	be questioned as part of the panel.
13	MR. GRAY: Okay.
14	THE COURT: Juror Number 5, Sheena Sukhu.
15	She didn't answer questions 31, 32, or 52, but
16	MR. TAHIR: I don't think she needs to be
17	questioned individually, Your Honor.
18	MR. GRAY: No.
19	THE COURT: Anything from the Defense on
20	questioning her individually?
21	MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor.
22	THE COURT: Okay. Juror Number 6, Jerry
23	Zhou, Z-H-O-U?
24	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
25	MR. GRAY: Nothing here, Your Honor.

1	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 7, Zach
2	Ogren?
3	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
4	MR. GRAY: Nothing here, Judge.
5	THE COURT: Juror Number 8, Sandy Kasma. I
6	have her as an individual based on her answer to 57.
7	MR. TAHIR: I agree, Your Honor, that was
8	that response was a little unclear.
9	MR. GRAY: Yes. We failed in our
10	questionnaire to not ask about LGBTQ, and I wanted to
11	ask that, too.
12	THE COURT: All right. Individual voir dire.
13	Juror Number 9, Payton Plasch, individual
14	voir dire or cause?
15	MR. TAHIR: We would like to question them
16	individually, Your Honor, in light of the responses to
17	Questions 22 and 55.
18	THE COURT: All right. Any objection to
19	that?
20	MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor.
21	THE COURT: Juror Number 10, Jerrain Grahn.
22	He might have some transportation issues, but I don't
23	think there is anything that requires us to question
24	him individually. Any objections?
25	MR. TAHIR: I agree, Your Honor.

1	MR. GRAY: I agree.
2	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 11, Anna
3	Reubish.
4	MR. TAHIR: I believe we should strike her
5	for cause, Your Honor, since she has preexisting
6	knowledge of this case as detailed in her response to
7	Question 43.
8	MR. GRAY: Yeah, especially when she says no
9	other specific details.
10	MR. TAHIR: Right.
11	THE COURT: All right. She also asked on
12	well, I guess that doesn't really matter. Do you have
13	any objection for cause, Mr. Gray?
14	MR. GRAY: No, Your Honor.
15	THE COURT: All right. Then
16	MR. GRAY: Well, wait a minute, Judge. She's
17	heard my name on the news.
18	THE COURT: I saw that.
19	MR. GRAY: That could be good or bad.
20	THE COURT: That could go both ways.
21	MR. GRAY: Was it when I was 18 or recently?
22	THE COURT: You've got somebody else in here
23	who says that her husband was on one of your juries 35
24	years ago.
25	MR. GRAY: I know. We've got to find out

1	what case that was.
2	THE COURT: I doubt that he would even
3	remember.
4	MR. GRAY: Thank you, Your Honor, how would
5	she remember that?
6	MR. TAHIR: Well, the tea. She remembers the
7	tea.
8	MR. GRAY: Yeah.
9	THE COURT: All right. Number 12, Donald
10	Schuneman.
11	MR. TAHIR: Your Honor, we'd like to question
12	him individually in light of his failure to respond to
13	Question 22, which is about self-defense. He placed a
14	question mark over the blank space indicating, no, that
15	he would not follow that instruction. In addition,
16	their response to Question 50 which asks about any
17	racial groups that they prefer not to associate with,
18	the answer was yes. And they went on to specify that
19	it's bad people that they prefer not to associate with.
20	THE COURT: Okay.
21	MR. GRAY: Your Honor sister was involved
22	in a murder-suicide, too.
23	MR. TAHIR: That is correct.
24	THE COURT: So, individual voir dire for
25	Mr. Schuneman?

1	MR. GRAY: Should we just do for cause?
2	MR. TAHIR: Let's talk to him.
3	MR. GRAY: All right.
4	THE COURT: You have to agree if we're doing
5	for cause. Otherwise we need to voir dire him.
6	MR. GRAY: Well, a younger brother was beaten
7	on the way to detox by police.
8	MR. TAHIR: I mean, we can we can do that,
9	Your Honor. We can just strike him for cause.
10	THE COURT: All right.
11	All right. Number 13, I know you folks
12	haven't had any contact with Juror Number 13, but I
13	believe there's is some developmental issues with Juror
14	Number 13 and based on her questionnaire, I believe
15	that confirms that.
16	MR. GRAY: We should question her. Many do
17	not know.
18	THE COURT: So, if there is no objection,
19	we'll excuse her for cause?
20	MR. TAHIR: No objection.
21	THE COURT: Any objection, Mr. Gray?
22	MR. GRAY: Well, she says on 52, "he deserve
23	a fair trial" "trail." I'm sorry. Yeah, I don't
24	object, no.
25	THE COURT: All right.

1	All right. Juror Number 14, Justin Fulton.
2	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
3	Honor.
4	THE COURT: I want to
5	MR. GRAY: Well, I think we should, Judge, on
6	this one on Question 5, "The system is fair for
7	select people." It says, "Too often our police are
8	excused after murders and minor crimes get the hammer
9	real quick. I'd say the fairness of our system is a
10	spectrum on what you see as fair." I think we should
11	question her [sic].
12	THE COURT: Right. I think we question
13	Justin Fulton, but I don't think we need individual
14	voir dire.
15	MR. GRAY: No, no that's true.
16	THE COURT: All right. So we will so
17	Mr. Fulton. And I also want to know what type of
18	whiskey he likes, as to Number 47.
19	All right. Number 15, John Rasmussen.
20	MR. TAHIR: No need to question individually,
21	Your Honor.
22	MR. GRAY: Neither.
23	THE COURT: All right.
24	Number 16, Robert Buteyn, B-U-T-E-Y-N, any
25	need to question individually?

1	MR. TAHIR: No, Your Honor.
2	MR. GRAY: He read about the case, Page 5.
3	MR. TAHIR: Oh, that's right.
4	MR. GRAY: Yeah, that's the one I was in
5	this one, Judge it's he's also concerned that
6	wealthy people can afford better lawyers. And at least
7	we should question him.
8	THE COURT: I think that might be a national
9	concern, Mr. Gray.
10	MR. GRAY: Well I don't think Murdaugh did
11	that well.
12	THE COURT: Well, this is true. Though he
13	does say on 52, he cannot recall the case specifically
14	so thus cannot recall a specific reaction.
15	MR. GRAY: When it says "specifically" I
16	always wonder what they're saying.
17	THE COURT: All right. Do you want to voir
18	dire him individually then?
19	MR. GRAY: Well, if we yeah, individually,
20	or just explain to him that that's hearsay and he can't
21	rely on that, you know.
22	THE COURT: We can do that. So we can do
23	that at the panel.
24	MR. GRAY: Okay, that's fine.
25	THE COURT: Okay. Juror Number 17, Karen

1	Milcarek, M-I-L-C-A-R-E-K.
2	MR. TAHIR: No need for individual
3	questioning, Your Honor.
4	MR. GRAY: Nothing.
5	THE COURT: All right. Number 18, Alexa
6	Backlund. I have her marked as individual or cause
7	depending on you both she won't apply the law
8	MR. GRAY: Well, the County Attorney is
9	closer to her than I would be if she pukes.
10	THE COURT: All right. Based on severe
11	anxiety.
12	MR. TAHIR: I agree, Your Honor. We should
13	strike her for cause.
14	THE COURT: Strike for cause?
15	MR. GRAY: Yes.
16	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 19,
17	Roxanne Parker. I have her listed as individual as she
18	has described some hardship and has talked about jury
19	nullification, individual or cause?
20	MR. TAHIR: For cause, Your Honor.
21	MR. GRAY: Cause? Umwe agree with that,
22	Your Honor. She also has a special needs daughter.
23	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 20,
24	Ms. Barbara Jones?
25	MR. TAHIR: Nothing, Your Honor, from the

1	State.
2	MR. GRAY: Nothing here.
3	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 21,
4	Mr. Lor.
5	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
6	MS. MONTGOMERY: Nothing, Your Honor.
7	THE COURT: All right.
8	THE COURT: Juror Number 22, Brett Cuperus,
9	C-U-P-E-R-U-S.
10	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
11	MS. MONTGOMERY: He did note that his uncle
12	had been charged with sexual contact with a minor. I
13	don't really think that's relevant to this case, but if
14	he wants to talk about it he might want to talk
15	individually. I don't know if we want to ask him
16	anything?
17	THE COURT: Any thoughts on that?
18	MR. TAHIR: I defer to the Court, Your Honor.
19	THE COURT: Yeah, he did mention in Question
20	33 that his uncle was charged with a sex offense eight
21	to ten years ago or so.
22	MR. GRAY: He also has some knowledge of the
23	law because he's wondering what the felony was.
24	THE COURT: He did. And 55, he believes that
25	the system treats people of color unfairly sometimes.

1	MR. GRAY: To excuse him, for cause or not?
2	MR. TAHIR: No.
3	MR. GRAY: Okay.
4	THE COURT: Individual voir dire?
5	MR. GRAY: All right.
6	THE COURT: All right. We have Juror
7	Number 23, Janet Lowe. She appears to have some
8	information on the case. Her friend's uncle was
9	murdered, and she relies on the police credibility.
10	MR. GRAY: And she has mental health.
11	MR. TAHIR: I move to strike her for cause,
12	Your Honor.
13	MS. MONTGOMERY: We'd agree with that.
14	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 23 is
15	stricken for cause. We're going to run out of jurors.
16	All right. Juror Number 24, Caitlin
17	Gottschalk, G-O-T-T-S-C-H-A-L-K, appears to have a
18	financial hardship.
19	MR. GRAY: Yeah. I would think we should
20	excuse her very spiritually hard to do this.
21	THE COURT: She did not understand Question
22	22.
23	MR. GRAY: Yeah.
24	MR. TAHIR: I agree, Your Honor. She can be
25	struck for cause.

1	THE COURT: Juror Number 25, Jacob Womble?
2	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
3	MR. GRAY: Well, he should get a sleep
4	machine if he's got sleep apnea.
5	THE COURT: Well, he does, he got a CPAP, but
6	we'll ask him about that.
7	MR. GRAY: Can I tell him I also have that,
8	or no?
9	THE COURT: Probably not.
10	Juror Number 26, Mr. Pang Xiong.
11	MS. MONTGOMERY: We have no issues with him.
12	MR. TAHIR: None, Your Honor.
13	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 27,
14	Mr. Chin Vue.
15	MR. TAHIR: No issues.
16	MR. GRAY: None. No issues.
17	THE COURT: Juror Number 28, Mr. Rolland
18	Mariette?
19	MR. TAHIR: No issues, Your Honor.
20	MS. MONTGOMERY: We might want to do
21	individual. He said his sister is a crack addict. I
22	don't know how close he is with his sister.
23	THE COURT: Right. And he didn't answer 5
24	either, and we probably want to flush out the beliefs
25	on police a little more. All right. We'll do

1	individual on that one.
2	Juror Number 29 was Theresa Faulconbridge?
3	MR. TAHIR: No issues from the State.
4	MS. MONTGOMERY: Her husband is the chair of
5	the Roseville Police Foundation and has multiple other
6	connections with police, so we might want to do some
7	individual to make sure that she could be fair based on
8	all of that.
9	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 30,
10	Mr. Kong Vang?
11	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
12	Honor.
13	THE COURT: He says he can't sit too long,
14	but I think by "too long" he probably means multiple
15	hours. He won't be sitting more than an hour and a
16	half or two.
17	Anything from the Defense?
18	MS. MONTGOMERY: No, Your Honor.
19	THE COURT: Okay. Juror Number 31, Adrienne
20	Deruyck, D-E-R-U-Y-C-K. She writes "private" in
21	Question Number 27, so I think that calls for an
22	individual.
23	MS. MONTGOMERY: We'd agree with that.
24	THE COURT: Mr. Tahir, you okay with that?
25	MR. TAHIR: That's fine, Your Honor, yes.

1	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 32,
2	Jennifer Thue, T-H-U-E.
3	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
4	MS. MONTGOMERY: Nothing, Your Honor.
5	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 33,
6	Melissa Shugarman.
7	MR. TAHIR: No issues.
8	MS. MONTGOMERY: We have no issues either.
9	THE COURT: Juror Number 34, Ms. Alicia
10	Hochstatter.
11	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
12	Honor.
13	MR. GRAY: I think well
14	MS. MONTGOMERY: I think we should probably
15	do individual based on her noting being a victim of
16	crime. Not sure. It wasn't clear if that was her, the
17	domestic violence, but perhaps that would affect her
18	ability to sit on the case.
19	THE COURT: All right. Individual.
20	MR. GRAY: Juror Number 35 is Minnie
21	Fitzpatrick.
22	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
23	Honor.
24	MS. MONTGOMERY: Nothing.
25	THE COURT: Juror Number 36, Jesse Busta.

1	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
2	MS. MONTGOMERY: Nothing, Your Honor.
3	THE COURT: Juror Number 37, Ms. Beth
4	Richardson?
5	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
6	MS. MONTGOMERY: 37, nothing.
7	THE COURT: All right. Juror Number 38,
8	Ms. Sue Vang.
9	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State, Your
10	Honor.
11	MS. MONTGOMERY: We have no issues.
12	THE COURT: Juror Number 39, Mr. Char Vang or
13	Ms. Char Vang.
14	MR. TAHIR: No issues, Your Honor.
15	MS. MONTGOMERY: No issues.
16	THE COURT: And Juror Number 40, Honor Linn,
17	L-I-N-N.
18	MR. TAHIR: Nothing from the State.
19	MS. MONTGOMERY: Nothing, Your Honor.
20	THE COURT: All right.
21	All right. So what we'll do is: We will
22	contact jurors who we're doing individually and ask
23	them to be here at 9:00. Given the number let me
24	see if I can count the number here. It seems I have
25	eight. My guess is that will take a couple of hours.

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1
        We'll ask -- then the rest of the individuals -- do you
        want to do those in the morning and then take the rest
 2
 3
        of the panel in the afternoon?
 4
                   MR. TAHIR: I'm fine with that, Your Honor.
 5
         I defer to the Court.
                   THE COURT: I just don't know how long
 6
 7
        they're going to take.
                   MR. TAHIR: I don't anticipate being very
 8
 9
         long.
10
                   MR. GRAY: That's fine with me, Judge.
        Whatever you say.
11
12
                   THE COURT: Okay. Right. Okay.
13
        have them come in at 9:00 and then the rest at let's
14
        say 11:00?
15
                   MR. GRAY:
                              Okay.
16
                   THE COURT:
                              And then we will have -- we'll
17
        notify the ones that have -- are excused that they just
18
        need to report to the jury office in the morning.
19
        time are they reporting? Do we know? 8:30?
20
                   THE LAW CLERK: For the jurors to come in?
21
         8:45.
22
                   THE COURT:
                               Okay. All right. Anything else
23
        we need to address?
24
                   MR. TAHIR: The only other thing, Your Honor.
25
         I did request a modified proof beyond a reasonable
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doubt instruction. I'd ask for that to be included in 1 2 the preliminary instructions that are read to the jury 3 after they're sworn. I thought we could address that 4 right now if we need to make a record on that or hear 5 argument on it since we're all here. 6 THE COURT: Do you have any objection to the 7 modified reasonable doubt instruction? 8 MR. GRAY: Yes, I object to it and ask that 9 the one in the JIG be given. 10 Is there a particular reason THE COURT: 11 you'd like the modified one? 12 MR. TAHIR: I just think it's clearer, Your 13 The purpose of jury instructions is to instruct 14 a jury. I think this is a better instruction that 15 accomplishes that purpose since it doesn't use frankly 16 19th-century words like "fanciful" and "capricious." I 17 think it's more clear. THE COURT: Yeah, I know. But, you know, 18 19 the -- those criminal rules committee or the jury 20 quidelines committee apparently doesn't feel the same way you do. And while I may agree with you, the number 21 22 one reason these cases get reversed is based on jury instructions. So I am going to keep the JIG 23 24 instruction. 25 If we're going -- well, you MR. GRAY:

1	wouldn't be giving that instruction anyway. But I did
2	submit one instruction that was on trespassing.
3	THE COURT: Right. And so that would be at
4	the end
5	MR. GRAY: Yes.
6	THE COURT: depending on what the
7	evidence, you know, what evidence comes out whether I
8	give out that trespass instruction.
9	MR. GRAY: Okay.
10	THE COURT: Is there only one or did you
11	submit two?
12	MR. GRAY: Excuse me?
13	THE COURT: Did you submit two instructions
14	or just one?
15	MR. GRAY: I submitted two self-defense
16	instructions, one for property and one for physical
17	injury. And I don't know if we need the property one.
18	I think if the I think the trespass might take care
19	of that, but that's why I submitted the two rather than
20	just the physical injury and death one.
21	THE COURT: All right. And again, those
22	would be at the end
23	MR. GRAY: Yes.
24	THE COURT: depending on what the evidence
25	is.

1	MR. GRAY: Well, if you want to give them
2	ahead of time, you can.
3	THE COURT: I bet I could.
4	All right. So those are reserved as well.
5	Anything else?
6	MR. TAHIR: No, Your Honor.
7	MR. GRAY: No.
8	THE COURT: All right. Then we'll see you
9	tomorrow morning. We'll have them come in, everybody
10	at 8:45, okay?
11	(The proceedings concluded at 3:26 p.m.)
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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

I, Colleen Maloney, an official court reporter for the Second Judicial District, in and for the County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages are a true and accurate transcript of my original stenograph notes which were transcribed into writing by computer-aided transcription, taken relative in the aforementioned matter on March 27, 2023, in the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, and State of Minnesota before the Honorable Leonardo Castro.

Signed this #TH day of Month , year.

s:/ Colleen Maloney

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