B-R-A-U-N-S-T-E-I-N, Braunstein.

MR. HURLEY: Close.

THE BAILIFF: Your Honor, the jury.

THE COURT: Yes.

(Whereupon, the jury returned to the jury box.)

THE COURT: Yes. Another name -- I have to ask if you may know this person -- is Laurel Braunstein. Does any juror know her?

Let the record reflect a negative response.

MR. HURLEY: Tammy Sneller, please.

Whereupon,

TAMRA SNELLER

resumed the stand as a witness recalled by and on behalf of the defendant and, having been previously duly sworn, was examined and testified further as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. HURLEY:

Q Good morning.

A Good morning.

Q It's been a while since we talked with you. Would you remind me, if no one else, what is your

association with this particular matter?

A I'm Tamra Sneller with the Division of Family Services, and I was an investigator involved in this case.

Q Okay. When there is a complaint that comes into DFS regarding alleged child abuse, is it fairly standard procedure, until everything can be determined, to take the child that is the subject matter of the complaint out of the home and to seek a temporary custody placement?

A It depends on the situation.

Q All right. Is that standard in certain situations?

A In some, yes.

Q Okay. Is that what happened here?

A Yes.

Q Did you have an occasion at the Beebe Hospital on July 13th to speak with Anna Morse?

A Yes.

Q By July 13th, 2012, there was an open file, or a previous file at least, that had been opened involving the Morse family dating back to 2007?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Were you any part of the team, for want of a better word, that was involved as a result of the initial Ashley Holden-Anna Morse situation back in 2007?

A No.

Q Okay. So your involvement begins July of 2012?

A No.

Q Okay. When did your involvement begin?

A 2010.

Q All right. So then you knew Anna Morse when you saw her on July 13th? You knew who she was?

A Yes.

Q Did you first have an opportunity to speak with her at Beebe Hospital?

A That was the second time.

Q Okay. On July 13th is the first time that you saw her at Beebe Hospital, or was that the second time?

A I saw her at -- I saw her at Beebe. That was the first time.

Q July 13th?

A Yes.

Q On July 13th, the first time you saw her that day was at Beebe Hospital?

A Correct.

Q When you questioned her that day, were you in a private room or out in the hallway, or where were you?

A In a private room.

Q And who was present during those discussions, the questions that were being asked?

A There were some nurses in and out, there was the Delaware State Trooper that had been in and out, and a co-worker was with me.

Q No family members?

A No.

Q And would it be standard procedure under those types of circumstances for the initial interview, assuming the age of the child allowed it, that you would talk to the child alone?

A Yes.

Q While you were questioning the child and speaking with the child and interviewing the child, are you recording it?

A No.

Q Do you have paper and pen in hand taking notes?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And then after you take your notes, at some point in time do you reduce that to a formal report which is typed?

A Yes.

Q And that becomes a business record of Delaware Family Services?

A Yes.

Q Did Anna relate to you that the previous night Melvin Morse had spanked her?

A Yes.

Q At any time did she tell you that he had slapped her so hard that she couldn't see that previous night?

A I can't remember that.

Q Your notes, please look at your records to make sure. I said it like an order.

Would you look at your records, please?

A Could you repeat the question, please?

Q On July 13th, when you met her at Beebe Hospital, aside from telling you that Melvin Morse

had spanked her the previous night, did she share with you that he had slapped her face so hard that she couldn't see that previous night?

A No.

Q Okay. Did she give you an estimate, on a pain scale of ten, with ten being painful as it can be, what the pain level was of her being spanked and hit?

A That wasn't asked at Beebe.

Q Okay. Would that be at the police station later?

A Yes.

Q Okay. Well, let's stick with the spank. Later on in the day, later in the day after she had been examined and released from Beebe, did you have a second opportunity to speak with her?

A Yes.

Q And that was at Troop 7?

A Correct.

Q And would that have been in the afternoon or evening?

A Late afternoon, early evening.

Q And during the course of that discussion,

who was present with you and Anna?

A A co-worker.

Q Okay. Of yours?

A Yes.

Q No family present?

A No. There was family present at the Delaware State Police Troop, but not in the room.

Q I'm talking about in the interview room. Okay. Did she at that point give you an appraisal of how high the pain level was of the spanking that she had endured?

A Yes.

Q What was that?

A She said that when she was being spanked, it was a 9.9.

Q 9.9, with ten being the most severe pain?

A Yes.

Q Did she tell you, during the course of either of your two interviews on July 13th, what Melvin Morse used on July 12th to inflict the spanking that you've described?

A She reported that it was with an open-end closed hand.

Q At any point did she tell you that he used his elbow to strike her on July 12th?

A No.

Q My saying it to you now, is that the first time you heard that?

A Yes.

Q Okay. After she told you that she was taken into the house and that she was spanked, did she share with you a conversation that she said she overheard between Melvin and Pauline Morse, which in part led her to decide to run away?

A Yes.

Q And what did she tell you that she overheard the two of them saying about her and what was going to happen to her?

A She overheard Mom and Dad saying something about a foster care place in Seaford.

Q Did she share with you what had happened to her half sister, Ashley, with regard to foster care?

A No.

Q Okay. She didn't tell you. How long did she tell you that this type of activity, I guess the word abuse, had been ongoing with her?

A She said that she had been in trouble every since she was seven years old.

Q Okay. What did she indicate that her mother said while the activity was going on outside the house on July 12th, or even afterward, with regard to the punishment that was being inflicted on her?

A At that time?

Q Yes.

A She said that her mother was there and she didn't do anything.

Q Okay. So specifically, Anna did not indicate to you that her mother said anything while this was ongoing?

A No.

Q And that would mean that could have -- that her mother, according to Anna, didn't say, now you're seeing what it's like, or words to that effect; you're punished like a big girl?

A I don't recall that.

Q Okay. Did you talk to Melody Morse on July 13th?

A Yes.

Q And where would you have been when you

talked with Melody?

A At Delaware State Police Troop 7.

Q That would have been in the afternoon hours of July 13th?

A Yes, late afternoon, early evening.

Q Okay. And did you ask Melody what happens to Anna when Anna gets in trouble?

A Yes.

Q What did Melody tell you?

A She said she couldn't remember.

Q Okay. Moving forward in time to July 27th, were you present when there was a discussion occurring between DFS personnel and Melvin and Pauline Morse? I think it's July 27th at 10:00 a.m.

A Yes.

Q And during the conversation on July 27th, did the subject matter come up with Pauline Morse of any contact that she may have had or not had with Jeffrey Pollack?

A She said that she had no contact with him.

Q Did she indicate whether or not, even though she had no contact, Pollack had tried to initiate contact?

A I don't have anything about that.

Q I'll hand you one of the DFS records that Mr. Richardson prepared of that conversation. I'll just ask you to look at that and see if, as you look at that, oh, yeah, she did that say that, I remember that now?

A Do you want me to read what it says?

Q No. No. Just read what it says and then if you say, yeah, now, I remember that they did say that --

A I remember the conversation.

Q Okay. What else did she say other than the fact she had had no contact? Just from your memory.

A We talked about a lot of things that day.

Q What about him trying to contact her?

A She said that he had tried to contact her mother.

Q Okay. I'm going to show you a sheet that's been identified by Pauline of her Twitter activity, James and -- Jeans and Polo.

Did she tell you that she had tried to initiate contact with Mr. Pollack in 2011 on her Facebook and gave her Jeans and Polo Twitter contact

information?

A No.

Q And lastly, did Pauline indicate what she had been viewing, what she had seen in the interaction between Melvin and Anna, whether or not Anna was in danger?

A Are you talking about on the 26th?

Q You see, I don't have the dates. Let me give you what I have.

How come y'all don't use page numbers in your reports? Okay. It's not your rules.

A Sorry.

Q I'm handing you what I believe is your report, with no pride of authorship. Is that part of your report?

A Yes.

Q Okay. What did Pauline indicate, be it July 26th or July 27th, whatever the date? Did she indicate about the danger factor between Melvin and Anna?

A She said her children were never in danger.

Q Never in danger. Okay.

MR. HURLEY: Thank you. Nothing further. I

will take back my stuff. Thanks.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MS. EWART:

Q Good morning, Ms. Sneller.

A Good morning.

Q When you're talking to Anna at the hospital and Anna and Melody at the troop, are these formal in-depth interviews, or are you just trying to get a sense of the situation?

A Just trying to get a sense of this situation.

Q Who referred Anna and Melody to be interviewed at the CAC?

A My co-worker called for me.

Q But it was DFS?

A Yes, it was.

Q Why were they referred to the CAC?

A Because we were going to have a forensic interview due to the allegations that she was at the hospital.

Q And it's the intent, when they are at the CAC, to do a full in-depth interview there, correct?

A Correct. Correct.