

NV v. Devyn Michaels Day 3

09 November 2025 01:17

Day 3 - 7 November 2025

1. **Witness #6 - State Witness #6 - Masoa Yoshida – Yoko's boyfriend - Witness is using a translator [25:00]**

- a. Direct Exam conducted by Summer Clarke
 - Testimony about relationship with John and finding him dead. -
 - i. Masoa Yoshida testifies he knows John because he lived downstairs with them at Paladura drive.
 - ii. Masoa Yoshida testifies that Yoko had told him that John had a son from a previous marriage.
 - iii. Masoa Yoshida testifies that he had called 911 because he assumed that he is dead.
 - iv. Masoa Yoshida testifies that he had been using a butcher knife in the kitchen making things for the dogs and the next day, he did not see knife. [36:30]
- b. Cross Exam conducted by Robert Draskovich [38:10]
 - i. Nothing of note.
- c. No redirect exam

Established in this testimony

The individual that had called 911 and a butcher knife was missing from the scene.

Function of witness

Advancing the timeline for the prosecution.

2. **Witness #7 - State Witness #7 - Yoko Willette - Mother of the victim - Witness is using a translator [44:30]**

- a. Direct Exam conducted by John Giordani
 - i. Yoko Willette testifies to have two children, Johnathan and Kenneth from the same dad and separate from the husband in 2012.
 - ii. Yoko Willette testifies that Johnathan's ex-wife was Tamaya before he had gotten with Nikki but don't know when they split.
 - iii. Yoko Willette testifies to Nikki losing custody of her kids in November 2020
 - iv. Yoko Willette testifies to Johnathan getting full custody of the kids.
- o Testimony about Yoko's knowledge of events on the day of the murder. [56:40-59:20]
 - i. Yoko Willette testifies to being in bed at 10pm but was awake for several hours. She did not hear anything whilst she was in her room.
 - ii. Yoko Willette testifies that John had told her when he saw her at 10pm that he is going to Nikki's house to pick up his belongings.
 - 1) She says around 8pm or 8:30pm both Nikki and John left the house by truck. The girls were not with them.
 - 2) She says that Nikki and John returned to the house at 10pm.
 - a) She says that John seemed normal and was cooking in front of the microwave.
 - b) She says that Nikki was in John's room around this time.
 - iii. Yoko Willette testifies to going upstairs to her room at 10pm leaving John alone with Nikki. Then around the time of 1am-1:15am she went downstairs to the kitchen and saw Nikki coming out of John's room. [59:40-1:10:30]
 - 1) She says that she never heard anything whilst she was upstairs.
 - 2) She says that John said he was going to have a short rest and go to Nikki's and pick up his belongings.
 - 3) She says that at 1am when she went downstairs, Nikki looked surprised to see her.
 - 4) She says around 1:15 am she went to bed, then 2am she heard dogs barking and other strange noise was heard. [1:08:00]
 - a) She says that was sleeping at 1:15 am and then heard a noise,

something like a bang, strange noise around 2am. [1:09:13]

- Testimony about finding John on the bed. -
- 5) She says that when she went downstairs after hearing the bang, and looked around and calmed down the dogs and went back to sleep.
- 6) She says that she woke up around 8am and noticed that John's truck was gone and says she expected it to be gone. [1:10:50]
- 7) She says that she tried calling John and there was no answer.
- 8) She went to John's room, saw the doggy door closed and computer chair fell down and garage door half open.
- 9) She says that she went to John's bed and open the blanket and discovering his feet.
- 10) She says that she unfolded the blanket and saw many blood and went to call 911.

b. Cross Examination conducted by Robert Draskovich [1:17:30]

- i. Yoko Willette says she does not remember when asked if Johnathon was moving things in his truck on August 5th and was moving out.
- ii. Yoko Willette says she didn't wake up she was still half sleeping.
 - 1) She says that she doesn't know whether it was 2 or 3am but she heard the dog barking.
- iii. Yoko Willette testifies that she never heard about this 3 o'clock from the investigators.
- iv. Yoko Willette testifies that she remembers one chair after being asked that she said two chairs before.
- v. Yoko Willette says yes when asked if Nikki had told her that night that she Johnathon that she didn't want Johnathon drinking and driving.
- vi. Yoko Willette testifies that she didn't want Johnathon to drive when drinking when asked if Johnathon's drinking was a family concern.
- vii. Yoko Willette says yes when asked that there were texts of concerns about Johnathon's drinking in 2019, 2020. [1:51:30]
 - 1) She says that she always told him to work hard and not drink.
- viii. Yoko Willette says yes when asked that there many texts of concerns about Johnathon's drinking in 2021 and 2022.
 - Yoko Willette testifies in English herself -
- ix. Yoko Willette testifies herself in English that around 1am that night, she told Nikki to go to Deviere and Nikki said that Deviere is trying to go and be with his with his girlfriend. [1:55:20]
 - Yoko Willette testifies via her translator -
 - 1) She says that Deviere was not living at the house on August 7th 2022.
 - 2) She says its not correct when she was asked that she told the police that Deviere told her that he was moving out of Nikki's house in August 7th.
 - a) She says yes when she asked if the transcript was wrong. [1:59:00-1:59:35]
 - 3) She says that Deviere had moved out of the house in 2020.

c. Redirect exam conducted by John Giordani [1:59:50]

- i. She says no when asked that a translator was not provided for her on the day of her interview with the investigator.
- ii. She testifies that on the night, around 2am the dogs were barking for a while. [2:01:48]

d. Recross exam conducted by Robert Draskovich [2:04:28]

- i. Yoko Willette laughs when asked that she told the grand jury that she heard the noise and woke up at 3 but Yoko responds saying she thinks it was 2am that she woke up.

Established in this testimony

Devyn Michaels had lost custody of her two children to Johnathan Willette.

A linear timeline based on her recollection of the events on the night of the murder:

10pm: Yoko went upstairs and stays awake for several hours watching youtube videos and

reading a book.

1am: Yoko Willette goes downstairs and spends time with Johnathon and Nikki.

1:15am: Yoko Willette went to bed

2:00am or 3:00am: Yoko Willette is awoken by a bang and she went to John's room where he found him dead and the bed bloody.

Deviere moved out of the Yoko's house in 2020.

Witness Function

Advance Timeline of events for the prosecution.

Establishing facts of what occurred on the day of the murder.

3. Witness #8 - State Witness #8 - Nicole Mariam - Crime Scene Analyst II [2:23:40]

- a. Direct Exam conducted by Summer Clarke
 - i. Nicole Mariam testifies the levels of crime scene analyst from Tech being the lowest level and II being the highest tier, she also explains her education at University of Las Vegas obtaining two major degrees in criminal justice and psychology; her training, 15 years of experience and duties.
 - ii. Nicole Mariam testifies to the documentation process they went through when her and her team had arrived at the scene. [2:28:00]
 - 1) She testifies all of the pictures taken of the scene from the trucks, living room and the angles in the master bedroom, master closet and bathroom.
 - a) She says that no weapons were found at the scene.
 - 2) She testifies to taking pictures of Deviere and Devyn Michaels
 - 3) She testifies that she only took the photos and that the items were already impounded and collected by investigators
- b. Cross Exam conducted by Robert Draskovich [2:47:45]
 - i. Nicole Miriam says no when asked if there were injuries to Devyn Michaels hands.
 - ii. Nicole Miriam testifies to taking pictures of the Nissan van, and there were no items of evidentiary value found.
- c. No redirect exam conducted

Established in this testimony

The crime scene did not offer much of evidentiary value including lack of blood splatter on the walls.

Witness function

Establish technical facts from the scene

Connection with previous testimonies

Connects with Stephanie Wilson testimony regarding the cleaning products found at the scene.

4. Witness #9 - State Witness #9 - Stephanie Yagi - Medical Examiner [2:57:00]

- a. Direct Exam conducted by John Giordani
 - i. Stephanie Yagi testifies to her experience and expertise; she is a board certified medical examiner and is tasked to determine a cause of death and manner of death.
 - ii. Stephanie Yagi testifies to the autopsy of Johnathan Willette [3:09:00]
 - 1) She testifies to no bleeding on his left hand.
 - a) She says that there are blisters and calluses on the hand.
 - iii. Stephanie Yagi testifies to the decapitation of the head. [3:14:00]
 - 1) She says that the decapitation was post mortem and the decapitation went through the spine.
 - 2) She says no when asked if there were signs of strangulation.
 - iv. Stephanie Yagi testifies to the toxicology testing she did of the autopsy.
 - 1) She testifies to finding a low level of Marijuana based on the THC delta being active in the blood.
 - 2) She testifies that she found 0.29 alcohol level in the body and agrees its below the legal limit.
 - v. Stephanie Yagi determines the manner of death to be a homicide
- b. Cross exam conducted by Robert Draskovich [3:23:50]

- i. Defence highlights the difficulty that one would have to do to decapitate this cleanly [3:35:30]

c. No redirect exam conducted.

Established in this testimony

Johnathon had died on 7th August 2022

Autopsy was performed on the 8th August 2022

Decapitation occurred post mortem

Witness Function

Provide specialised knowledge with respect to autopsies.

5. Witness #10 - State Witness #10 - Jennifer Burns - Forensic Anthropologist [4:32:18]

a. Direct Exam conducted by Summer Clarke

- i. Jennifer Burns testifies to her experience and her board certification with the American board of Forensic Anthropology; associate professor at University of Nevada, Las Vegas; degrees in Biology, anthropology (minor), anthropology (Masters) from University of Buffalo, and serves as a consult to the Coroner office.

1) She testifies to only working on one decapitation in her career.

- ii. Jennifer Burns testifies to the materials she received from the coroners office for analysis showing the items were introduced in a brown paper bag.

- iii. Jennifer Burns testifies to what happens to how the head is structured and what would happen if its decapitated. [4:42:20]

- iv. Jennifer Burns testifies that the decapitation likely occurred from a mechanical powered saw [4:46:20]

1) She explains this process to the jury [4:49:20-4:56:55]

a) She explains that direction of the cut was from the back to the front

b) She testifies that two tools were used to carry out the decapitation; a hand powered serated or non serated knife and a powered mechanical saw.

b. Cross exam conducted by Robert Draskovich [5:03:32]

- i. Jennifer Burns testifies that she is uncomfortable to make a determination whether a male or female used the tools, as the tools would do the work for you.

- ii. Jennifer Burns testifies that the decapitation would have been shortly after they died or within a short period of the death occurring

c. Redirect exam conducted by Summer Clarke [5:11:05]

- i. Jennifer testifies that it was a perri mortem death and she cant determine whether the death was post mortem or before the death.

1) She says yes when asked that she wouldn't disagree with the finding that the decapitation occurred post mortem based on her analysis.

d. Recross exam conducted by Robert Draskovich. [5:12:07]

Established in this testimony

The decapitation occurred post mortem and it was carried out with power tools such as a mechanical saw and a hand powered knife.

Witness Function

Provide specialised knowledge of the body physiology, knowledge of the anatomy and powertools.

6. Witness #11 - State Witness #11 - Kari Skinner - Detective [5:15:00]

a. Direct Exam conducted by John Giordani

- i. Kari Skinner testifies to working in the homicide division of the city of Henderson police department.

- ii. Kari Skinner testifies to speaking with the girls at the house regarding Deviere.

1) She says that the girls had said that the girls had said Deviere was someone that cares for them and had watched them the night prior. [5:18:10-5:19:36]

- iii. Kari Skinner testifies to the interview she conducted with Devyn Michaels at 3pm on 7th August 2023. The audio was played for the jury [5:20:38]

1) Kari Skinner testifies to Devyn saying during the interview that she had left Paldura [Yoko's residence] and the garage door was open, leaving out of the

front on the night of the murder.

- Interview of the day after the murder - [5:27:25]

- 2) Devyn is heard on audio saying that Deviere wasn't that buzzed but he seemed fine.
- 3) Devyn is heard on audio speaking about the marriage to Deviere saying that Yoko was not privy to the marriage.
- 4) Devyn is heard on audio explaining why she got married to Deviere. [5:28:35-5:31:30]
 - a) She says that it was a marriage of convenience so that Deviere could have access to things and as her spouse and they were not together like that.
- 5) Voice of a little girl could be heard interrupting the interview. [5:33:40-5:34:20]
- 6) Devyn answers yes sir when she was asked by Ozawa if the garage was still half open when she left. [5:35:40]

iv. Kari Skinner testifies that the girls had brought over a phone that had a blood smear on it.

- 2nd interview of Devyn Michaels with the detectives -

v. Kari Skinner testifies to the second interview that was conducted with Devyn at 7:50pm on 7th August 2023. She was not under arrest at this point. The audio was played for the jury [5:39:00]

- 1) Devyn could be heard on audio answering the question of how his [Johnathon] phone got there and she says that it was by a cigarette butt and he put his phone down and he smoke cigarettes.
- 2) Devyn could be heard saying she is getting scared now. [5:43:00]
- 3) Devyn could be heard that Johnathan had packed everything and when she drove there, everything was already packed. [5:44:00-5:53:30]
 - a) She says that the investigators should look at the investigators.
 - b) She says this happened around 8:20 or 8:30.
 - c) She says that they had left to Burlington around 9:01 with the girls.
 - Devyn's knowledge of Deviere's involvement and marriage. [5:54:00-6:07:18]
 - d) She says the last thing she did with John was packing his bags.
 - e) She says that Deviere and Johnathon do not talk and the dad wanted to move in with her to be a family. [5:54:50]
 - f) She says that Deviere did not know that John was moving into Devyn's residence.
 - g) She says that Deviere did not know that John was leaving or that his dad had packed up his clothes.
 - h) She says that Deviere wouldn't have anything to do with it. [5:57:20]
 - i) She says that him and Deviere had a connection and a friendship and she just like rings when asked by Kari why they would go and get rings when the marriage was only on paper.
 - j) She says that John was accepting of the relationship by Deviere and the text messages would show it.
 - k) She says that Deviere had messaged her saying that he had found his wallet sending her a picture of it.
 - i) She says that he had told her he placed it on the table
 - Questioning regarding Jonathan's wallet being found at her property - [6:07:30-6:16:36]
 - l) She says that Johnathan had given her a social security card and says that she was to look after it.
 - m) She says that she has a lot of Johnathon's wallets and his old licences

vi. *Testimony continues on Day 4.*

Court adjourned for the day!

[Timestamps from the Law & Crime Trials channel, see sources]