

## INTERVIEW WITH OFC. ISCAH NJOKU

The date is January 9, 2018. The time is 1349 hours. This is Sgt. Puetz with the Office of Professional Standards in a, uh, follow-up appointment with Ofc. Njoku in reference to an incident between herself and Ofc. Potter. Um, you're still under the original notice of allegations in the worded statement that says you're to be truthful (unintelligible) Do you acknowledge the notification?

Yes.

Okay. So, a couple - a couple of points of clarity. I guess, well, let me ask you this so, I'm gonna show you what a normal pattern looks like. This is a - a normal pattern. See how it goes up and down just kinda like a Christmas tree.

Mm-hm.

So when somebody is being untruthful, it kinda, uh, would look, like this would be an example of one that's a little more blocky. You see, look more straight lines.

Mm-hm.

So is there any patterns on there that - that stick out as being kinda more blocky that a tree pattern to you?

This.

Okay.

And this. I don't know what that is.

That a - a, um, I forgot what's it called - a cutoff basically where it missed the beginning of your question but that was an irrelevant question. Any other ones stick out to you? Okay.

No

All right. So, um, there's just a couple of questions I - I would like to get some clarity on, I guess, from what we talked about at our initial interview.

Okay.

Um, so the - the - the time at his apartment - the first incident.

Mm-hm.

When you talk about originally he bear-hugged you, carried you, threw you out the door.

Mm-hm.

And your - your shirt was ripped when he was tryin' to pull you up by your shirt initially?

Yes, it was.

And you went back to the door to try to get a shirt.

Yes.

And in our CVSA interview, you said somethin' about one of 'em was blockin' the door with their foot. I mean, are you pushin' on the door or what?

What's the - how's the door opened? And you're gonna have to describe it verbally ...

Oh.

... cause the tape can't see ya.

Well, basically, um, I'm coverin' up myself and I'm like tryin' to push on the door like, let me in to get a shirt.

Okay.

But they - I don't know who foot it was but, one of their foots was, like, tryin' to like in between the door, like, um, but the door was, like ...

How far would you say the door was opened from the crack in the door from the wall to the door?

It was opened - it wasn't opened all the way. It was like cracked but their foot

- it - it wasn't opened all the way.

Was it wide enough that you could have stuck your hand in between the wall and the door?

Yes it was wide enough for that.

How about your arm?

I would have to force my arm in it, like, hurt my arm ...

Okay, how about your leg?

That was the way. No not my leg.

And you said 'cause, I mean, it was just a little, um, and that's the point of doin' the initial interview on the CVSA - to clar- for clarifications sake. When you initially talked about being pinned in between the door, you said yes. So, I'm just tryin' to figure out where the, I think, where would you describe yourself as being when th- when that door - are you tryin' to push it open, I mean ...

Yeah. I was tryin' ...

What are your views?

I was tryin' to push it open. I didn't have a shirt on.

Okay. But you say you were coverin' yourself...

Yes with ...

... with one hand.

... one hand.

And how are you tryin' to push it open?

With my right hand ...

Okay.

Like, open the door, I need a shirt.

Okay. But you, at no time, reached in between the crack?

I mean I could have but I don't remember reachin' into the crack.

Okay. But you were never - you were never to the point that, you know how you catch somethin' - say you close a drawer and you catch your hand in between the opening of the drawer and the cabinet?

I know what you're tryin' to say. Mm-hm.

You were never at any time - were you at ever any time pinched between the door and the wall, any part of your body?

Not that I wo- can recall but I remember holdin' myself in one hand and tryin' to get - open the door - open it with the other hand.

Okay. And the injuries in the pictures that were provided to us and I think I showed you on the first interview ...

Mm-hm.

How did you incur all those injuries?

When he put me outside. He threw me outside.

On the initial him taking you out of the apartment?

Yes.

And describe to me again how he took you out of the apartment?

Um, I was by the door and my back was facin' the door and he was in front of me and he was - he was pullin' on my shirt and I kept - I kept pushin' him away, like, stop, stop, I can walk myself out. He kept pullin' on my shirt and my shirt ripped so, um, he, like, - he, like, grabbed me - he like grabbed me ...

You were describing like a hugging motion.

Yes like he picked me up and grabbed me.

Okay.

And threw me outside and that's when ...

So he physically picked you up off the ground.

Physically picked me up off the ground ...

Okay

... and threw me outside.

So did he walk you from where you were standing to the door?

We was already, like, you know, like, by the door, um, um, it was like the little, like the little wood-way, like ...

Okay. Entryway?

Yeah, like an entryway but we was like on the carpet. We wasn't, like, on the - the wood part yet by the door and outside. We was like on the carpet and he picked me up and put me outside. The door was already open.

Okay.

The door was already opened and he picked me up and threw me outside and my shirt was already ripped.

Okay. In the meantime, did he grab you by both your wrists and walk backwards pulling you to the door outside?

No.

Okay.

No.

Um, all right. Now on the first interview, I showed you some pictures of his injuries.

Yes.

And your, um, recollection of the events, how did he, um, obtain those injuries?

I didn't even know he had injuries, um, until you showed me.

Okay.

Uh, I guess when, uh, I was pushin' him off me, like when I was pushin' him off me.

When he was pulling at your shirt ...

Mm-hm.

... or what time?

When he was pulling at my sh- when he was pullin' at my shirt, I kept tellin' him to stop, like, pushin' him off me. I was tellin' him to stop.

And he was shirtless at this time? Was he wearing a shirt? Potter?

He had, like, on a shirt but I guess when, um, when he was like, um, rippin' off my shirt and, um, I'm pullin' on his, uh, I just kept tellin' him to stop, it probably like over-stretched, if that makes sense ...

Okay.

Like over-stretched and, yeah, basically.

You said he ...

But he did have on a - he did have on a white tee.

So do you believe and you - you say he was pullin' on your shirt and you're basically pushin' back at him - do you believe it's plausible that you scratched up his chest when this was goin' on?

I could have, yes.

Okay. So, that - that's the first encounter and then you said there was two more encounters. I just want to make sure I'm crystal clear on what's goin' on with this. The second two encounters were at your apartment.

Yes.

And so, one of which you said at first when you talked to Lt. (Bennett) and Sgt. (Giles) that basically he lifted up your chin and kinda' did like a, "Look at me."

Yes that's when I was in on the toilet. He lift me up and then out - and then my back was against the wall.

Mm-hm.

And he was like facin' - he was facin' me but he was like facin' the mirror, like his back was facin' my mirror and bath, and, um, we was talkin' about the baby.

Mm hhm

He wanted me to get an abortion and he kept tellin' me that I need to make a - a - um, appointment to go, you know, get an abortion or whatever, like, asap, like tomorrow, and I kept saying no, and he kept gettin' upset and that's when he like snapped and he - his face was tumin' red and did me like this but he didn't - he didn't squeeze but he did me like this.

This was after he did the raising the chin thing?

Yes that's afterward 'cause he was like, I need the, um, he was like, 'cause I was cryin' and he was like, I need to stop cryin', I need to stop doing it, so we - so I need to grow up.

And you describe - what you're describing 'cause again, the tape can't see you is both his hands around his neck.

Yes but he did not squeeze. He just did me like this. I guess tried to scare me but he - he didn't physically squeeze my neck.

Okay. And just to be crystal clear, then there's another incident on a different day that he grabbed you by the shirt and pushed you against the wall?

Yes.

Okay. And in any of these, um, I know you had the injuries from the first encounter - of these last two encounters we just referenced, were there any physical injuries?

Not that I can recall, no.

Okay.

He just, like, twisted my shirt and had me against like a corner, like this, in my wall.

Okay. And just for other point of clarification, um, back to the encounter at his apartment, when you were there, he called an officer.

Yes.

What officer?

(Delly).

And what was the point of him calling this officer?

He was callin' him 'cause me and (Delly), I mean, we was kind of close ...

Mm-hm.

... because the man partied with (Dana) so, me and him was kinda close, and he was like, um, he called (Delly). He went outside at this point. He

called

(Delly) and he was like, um, he was tellin' me to leave. He was like, um ...

(Delly) called you?

Mm-hm. He was like, "Njoku, go ahead and just leave, go ahead and just leave and you all just talk about it at another time," 'cause (Delly) already knew that I was pregnant before I even told Potter. He already knew that I was pregnant but he didn't say anything 'cause I wanted to tell him myself.

Okay.

So (Delly) was like, "Njoku, just ahead and leave. Like, just tell him another time," and, um, I was like no. I said I wasn't gonna leave.

And so you don't contend the fact that he called (Delly) to try to get him to leave his apartment?

He did call (Delly) to try to get me to leave his apartment.

So that's a correct statement.

Yes.

And, it's a correct statement that he asked you to leave the apartment and you refused?

Yes.

But yo- when you initially went into the apartment, how do you state that happened when you went in init- when you went into the apartment initially?

When I went in the apartment initially, like my first time goin' in the apartment, um, he was like, um, well he didn't really say anything. He just -

he just opened the door and I walked in behind him and then he was like,

"What, what you got to say?" He like, "Go ahead, um, and talk to me. What you got t o say. ?" an d ...

So you wouldn't describe your entry into the apartment as sneaking into the apartment or that you, kind of manipulated your way into the apartment, would you or would you say that he - do you feel like hi- his entry into the apartment and your entry into the apartment that you were welcomed into the apartment? Or do you feel like you manipulated your way into the apartment?

I mean, I've been over to his apartment plenty of times so ...

What's plenty of times?

I been - I been to (Mel) apartment a lot of times when we was dating.

What's a lot?

Uh, I don't have a number but I've been ...

Over ten?

I was goin' over there, like, probably once a week, twice a week.

For how many weeks?

Since April or May.

So a couple of months between there.

Yes, I been goin' over there a couple of times, um, I mean, I just, I mean, sneaking how?

Well when he opened the door, did you go underneath his arm and get into the apartment before he could stop you?

I don't remember doin' that. I remember him - I remember him openin' up the door and I just walked in behind him.

Okay.

I don't remember that, like - like crawlin' over him?

Or under him or rushin' in to the point that it's clear that you're not welcome and you're ...

I did - I did rush in behind him.

On the first time?

Mm-hm. I - I walked in right behind him. I rushed in right behind him.

Okay. All right.

But I wouldn't call that me forcin' my way in.

Just so I'm clear on the sequence of events, you go over to his apartment to inform him that you 're pregnant.

Yes. 'Cause initially me and him - we was not in a good space to - to talk and I didn't wanna tell him - I didn't want to tell him at work 'cause it was unprofessional to tell him at work so I was tryin' to, even before I popped up, I was tryin' to talk to him, I'm like (Mel) I need to talk to you, seriously, I need to talk to you, and he just blew me off - he just blew me off so, um, even the - the morning - the day that I popped at his apartment, I called him and I was like, I really need to talk to you - I really need to talk to you. He did not respond so I felt like my only option was to - to pop up.

Okay.

I felt like that was my only option and I - I did not expect it to go that route. Like, I just thought, you know, we was - I was gonna tell him and he was gonna come to the doctor with me and, you know, we could figure it out together but it just went left. I was not expectin' that.

Okay.

And - and, um, after the whole fight happened, like, I wasn't even gonna tell him that I was pregnant, I was just gonna wait it out but I didn't even tell him

I was pregnant. (Que) did - the person who came down here and, um, initially she told him - she told him that I was pregnant. I didn't even get a

chance to so that's when he started callin' me after that.  
Okay. So you go to the apartment and tell him you're pregnant.  
I didn't even tell him I was pregnant that day.

Well, that's what your intention was though.  
Yes.

So you followed him into - you followed him as he walks in the apartment.  
Yes.  
He asks you to leave the apartment. He calls Officer (Delly) before - before or after the t-shirt pulling?  
It had to be before.

Okay.  
It had to be before.  
So he tries to remove you by pulling at you which rips your shirt.  
Yes.

And then, he carries you out.  
Picked me up and threw me out.  
Picks you up, carries you to the door and throws you.  
Yes.  
You come back to the door to attempt to get a t-shirt.  
Yes.

And you pushed on the door but you didn't ever - you were never pinned between the door and the wall?  
No I was never pinned between the door and the wall. I would have bruises on my wrist and my arms and stuff if that was the case.  
Okay. You get the shirt?  
Yes he gave me a shirt.  
And you leave?

No, I did not leave. I - I sat in my car for, like, 45 minutes. I was talkin' - I was on the phone with - with of (Que). I was tellin' her what happened and that's when (Mel), he, um, I guess he, um, like, was lookin', like to see what I was doin' and I know if he wanted to talk to me or whatever, but I was on the - I didn't leave right away. I was on the phone for at least 45 minutes, just sittin' in the parkin' lot.

Okay.  
And then I left.  
All right. And then, he finds out you're pregnant...  
From (Que).  
From (Que).  
Mm-hm.

He comes over to your apartment, the two separate incidents, tells you to look at him in the one incident, lifted your chin up, and on the same day, puts his hands around your throat, and then on a separate occasion, he grabbed you by the shirt and pushed you up against the wall?  
Yes.

Okay. And, um, I'm tryin' to think if there's anything I forgot.  
This who- he - he basically, 'cause (Que) was - (Que) was - I guess him and (Que) was talkin' and I don't know if they had a conversation but he basically - he, um, he did not want me to - he did not want me to have that baby.  
Okay. So, my question - I guess the - the one question I have that's left that I can think of right now is, you came to make your statement. OPS called you to their office to make your initial statement when you talked to Lt. (Bennett) and Sgt. (Giles), correct?  
Yes they called me the same day.

Okay. Where was yours and Officer Potter's personal relationship by that time? Were you on good terms? Were you on bad terms? When you came and made your initial statement to Sgt. (Giles) and Lt. (Bennett)?

We was good. We was - I mean, we wasn't arguing or anything. I mean, we was on speakin' terms. We was havin' conversation that- I mean we was talkin' literally every day.  
Because you were still pregnant though?

Yes.  
So what I'm tryin' to understand, because what - you eventually lost the second child, correct?  
Yes.  
Okay. Now, where was the fallout to where - because like I said, in - in the first interview, you weren't very forthcoming with information.

I did not know. I was still pregnant and he was the father of my child and I didn't know what was gonna happen and not want him to lose his job. I didn't know so.

But, did you guys have a falling out before the loss of the second child? Because you were sending him text messages and stuff with pictures of the sonogram and it didn't seem like a very friendly conversation, the text threats of (unintelligible).

You said before, um ...

The loss of the second child? The fallout was before then?

N- n- um, I think we - I wa- I mean, I wouldn't say we fell out but he - he basically, like, didn't want me still communicating with (Que). He didn't - he didn't want me talkin' to her but I felt like, you know, those are my friends so, he basically told me that he was done, he didn't want to talk to me anymore, but I was - I was still pregnant at that time. So, (Mel) didn't even know that I even - I mean Officer Potter didn't even know I lost my child. Okay.

He don't even know.

Well, I guess what I'm tryin' to understand or what - what I'm trying to get some clarity on is, I mean, we went over those text written since the last conversation.

Yes I sent ev- I did send ...

Uh, karma's a bitch, this and that, and you were still pregnant at that time that - that you were sendin' those text messages.

No not th- not, um, the last message I sent him 'cause, um, those messages were sent not at the same time. It was sent over the time, if that makes sense.

But some - some of the text messages - some of the text messages that were, um, I'm tryin' to think how I want to phrase it...

That text message you're talkin' about, I lost my child then so I was upset.

You were pissed off.

Yes. I lost my child then.

In most of the text messages that I read to you, you seemed pissed off. I mean, or - or you seemed agitated.

He wasn't talkin' to me the whole time.

Right but you were still, on some of those text messages, you were still pregnant at the time?

Yes, mm-hm.

So I'm tryin' to, uh, just get some clarity on what went from the first interview with Lt. (Bennett) and Sgt. (Giles) and you're still tryin' to, you know, this is the child to your fa- er I'm sorry, the father of your child. You're still - you don't want him to lose his job. You don't want him to whatever. You're tryin' to protect him somewhat.

Basically.

To, uh, those kind of text messages of you being very cooperative. What -what - where was the fallout that it went south because it wasn't the loss of the second child? I mean that might have agitated you more but you were obviously sending text messages that were agitated - that you were agitated, um, before the loss of the - the second child, so I'm tryin' to understand where it went downhill to the point that, um, you know, you were just kinda over it.

Okay. Me and (Mel) had a conversation, um, it was probably like, we was talking - um, this is when, like, we was on, um, speakin' terms. He wanted me to get an abortion and, um, he wanted me to get an abortion and he was like, um, "If you get an abortion, you know, we can finally be together," or whatever like that. That's what he was tellin' me but I was - I was getting' too far along so I probably had, like, um, a week or so, and I would have been too far along to even get an abortion so he was like, um, - he was like, "You know, like, um, we don't have time to wait," whatever, like that. He lied, "I'll pay for the abortion but like, you about to be too far along. Um, if you get the abortion, then we can be together." So I'm thinkin', okay, uh, if I get the abortion, you know, like, we can, you know, finally be together 'cause I loved him and all my friends was like, "Don't do it. Um, he's - he's just lyin' to you," whatever, like that.

Okay.

And, I was tellin' (Mel), Officer Potter what they was sayin' and he was like, "Oh, don't believe them," and stuff like that so I was believin' him so in my mind, I'm just like, okay, I'm just gonna lie and see - I'm just gonna lie and tell him that, uh, I got the abortion just to see how he was gonna act. So, um, I had - I had - I had text him and I was like, um, I'm getting' an abortion, well I'm gonna take the abortion pill, or whatever. So I lied to him and I said that, um, I was gonna take the pill, um, I already paid for the pill and Imma take it and whatever so, um, he was like - he was like, okay, um. He was comin' over to my house every day, like, I guess he thought I - I got the abortion done so then, a week after that, he stopped talkin' to me.

Mm-hm.

And, um, a week after that, he stopped talkin' to me, like, I haven't heard anything from him, and, um, a week after that - I don't remember but about a week after that, uh, I had to go to the doctor for my, uh, appointment to get my ultrasound done and, you know, check on the baby and stuff, and I was callin' and textin' him, and he was not responding, and then I sent him a picture of - of the sonogram and I was like, you know, I sent him a long message and I was like, you know, it's - it's kinda messed up how you're treatin' me after you found out I got the abortion now, but I really did not get the abortion. I'm still pregnant.

Mm-hm.

And that's when I sent him a picture of the sonogram and, um, he never responded back to none of my messages and it was pissin' me off every

day so I was getting' upset and, um, I was gettin' upset that he was not respondin'. Um, I reached out to him numerous times and I was just - I was just angry, like - I was just upset - like how can somebody, like do this to somebody. And, um, as you can see, I kept textin' him and kept textin' him and he was not responding and then, um, I miscarried. I really did miscarry and, um, at this point, he was not even talkin' to me so there wasn't no point in me even still tryin' to communicate with him 'cause he wasn't even talkin' to me.

Okay.

So.

So the fallout was when you said that you were get - that you got the abortion and he kind of just faded away?

Yes 'cause he thought I got the abortion.

This is the week that you said he was comin' by after you said you got the abortion - what was the purpose of havin' him comin' by before he started the

- just ignorin' you?

Um, he was comin' by basically 'cause he was like, um, he was gonna be there, um, I guess, the first couple of days after I got - I got the abortion but he was think I got the abortion so he was just com in' by to, um, to check on me, I guess. He was comin' by every day to check on me and stuff.

Okay. But there was no romantic relationship after the thing at his apartment?

No.

Okay.

No. Negative.

Okay. Um, do you have anything to add that you feel like would be beneficial to this investigation?

Um, honestly, um, I wish this never happened like this, um. It was not my intention. Um, I wished this never happened, um, and I - I really just want this to be over with. I want to get my life back. I already done lost a kid and I'm just tryin' to just get my life back.

Okay. All right. That concludes this interview. The time is 1413 hours.

Key points include:

**Incident Details:** Njoku describes a physical struggle with Potter, involving him forcibly removing her from his apartment. Potter allegedly grabbed and ripped Njoku's shirt, lifted her, and threw her outside. Njoku returned to the door for a shirt, at which point Potter gave her one.

**Relationship Dynamics:** Njoku and Potter's romantic relationship had deteriorated. They disagreed over Njoku's pregnancy, with Potter allegedly pressuring her to get an abortion, which she initially resisted.

**Further Encounters:** Njoku describes additional instances where Potter visited her apartment, lifted her chin, grabbed her by the shirt, and pushed her against the wall in an attempt to intimidate her.

**Communication Breakdown:** After Njoku informed Potter that she had aborted (a false claim), Potter ceased communication. Njoku continued sending him messages, expressing frustration over his silence. She eventually miscarried and stopped attempting contact.

**Emotional Distress:** Njoku expressed regret about the situation, noting its toll on her personal life and stating she wanted to "get her life back." The interview concludes with Njoku wishing the matter resolved and expressing a desire to move forward.