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TRANSCRIPTION OF RECORDED INTERVIEW

OF

Cheryl Taylor

August 30, 2012

Sacramento, California

Investigation of Department of Parks &  
Recreation - Financial Irregularities

Interviewed by: Thomas M. Patton  
Deputy Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney  
General  
State of California

Transcribed by: David Rutt,  
eScribers, Inc.  
September 12, 2012  
New York, New York

(SA201210710)

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1 MR. PATTON: All right. Today's  
2 date is Thursday, August 30. This is Deputy  
3 Attorney General Thomas M. Patton. And it is  
4 approximately 2:05 p.m., and we are -- 2:16  
5 p.m., and we are at 1300 I Street, Offices of  
6 the Attorney General -- 1300 I Street,  
7 Sacramento, 17th Floor, in the Government Law  
8 Section.

9 With me today is Cheryl Taylor,  
10 currently a Budget Officer with the Department  
11 of Caltrans.

12 Correct?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

14 MR. PATTON: And she has brought a  
15 companion from the Department of  
16 Transportation. Can you say your name and  
17 spell your last name, please?

18 MS. McNULTY: Okay. Cheryl McNulty,  
19 M-C-N-U-L-T-Y.

20 MR. PATTON: N-U?

21 MS. McNULTY: L-T-Y.

22 MR. PATTON: And Cheryl McNulty,  
23 your position at Caltrans is what?

24 MS. McNULTY: Administrative  
25 Advisor.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay. And you  
2 understand, both of you, that we're conducting  
3 an administrative investigation into financial  
4 reporting irregularities at the State  
5 Department of Parks and Recreation?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MS. McNULTY: Yes.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay. And Ms. McNulty,  
9 you, I hope and assume -- do you have any  
10 prior knowledge of any of the matters related  
11 to that?

12 MS. McNULTY: Not at all.

13 MR. PATTON: Have you read the  
14 stories in the paper?

15 MS. McNULTY: I have.

16 MR. PATTON: Is that the extent of  
17 your knowledge with --

18 MS. McNULTY: That's the extent of  
19 it.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay. Have you talked  
21 with Ms. Taylor about the matter at all?

22 MS. McNULTY: No.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you're here  
24 basically as moral support?

25 MS. McNULTY: Exactly.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay. Also with us  
2 today is Special Agent Michael Mattson of the  
3 Department of Justice who is here to assist me  
4 and, I guess, provide moral support.

5 MS. TAYLOR: And batteries.

6 MR. PATTON: And batteries, keep the  
7 recorder running.

8 And you did finally receive, earlier  
9 today, my form letter --

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: -- a letter advising  
12 you of this interview? You and I spoke  
13 yesterday by phone a couple times, I think.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

15 MR. PATTON: And then I -- you got  
16 my e-mail last night telling you essentially  
17 that it's an administrative investigation,  
18 correct?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: And that you were  
21 required to appear. And I'm going to read  
22 this -- I'm go to read a little admonition  
23 which sort of repeats what you've already  
24 heard.

25 You've availed yourself of the right

1 to have a representative here, and you also  
2 have the right to tape-record it. I see you  
3 didn't bring a recorder, so I assume you  
4 didn't care to do that. When this  
5 investigation is concluded, you can obtain a  
6 copy of this recording if you desire.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

8 MR. PATTON: And we're going to ask  
9 you questions relating to the performance of  
10 your official duties and the financial  
11 irregularities that have been alluded to in my  
12 letter. And no promise or reward is being  
13 made or has been made as an inducement to you  
14 to answer any question in any particular way,  
15 correct?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

17 MR. PATTON: And then this is our  
18 civil versus criminal admonishment or  
19 statement which is that this is strictly an  
20 administrative investigation. While you would  
21 have the right to remain silent with regard to  
22 any criminal investigation, and this is not,  
23 this is an administrative interview, so you do  
24 not have the right to refuse to answer  
25 questions that I'm going to pose to you in

1 this administrative interview.

2 Neither your statement nor any  
3 information or evidence gained by reason of  
4 such statements in this interview can be used  
5 against you in any criminal proceeding, not  
6 suggesting there would be one; I'm just  
7 telling you that what we're doing here today  
8 would not be usable if there ever were a  
9 criminal proceeding. This is only usable as  
10 part of this administrative investigation and  
11 any subsequent administrative or related  
12 noncriminal proceeding.

13 So you are, therefore, instructed to  
14 discuss the matter with me, to answer all of  
15 the questions honestly and completely, not to  
16 evade, decept (sic), dishonesty or lack of  
17 cooperation; any of these things could  
18 constitute insubordination, neglect of duty  
19 and be cause for disciplinary action. Do you  
20 understand that?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: Okay. And you've sort  
23 of had that spiel before, correct?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

25 MR. PATTON: Because you were

1 interviewed back in April by a Corrine Lee  
2 Murphy?

3 MS. TAYLOR: And Jennifer Comilang  
4 from Parks.

5 MR. PATTON: And you were aware that  
6 Corrine Lee Murphy was a Deputy Attorney  
7 General?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Correct. Yes, she did  
9 tell me that.

10 MR. PATTON: That occurred over at  
11 the State Department at Parks, right?

12 MS. TAYLOR: After they interviewed  
13 me at my office.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. Okay. Very  
15 good. So with that, let's talk about Cheryl  
16 Taylor's State career and -- because I  
17 understand you've become very knowledgeable  
18 over the years, having held a number of jobs  
19 in the finance world. So let's talk about  
20 your career, when you -- first of all, why  
21 don't you state your name, spell your last  
22 name for the record.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Cheryl Taylor,  
24 T-A-Y-L-O-R.

25 MR. PATTON: And how long have you

1 worked for the State?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Thirty years.

3 MR. PATTON: All right. And where  
4 did you first start?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Consumer Affairs.

6 MR. PATTON: Do you remember what  
7 year that was?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yep, the year I got  
9 married, June of 1981.

10 MR. PATTON: With Consumer Affairs?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

12 MR. PATTON: What position did you  
13 start?

14 MS. TAYLOR: I was a seasonal clerk  
15 there --

16 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- with the Bureau of  
18 Electronic and Appliance Repair.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then walk us  
20 through your work history. Start it in '81.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum. I was a  
22 seasonal for two years there. Then I got  
23 picked up as an OA1 -- 2, one of those, at the  
24 State Treasurer's Office where I worked in the  
25 bond unit processing --



1 MR. PATTON: What's an OA?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Office assistant.

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: It's been so long.

5 Office assistant, yes, where I worked in the  
6 bond unit processing bonds purchased by  
7 corporate banks as well as individuals.

8 MR. PATTON: You said that was at  
9 the Treasurer's Office?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Back in the day when  
13 there actually were coupon bonds where you had  
14 to cut the coupons and mail out checks. I'm  
15 sure they're not done that way now, but that's  
16 how it was when I started working there.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: So I worked there, and  
19 then I left the Treasurer's Office. I can't  
20 remember how many years I worked there. I  
21 went to the Division of Recycling --

22 MR. PATTON: Okay.

23 MS. TAYLOR: -- and worked there  
24 about a year, and there -- this is when they  
25 started the recycling program, so when they

1 were first starting up their investigation  
2 unit, I did the depositions and stuff for the  
3 investigators and --

4 MR. PATTON: What do you mean by  
5 that?

6 MS. TAYLOR: When they first started  
7 up the program, the investigators would  
8 actually go out and pretend like they were  
9 vendors for the recycling for cans and stuff  
10 and go statewide to the different stores to  
11 see that they were complying with the new laws  
12 about recycling. So it was the recycling  
13 unit, and so I basically was the office  
14 assistant. I typed up their depositions and  
15 stuff when they came back to the office.

16 Then I left there and went to -- oh,  
17 gosh, where did I go after that? I went to --  
18 back to Consumer Affairs to the Central  
19 Testing Unit, and that's the unit that  
20 actually administered all the tests related to  
21 if you wanted to get a cosmetology license or  
22 a contractor license. So it was the testing  
23 unit, but it was still part of Consumer  
24 Affairs.

25 MR. PATTON: Do you remember when

1 you went back to Consumer Affairs?

2 MS. TAYLOR: No, I'm too old; I'm  
3 51. I don't remember that. Let's see. Let's  
4 see if I can tell by which child I had. Wow.  
5 No, I don't remember honestly; I'm getting too  
6 old.

7 MR. PATTON: All right. So you did  
8 a couple of years starting off seasonal at  
9 Consumer Affairs in '81.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: By '83, you're going to  
12 the Treasurer's Office.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

14 MR. PATTON: You think you were  
15 there for what, a year or two?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Actually I went to --  
17 I'm sorry. I went to the Treasurer's Office  
18 first. Consumer Affairs, Treasurer's  
19 Office --

20 MR. PATTON: And how long --

21 MS. TAYLOR: -- Recycling --

22 MR. PATTON: Wait, wait, wait.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

24 MR. PATTON: How long do you think  
25 you were at the Treasurer's Office?

1 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know, maybe  
2 four or five years.

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

5 MR. PATTON: So you went there in  
6 about '83 until it sounds like '87, '88,  
7 something like that.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Then went to Recycling.

9 MR. PATTON: Went to Recycling in  
10 the end of the '80s?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

12 MR. PATTON: How long were you at  
13 Recycling?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Probably two years.

15 MR. PATTON: So now we're at maybe  
16 '90 --

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

18 MR. PATTON: -- somewhere? And  
19 you -- then you say you came back to Consumer  
20 Affairs to the Central Testing Unit.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

22 MR. PATTON: We'll just sort of  
23 guesstimate. Somewhere around 1990?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

25 MR. PATTON: And how long were you

1 doing that? How long were you at Consumer  
2 Affairs on your return?

3 MS. TAYLOR: If you want me to  
4 guess, it's been so long, I'd say a year or  
5 two. Now I'll have to back up my time because  
6 I actually started at Caltrans in 1990 after  
7 my first daughter was born so --

8 MR. PATTON: So you went from  
9 Consumer Affairs Testing to Caltrans --

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: -- in 1990?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, yes.

13 MR. PATTON: See? See how it all  
14 comes together?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I can remember  
16 milestones in my life. That's how I figure  
17 out where I was.

18 MR. PATTON: See? That's what I was  
19 looking for.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: Back to -- and went to  
22 Caltrans --

23 MS. TAYLOR: In 1990.

24 MR. PATTON: So that was your first  
25 Caltrans spot --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: -- in '90.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

4 MR. PATTON: What was your position  
5 then?

6 MS. TAYLOR: I was a Staff Service  
7 Analyst in the budget office.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay. Did you have --  
9 well, let's go through your Caltrans years.  
10 So tell me -- in 1990, you're a Staff Service  
11 Analyst.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

13 MR. PATTON: Then what happens?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Got promoted probably  
15 within three years to an Associate Budget  
16 Analyst.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: And left the budget  
19 office and went to -- where did I go first?

20 MR. PATTON: So about 1993 then  
21 you're leaving the -- you got promoted --

22 MS. TAYLOR: No. I was --

23 MR. PATTON: -- to Associate Budget  
24 Analyst.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. No, I was in the

1 budget shop for about five years.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay. So around '95  
3 you go where?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Trying to see if I went  
5 to Maintenance first or if I went to Admin  
6 first.

7 MR. PATTON: Okay.

8 MS. TAYLOR: I think I went to  
9 Maintenance first --

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: -- which was a lateral  
12 transfer and tried to change the  
13 classification though, Associate Caltrans  
14 Analyst, but it's the same thing as the Budget  
15 and the same pay.

16 MR. PATTON: So you were doing a  
17 budget job for Maintenance?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum, for the  
19 maintenance program, correct.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Then I left there, and  
22 I went to the admin program and same  
23 classification, doing the admin budget.

24 MR. PATTON: And then to Admin.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

1 MR. PATTON: Is that like  
2 headquarters? When you say "Admin," do you  
3 mean Admin for all of Caltrans?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. It's the  
5 administrative portion of the department.

6 MR. PATTON: Okay. And so about '95  
7 you go to Maintenance. You come back, and you  
8 go to Caltrans Admin --

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 MR. PATTON: -- when?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God.

12 MR. PATTON: How long were you at  
13 Maintenance?

14 MS. TAYLOR: I was at Maintenance  
15 probably about two years.

16 MR. PATTON: So maybe around '97?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Could be, yeah,  
18 somewhere around there.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Should have brought  
21 my --

22 MR. PATTON: It's all right.

23 MS. TAYLOR: -- application.

24 MR. PATTON: We're just -- it gets  
25 us a general idea.



1 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. Then I left  
2 there and went and worked for Facilities --

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: -- which is still part  
5 of Admins, but it's the Office of Facilities.

6 MR. PATTON: Because at first you  
7 were at Caltrans Admin in what part?

8 MS. TAYLOR: I was doing the budget.

9 MR. PATTON: Budget.

10 MS. TAYLOR: And then I went over to  
11 the facility side and started helping with the  
12 office facility projects.

13 MR. PATTON: Okay. Okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Then I went back to  
15 Budgets --

16 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- headquarters Budgets  
18 for about a year.

19 MR. PATTON: How long were you --  
20 how long you think you were at Facilities?

21 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know, two or  
22 three years.

23 MR. PATTON: All right.

24 MS. TAYLOR: And then I went back --

25 MR. PATTON: Now we're in the early

1 2000s.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. So I went back to  
3 Budgets temporarily on an out-of-class Staff  
4 Service Manager 1.

5 MR. PATTON: Back to Central Admin  
6 in the early 2000s.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Budgets.

8 MR. PATTON: Back to Admin Budgets,  
9 okay, in the early 2000s. Okay.

10 MS. TAYLOR: And that one was  
11 just -- it was an out-of-class for a while, so  
12 I actually ended up getting a permanent  
13 Manager 1 back to Maintenance.

14 MR. PATTON: When?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, my gosh. I  
16 don't -- I can't -- I don't know, I don't know  
17 the years.

18 MR. PATTON: Well, we're within ten  
19 years now.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Ah.

21 MR. PATTON: Permanent Manager 1.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, permanent Manager  
23 1 in Maintenance doing their budget.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay.

25 MS. TAYLOR: And I stayed there for

1 about seven years.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Promoted to a Staff  
4 Manager 2 while I was there.

5 MR. PATTON: To a Manager 2?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

7 MR. PATTON: Okay.

8 MS. TAYLOR: And then I left and  
9 went to Parks in 2008.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: I think it was 2008 I  
12 went over to Parks into their budget shop.

13 MR. PATTON: Into what position?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Budget, Budget Officer.

15 MR. PATTON: Okay.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Staff Manager 2, and  
17 then I got promoted to a Staff Manager 3.

18 MR. PATTON: All the time being the  
19 Budget Officer?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay. And you had --  
22 according to the transcript I read, from April  
23 of this year, you had met Manny Lopez back at  
24 Caltrans, although you never worked directly  
25 together.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then he was,  
3 I think, the one who sort of alerted you that  
4 there -- he was looking for a Budget Officer  
5 over at Parks?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. He actually sent  
7 the ad to Caltrans.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay.

9 MS. TAYLOR: It kind of circulated  
10 around Caltrans.

11 MR. PATTON: And then you applied  
12 and you interviewed with some people, Dave  
13 Saxby, Olaya Pascal, I think.

14 MS. TAYLOR: No. Dave was not there  
15 yet.

16 MR. PATTON: Oh, that's right.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Dave was retired. It  
18 was Michael Harris and Olaya and Manuel.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

21 MR. PATTON: So about 2008 you go to  
22 Parks.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay. Did you have an  
25 educational background in anything finance

1 related?

2 MS. TAYLOR: No.

3 MR. PATTON: Well, what is your  
4 educational background?

5 MS. TAYLOR: I did about two years  
6 as a psychology major, got married, had kids,  
7 and never went back to school.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay. But -- so you  
9 learned all this budget stuff on the job?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: And I'm not surprised.  
12 You seem like a pretty bright person and --

13 MS. TAYLOR: I had good Mentors.

14 MR. PATTON: Good.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Dave Saxby was actually  
16 my boss in most of those jobs I had.

17 MR. PATTON: At Caltrans?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. So this -- I  
20 guess let's go right to the crux of this  
21 because we're looking at -- first we're going  
22 to talk about the Parks and Recreation Fund.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

24 MR. PATTON: And I understand from  
25 reading your prior transcript you were -- you

1 told Ms. Murphy when you had that interview, I  
2 think -- and you said it was at Caltrans,  
3 Jennifer Comilang was there also?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: You mentioned something  
6 about Parks having something like twenty-five  
7 million.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Around twenty million  
9 or so, yeah.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay. So tell me about  
11 that. When did -- how did you come to find  
12 out about that?

13 MS. TAYLOR: As part of the budget  
14 process, every year you have to do fund  
15 condition statements for your revenue funds,  
16 and that document is used as part of the  
17 actual development of the budget, so you have  
18 to build your budget from what you had -- what  
19 you were going to spend the prior year, what  
20 you plan on spending the year you're in, and  
21 future years. And that's the Jan 10 budget.  
22 I don't know if you've ever looked at the  
23 governor's Jan 10 budget, but it always has  
24 three fiscal years: past year, current year,  
25 and the year out. The year out is --

1 MR. PATTON: Jan --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Jan 10 is the budget  
3 the governor releases --

4 MR. PATTON: Talk a little slower  
5 for me --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, Jan --

7 MR. PATTON: -- because I'm not --  
8 because I'm just not that quick.

9 MS. TAYLOR: The January 10 budget  
10 is -- comes out every year. That is the  
11 governor's --

12 MR. PATTON: On January 10th?

13 MS. TAYLOR: It's supposed to except  
14 for it actually got released early this year,  
15 but they call it the Jan 10; that's what it's  
16 called.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: So that's -- you're  
19 always working in a three-year cycle, closing  
20 out the year you had before, the year you're  
21 in, and then projecting what you're going to  
22 need for the upcoming year. That's the  
23 January 10 budget, and that's where the  
24 governor comes out, makes his State address to  
25 the public, tells them what the projects are

1 for the upcoming fiscal year. So prior to  
2 that, because the budget process is actually  
3 an eighteen-month cycle, so you're always  
4 eighteen months before your next budget  
5 cycle's going to start, and as that cycle, the  
6 tools for building the budget are a bunch of  
7 different schedules and documents, but the  
8 fund condition statement is --

9 MR. PATTON: Talk a little slower  
10 for me.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Oh. The fund condition  
12 statement is actually a document that is part  
13 of the January 10 budget that shows how much  
14 money is sitting in each fund and what you  
15 project you're going to need out of that fund.

16 MR. PATTON: Let me ask you -- let  
17 me intersperse a question here. You said the  
18 budget cycle is an eighteen-month cycle.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum, the development  
20 of it.

21 MR. PATTON: Explain that cycle.  
22 When does that cycle begin?

23 MS. TAYLOR: So like right now, we  
24 are working on the '13-'14 fiscal year budget,  
25 and we started --



1 MR. PATTON: Wait, wait, wait.  
2 Right now is August 30, 2012.  
3 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.  
4 MR. PATTON: So we are in the  
5 2011-2012 fiscal year --  
6 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.  
7 MR. PATTON: -- which will end next  
8 June 30, 2000 -- I'm sorry. We are in --  
9 MS. TAYLOR: You're in the '12-'13  
10 budget cycle.  
11 MR. PATTON: We're in the fiscal  
12 year '12-'13 --  
13 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.  
14 MR. PATTON: -- which will end next  
15 June 30, 2013?  
16 MS. TAYLOR: Right.  
17 MR. PATTON: And you said right now  
18 we're doing what?  
19 MS. TAYLOR: The '13-'14 budget  
20 cycle.  
21 MR. PATTON: Okay. So for the next  
22 fiscal year.  
23 MS. TAYLOR: Because the governor  
24 will make that --  
25 MR. PATTON: Wait, wait, wait.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh.

2 MR. PATTON: Because you said a  
3 budget cycle's eighteen months.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

5 MR. PATTON: But a fiscal year is  
6 twelve months, right?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. It's July to  
8 June.

9 MR. PATTON: Okay. I want to make  
10 that -- I want to make that differentiation.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

12 MR. PATTON: That's why I'm asking  
13 you to describe an eighteen-month cycle.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Okay. So, yes, the  
15 fiscal year is July 1st through June 30th;  
16 however, you have to prepare for that early  
17 because, again, the governor always announces  
18 his upcoming here on January 10th.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Okay? So we are  
21 actually right now in the middle of and almost  
22 done because the legislature will go out of  
23 session at the end of December, so we have  
24 already submitted our proposals or we're in  
25 the middle of submitting our proposals to the

1 legislature for our needs for next year.

2 MR. PATTON: To the legislature?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

4 MR. PATTON: Oh.

5 MS. TAYLOR: They have to vote on  
6 everything that goes in there.

7 MR. PATTON: Wait, wait, wait. Your  
8 needs for next year?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 MR. PATTON: When you say "next  
11 year," you mean next calendar year 2013?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Fiscal year. Fiscal  
13 year.

14 MR. PATTON: Do you mean next fiscal  
15 year, 2013-'14?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, '13-'14, starting  
17 July 1st --

18 MR. PATTON: Okay. Wait, wait,  
19 wait. You -- you're getting ready -- you are  
20 in the process of submitting your needs to the  
21 legislature.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

23 MR. PATTON: You're working on the  
24 2013-'14 fiscal year budget.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

1 MR. PATTON: And so you're now  
2 sending communications to the legislature?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. They've already  
4 had the hearings. The hearings were like in  
5 May. So the hearings that happen in May, that  
6 was all for the --

7 MR. PATTON: I'm trying -- what I'm  
8 trying to piece together is if you're  
9 communicating needs to the legislature for the  
10 next upcoming fiscal year, '13-'14 --

11 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

12 MR. PATTON: -- then the governor  
13 must have already released, at the beginning  
14 of this year in January, the budget for the  
15 next fiscal year, '13-'14.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, but that budget  
17 has everything in it except for budget change  
18 proposals, BCPs, which is any new increases.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. So what --

20 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, I'm sorry. No, you  
21 do have the fiscal years wrong. Sorry. The  
22 Jan 10 that came out this year -- you're  
23 right -- was for '12-'13. So let me walk you  
24 through -- let me just put you in a budget  
25 cycle because that will help you.

1 MR. PATTON: So you got me a year  
2 ahead?  
3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.  
4 MR. PATTON: You slipped me a year  
5 ahead --  
6 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.  
7 MR. PATTON: -- and I wasn't going  
8 for it.  
9 MS. TAYLOR: The Jan 10 budget that  
10 came out January 2012 --  
11 MR. PATTON: What the governor  
12 proposed --  
13 MS. TAYLOR: In January --  
14 MR. PATTON: -- in January of  
15 2012 --  
16 MS. TAYLOR: -- was for the '12-'13  
17 fiscal year.  
18 MR. PATTON: Got it.  
19 MS. TAYLOR: Got it, okay.  
20 MR. PATTON: So now here we are  
21 towards the -- we're in the January -- or  
22 we're in the 2012-'13 fiscal year.  
23 MS. TAYLOR: Right. You have an  
24 approved budget.  
25 MR. PATTON: And they're still --

1 what?

2 MS. TAYLOR: No, you have an  
3 approved budget for '12-'13.

4 MR. PATTON: We do?

5 MS. TAYLOR: It's an act that he  
6 signed on July 1st. He always signs it --

7 MR. PATTON: Okay.

8 MS. TAYLOR: -- July 1st.

9 MR. PATTON: Okay.

10 MS. TAYLOR: So the Jan 10 is the  
11 proposed --

12 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then -- and  
13 so -- I'm sorry. Say that again.

14 MS. TAYLOR: The January 10 is the  
15 proposed budget --

16 MR. PATTON: Right, right.

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- which goes  
18 through -- they have the Assembly and Senate  
19 hearings as that whole hearing process --

20 MR. PATTON: Right.

21 MS. TAYLOR: -- because the governor  
22 is supposed to sign the budget July 1st of  
23 every fiscal year.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay. So now here we  
25 are, it's getting close to the fall of 2012.

1 So you're -- are you now starting to prepare  
2 for the following fiscal year --

3 MS. TAYLOR: For the '13-'14 --

4 MR. PATTON: -- that will be  
5 '13-'14?

6 MS. TAYLOR: And that Jan 10 --

7 MR. PATTON: And you're already  
8 writing to the legislature with your needs for  
9 '13-'14?

10 MS. TAYLOR: You have to do your  
11 BCPs now because --

12 MR. PATTON: For '13-'14?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Are you sure it's not  
15 for '12-'13?

16 MS. TAYLOR: No. It's for --  
17 '12-'13 is already approved. You already have  
18 a signed budget. It's for '13-'14.

19 MR. PATTON: Here's where I get  
20 confused.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh.

22 MR. PATTON: The governor has not  
23 yet rolled out, which he will in January of  
24 2013 -- he's not yet rolled out the proposed  
25 '13-'14 budget.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

2 MR. PATTON: So I'm confused why  
3 you're sending to the legislature in advance  
4 of the governor's announcement of the proposed  
5 budget --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Because it has to go  
7 through all the houses before the governor  
8 makes his final. So if the Senate and  
9 Assembly that we give them our BCPs or finance  
10 letters, budget change proposals, they have to  
11 review them, so it takes them time because  
12 they're supposed to have the proposed budget  
13 to the governor by the end of December before  
14 they go out. So when he comes -- when they  
15 come back in into session, that's when he  
16 rolls out, and that's the January 10th.

17 So the document should be ready  
18 except for things that are happening after,  
19 like unexpected things, but by the end of  
20 December, there will be -- the Senate and  
21 Assembly will have reviewed all budget change  
22 proposals, all legislative proposals; they  
23 will have reviewed all that. This is their  
24 time frame, and then they hand it over to the  
25 governor, and then he decides -- there's more



1 hearings that go on, and that information is  
2 used to decide what the final budget is going  
3 to look like.

4 MR. PATTON: Now, once the governor  
5 issues the proposed budget, which you're  
6 telling me has included in it now a lot of  
7 work done this year --

8 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

9 MR. PATTON: -- for the upcoming  
10 fiscal year --

11 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

12 MR. PATTON: -- a lot of work done  
13 already at the legislative level by way of  
14 department submissions of budget change  
15 proposals --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: -- what the governor  
18 then rolls out in January as a proposed  
19 budget, that -- once the governor proposes it,  
20 it's going to go back to the legislature,  
21 right?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, and they start  
23 having hearings when they come back in  
24 session. They start to have hearings from  
25 usually February to May.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Because he always has a  
3 May revise, too, and that's the last-minute  
4 stuff that pops up.

5 MR. PATTON: See, what you taught me  
6 that I wasn't aware of was that prior to the  
7 governor's office issuing the proposed budget  
8 in January --

9 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

10 MR. PATTON: -- for the upcoming  
11 fiscal year, there's already been a lot of  
12 communication and work --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

14 MR. PATTON: -- done at the  
15 legislative level.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

17 MR. PATTON: I didn't realize that.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. The Assembly and  
19 the Senate -- each department that has a  
20 proposal may be called over to hearings. They  
21 interview the departments if there's something  
22 major going on in their budget. So it's a  
23 very -- it's a long process, so I'm saying  
24 it's usually an eighteen-month process.

25 MR. PATTON: When does that eighteen

1 months start? The beginning of a calendar  
2 year?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, you could say at  
4 the beginning, because it's an eighteen-month  
5 cycle, but it -- sometimes it's early,  
6 sometimes it's late.

7 MR. PATTON: Because it's got to be  
8 signed by July 1.

9 MS. TAYLOR: There's actually -- and  
10 I didn't bring it with me, but if you go on --  
11 and if you want, I can send it to you. There  
12 is for the public, if you want to see how the  
13 state budget process works --

14 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

15 MS. TAYLOR: -- there is a calendar  
16 on the Web on the governor's -- Department of  
17 Finance's Web and probably governor's office,  
18 too, that explains the twelve --  
19 eighteen-month budget cycle.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: And it'll have -- and  
22 their estimated dates. So it has the date,  
23 who's looking at what.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay.

25 MS. TAYLOR: If they'll make it

1 easier for you.

2 MR. PATTON: Let's take one brief  
3 pause here just -- we're going to pause our  
4 recording here for a second.

5 MR. MATTSON: We're going off the  
6 record at 2:41.

7 (Break from 2:41 a.m. until 2:45 p.m.)

8 MR. MATTSON: We are back on the  
9 record. It is now 2:45.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay. Well, I  
11 appreciate the education on how a budget --  
12 and I think maybe I will just go to the Web  
13 site for --

14 MS. TAYLOR: It's a public document.  
15 Anybody can look at the January 10th. It's  
16 released to the public.

17 MR. PATTON: So tell me about what a  
18 Budget Officer does in -- when they build a  
19 budget. What are you doing?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, my gosh. What  
21 you're doing is you're looking at what your  
22 needs are going to be for the upcoming years,  
23 knowing what the economy looks like. And then  
24 the Jan 10 when the governor gives his state  
25 of the State address, he talks about not only

1 what's going on in California but what's going  
2 on with the economy statewide, worldwide. So  
3 if you actually go look at the budget, there  
4 will be a letter in there that -- where the  
5 governor -- that he makes the speech and then  
6 it ends up being a letter. So if you look at  
7 it, you'll see he really talks about the --  
8 what's going on in the world and how it  
9 impacts California, are the feds going to be  
10 giving us money. So he addresses all that  
11 stuff in his state of the State. The Jan 10  
12 is actually the physical budget document, but  
13 there's summaries and there's other things,  
14 there's his letter on the top. So if you  
15 really want to educate your stuff, it's out  
16 there for you to do that.

17 MR. PATTON: I'm going to do that.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

19 MR. PATTON: Let's talk about what  
20 you, as the Budget Officer at Parks  
21 preparing -- and let's talk key particularly  
22 on the State Parks and Recreation fund --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

24 MR. PATTON: -- which is a special  
25 fund, correct?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: It's a revenue --  
3 there's revenues that are generated in that  
4 fund, right?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

6 MR. PATTON: Park fees, right?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Camping.

8 MR. PATTON: Concession or license.

9 MS. TAYLOR: Concession, yes.

10 MR. PATTON: And let's try not to  
11 talk at exactly the same time I am --

12 MS. TAYLOR: I'll wait.

13 MR. PATTON: -- because we're going  
14 to have this transcribed, so we have to -- it  
15 makes our conversation a little bit different  
16 but -- but then -- and feel free. As soon as  
17 I stop, feel free to voice up because they  
18 don't -- we won't get a nod of a head.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

20 MR. PATTON: Right, there you go.  
21 Now you got it.

22 So when you would go to prepare the  
23 Parks fund, the budget --

24 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

25 MR. PATTON: -- for the next fiscal

1 year, you start working on that when?

2 MS. TAYLOR: At least eighteen  
3 months in advance.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay. Eighteen months  
5 in advance of what? The next --

6 MS. TAYLOR: The next --

7 MR. PATTON: The start of the next  
8 fiscal year?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

10 MR. PATTON: So like by January of  
11 this year, you were working on the upcoming  
12 fiscal year '13-'14?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, because if you're  
14 going to do a budget change proposal, even  
15 though the revenues are coming in --

16 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- you can't spend that  
18 money unless it's been in the budget and the  
19 Senate and the Assembly and the legislature  
20 and the governor have agreed to how you're  
21 going to spend the money.

22 MR. PATTON: Okay.

23 MS. TAYLOR: So just because you  
24 collect the fees, it's still the governor's  
25 office that decides how the fees are going to

1 be spent.

2 MR. PATTON: So in January of this  
3 year, we were still operating in the 2011-'12  
4 fiscal year.

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: If you start working on  
7 a budget change proposal for submission before  
8 June 30 of this year, are you looking to  
9 change your spending for the existing --

10 MS. TAYLOR: No.

11 MR. PATTON: -- 2011-'12 fiscal  
12 year?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Upcoming year.

14 MR. PATTON: For the next -- for the  
15 '12-'13?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you're  
18 working on budget change proposals for the  
19 upcoming '12-'13 fiscal year?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: Which you then start  
22 submitting in 2012 to the legislature for  
23 consideration because the -- as of January  
24 2012, the '12-'13 fiscal year budget had not  
25 yet been --



1 MS. TAYLOR: It had --

2 MR. PATTON: -- formally adopted?

3 MS. TAYLOR: It had not been  
4 chaptered; it has not been chaptered yet.

5 MR. PATTON: Right.

6 MS. TAYLOR: It was just a proposal.

7 MR. PATTON: Right.

8 MS. TAYLOR: And then they also do a  
9 May revise which is what comes out of all the  
10 hearings.

11 MR. PATTON: Right. And then by  
12 July 1, you say the governor is to --

13 MS. TAYLOR: That's the chapter.

14 MR. PATTON: -- sign it. That's  
15 when it's supposed to be approved, right?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: And so then the budget  
18 change proposals -- so then you have a budget  
19 in place, and the budget change proposals  
20 you're submitting then are to alter your  
21 spending authority for that budget that just  
22 got approved on July 1?

23 MS. TAYLOR: No.

24 MR. PATTON: No?

25 MS. TAYLOR: No.

1 MR. PATTON: For what budget then?

2 MS. TAYLOR: The one that's coming  
3 up. Your BCPs are due like -- let's talk  
4 about '13-'14. We're working on the '13-'14  
5 right now. We submitted those BCPs to  
6 Department of Finance --

7 MR. PATTON: This year --

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

9 MR. PATTON: -- 2012?

10 MS. TAYLOR: They was to come over  
11 there in May. They are reviewing them right  
12 now, and we will start having interviews with  
13 Department of Finance on our proposals --

14 MR. PATTON: Okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: -- for the '13-'14  
16 fiscal year.

17 MR. PATTON: I'm going to sort of  
18 bring my rudimentary understanding of this  
19 process to a quick halt because I want to get  
20 to the more fundamental question which is  
21 reading what you told Ms. Murphy before.  
22 There's two different things that are  
23 reported. One is something that's reported to  
24 the Controller.

25 MS. TAYLOR: That's your financial

1 statements.

2 MR. PATTON: And how often do you  
3 provide that report?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Every accounting office  
5 in the department has to submit their final --  
6 year-end closing financial statements to the  
7 Controller's office I'd say probably by August  
8 or September. I don't work in accounting, so  
9 I don't know their exact time lines, but every  
10 accounting office has to submit that  
11 information to the Controller's office it has  
12 to reconcile. The Controllers then submits  
13 the --

14 MR. PATTON: Slow down.

15 MS. TAYLOR: The Controller's office  
16 then submits the year-end financial statements  
17 to the Department of Finance.

18 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you -- by  
19 August or September for the prior fiscal year  
20 that just closed --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: -- on June 30.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: So every accounting  
25 office has a month or two to then provide a

1 year-end closing financial statement.

2 MS. TAYLOR: That reconciles with  
3 what the Controller says existed in those  
4 accounts.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then you're  
6 saying the Controller's office then at some  
7 point transmits that information to the  
8 Department of Finance?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Either each accounting  
10 office does or the Controller's office. I  
11 don't work in accounting, so I don't know who  
12 actually officially hands the document over to  
13 Finance.

14 MR. PATTON: But your understanding  
15 is those year-end accounting statements that  
16 go to the Controller's office are all -- they  
17 also go to the Department of Finance?

18 MS. TAYLOR: They have to. And what  
19 happens is those year-end financial  
20 statements -- remember I told you Jan 10  
21 always has three fiscal years in it?

22 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

23 MS. TAYLOR: The financial  
24 statements for the year that's closing, that's  
25 where that information comes from.

1 MR. PATTON: Say that again.

2 MS. TAYLOR: The -- so -- and when  
3 you look at the governor's -- the Jan 10  
4 budget has got three fiscal years: your last  
5 year, the year you're in, and the projected  
6 for the year coming up. The year that's  
7 closing, that information should come from the  
8 year-end financial statements.

9 MR. PATTON: For the budget --  
10 you're talking about now --

11 MS. TAYLOR: So for '13-'14 --

12 MR. PATTON: -- the budget  
13 information.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, so -- but it's --  
15 no, your prior year is true expenditures.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, supposed to be.  
18 Your prior year should be what you spent in a  
19 prior year. The current year is -- you're  
20 usually only halfway through the year when  
21 they start building a budget, so it's still a  
22 projection, and then the year out is even a  
23 bigger projection, which is driven by the  
24 BCPs.

25 MR. PATTON: I guess -- explain to

1 me this, because as you said in -- back on  
2 April 12, you say, I'm just telling you that  
3 the year-end closing report that goes to the  
4 Controller's office --

5 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

6 MR. PATTON: -- the report we  
7 were --

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yep.

9 MR. PATTON: -- just talking about,  
10 the year-end financial statement, does not  
11 match the fund condition statement that goes  
12 to Finance.

13 MS. TAYLOR: It does not at Parks.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. Now, explain to  
15 me how that's even possible when you just told  
16 me that the year-end accounting statement and  
17 that goes to Controllers also goes to Finance.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Well, if you've read  
19 the media, they made it very clear what  
20 happens at Finance, you've got the accounting  
21 side of Finance and you've got the  
22 budget-building side of Finance, and in the  
23 outside world, it's the Controller's office  
24 and the department's budget offices. What has  
25 happened is nobody's looking at those

1 documents, nobody was looking at Parks to see  
2 if what Controllers said was in the account  
3 versus what we said we had in the account.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay.

5 MS. TAYLOR: It's just a lack of  
6 communication. The information's there --

7 MR. PATTON: All right.

8 MS. TAYLOR: -- to the different --

9 MR. PATTON: So let's talk about the  
10 fund condition, what you just described as  
11 what we said was in the account. You're  
12 referring to the fund condition statement --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: -- that the budget  
15 office at Parks is communicating to the budget  
16 people in Finance.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: All right. Let's talk  
19 about that. How do you put together a fund  
20 condition statement?

21 MS. TAYLOR: It's a document like an  
22 Excel document, and it's got -- it looks just  
23 sort of like a bank account that you get or a  
24 financial statement you would get from your  
25 own financial person. It lists out what you

1 have in your existing account.

2 MR. PATTON: Now wait. Let me stop  
3 you right there.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: What you have in your  
6 existing account, is that the same as what  
7 your year-end closing financial statement is?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, yes.

9 MR. PATTON: So in order to build a  
10 fund condition statement to -- from a budget  
11 standpoint, you have to know what your  
12 year-end financial statement is --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: -- to Controller?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: Because that's a  
17 necessary component.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. And --

20 MS. TAYLOR: So those balances then  
21 get -- whatever your balance is when the year  
22 ended --

23 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

24 MS. TAYLOR: -- now that's your new  
25 beginning balance for the upcoming year.



1 MR. PATTON: For which statement?

2 MS. TAYLOR: For the -- on a fund  
3 condition statement.

4 MR. PATTON: For the budget fund  
5 condition statement?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: So you reflect the  
8 year-end financial balance --

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 MR. PATTON: -- in your fund  
11 condition statement. And then what else does  
12 the fund condition statement have in it?

13 MS. TAYLOR: The fund condition  
14 statement looks just like the Jan 10. It's  
15 got three columns. It's got past year,  
16 current year, future year.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: So the past year is  
19 supposed to be your expenditures and what's  
20 left in the account.

21 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

22 MS. TAYLOR: That number rolls up to  
23 the year you're in.

24 MR. PATTON: That should also then  
25 be equal to --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: -- your year-end  
3 financial statement.

4 MS. TAYLOR: It should be.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay.

6 MS. TAYLOR: And then it goes  
7 through, and it has all the bills that you  
8 think you're going to pay. Each department  
9 has different bills.

10 MR. PATTON: Future expenditures.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Future expenditures,  
12 future revenue projections, how much you think  
13 you're going to collect.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: And then your new  
16 balance.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: And then that rolls up  
19 to the future year.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: And you do the same  
22 thing.

23 MR. PATTON: So the fund condition  
24 statement bottom line is then going to project  
25 into the future.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: It's going to take --  
3 it's supposed to take your actual year-end  
4 financial statement, your year-end balance,  
5 right?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: And then it's supposed  
8 to add projections about the upcoming year's  
9 revenues and expenditures.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: And so now, there was a  
12 discrepancy though in the fund condition  
13 statement and the year-end financial  
14 statement.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: Where in those two  
17 statements is there a discrepancy?

18 MS. TAYLOR: That they just  
19 underreported what their actual cash balances  
20 are.

21 MR. PATTON: In the fund condition  
22 statement?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: They correctly reported  
25 it in the year-end financial statement.

1 MS. TAYLOR: They have no choice  
2 because it has to reconcile with the  
3 Controller's office.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay. Do you know --  
5 and so the year-end balance reflected in the  
6 fund -- they underreported --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

8 MR. PATTON: -- in the fund  
9 condition statement?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay. When did you  
12 notice this?

13 MS. TAYLOR: I learned it when I  
14 went to Parks, the first year I was there.  
15 They -- when I got there, they had already  
16 finished the budget cycle because I started  
17 there late December, early January.

18 MR. PATTON: Okay.

19 MS. TAYLOR: So I missed that whole  
20 budget cycle the year before.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay.

22 MS. TAYLOR: So when it came time  
23 for me to build a budget for the following  
24 year, the accounting office, of course, had to  
25 give me the year-end closing statement, which

1 they gave me that, and the Staff Service  
2 Manager 1 that works for me, she actually did  
3 the fund condition statement, and it just --  
4 she couldn't get the numbers to tie out  
5 correctly. The numbers were coming out way  
6 too high.

7 MR. PATTON: Which numbers?

8 MS. TAYLOR: The year that we  
9 were -- the future year that we were going  
10 into. So she was projecting --

11 MR. PATTON: The bottom line number  
12 you mean?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, yes. It was  
14 coming out to be -- show that we had a much  
15 bigger balance than what she noticed --

16 MR. PATTON: A surplus?

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- in the prior  
18 year's -- correct. And so she thought there  
19 was something wrong with the way she was doing  
20 the spreadsheet. So then we took it to Mr.  
21 Lopez who was the prior Budget Officer before  
22 I got the job and showed him the  
23 discrepancies, and he said, oh, no, you can't  
24 report that number.

25 MR. MATTSON: Who was that you were

1 working with?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Marilyn Evans-Jones.  
3 She was my Staff Manager 1. And so he'd  
4 actually asked her to forward him the copy of  
5 her spreadsheet, and he prepared it, and he  
6 prepares it every year.

7 MR. PATTON: So this is interesting.  
8 So I read your transcript again before you  
9 came over today, and you talked at some length  
10 about Marilyn Evans-Jones' work on putting  
11 together the numbers. And you indicated that  
12 the first concern you ran across when you got  
13 there was that Marilyn Evans-Jones had done  
14 projections, and there was a concern that  
15 there was going to be a lot of General Fund  
16 money left on the table, which wouldn't be a  
17 good thing since they were threatening to  
18 close parks, and you say, I think they were  
19 looking at like twenty-five million savings in  
20 General Fund.

21 MS. TAYLOR: So let me tell you why  
22 that's confusing.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay.

24 MS. TAYLOR: That's talking about  
25 money that's actually appropriated in the

1 budget.

2 MR. PATTON: That was reflected in  
3 the --

4 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

5 MR. PATTON: -- fund condition  
6 statement.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Has nothing to do with  
8 the extra excess money that you're talking  
9 about.

10 MR. PATTON: All right. Well, this  
11 is a different twenty, twenty-five million  
12 dollars. Got it. That's what I wanted --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: -- to make sure.

15 MS. TAYLOR: And I know everybody  
16 keeps getting them mixed up.

17 MR. PATTON: That's all right. No.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yep.

19 MR. PATTON: I anticipated that  
20 might be the answer.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yep.

22 MR. PATTON: So you actually were  
23 dealing with a surplus of unexpended funds --

24 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

25 MR. PATTON: -- based on what you

1 had put in the budget --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

3 MR. PATTON: -- and reflected as  
4 being your beginning and ended projected  
5 balances.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

7 MR. PATTON: And so you had a  
8 problem with -- there was a problem that --  
9 the projection showed that the department was  
10 failing to spend as much as twenty-five  
11 million dollars.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you ran the  
14 numbers, you say, and you also basically  
15 confirmed it looked like there was about a  
16 twenty million dollar surplus.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: Correct?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: And Mr. Lopez didn't  
21 like that. He didn't like Marilyn  
22 Evans-Jones's projections. He didn't like the  
23 surplus, correct?

24 MS. TAYLOR: He didn't believe it.

25 MR. PATTON: Didn't believe it. So



1 he -- according to your testimony, he relieved  
2 Marilyn Evans-Jones of that responsibility.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: And then you took a  
5 crack at it.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: You worked up the  
8 numbers. Your workup showed at least a twenty  
9 million dollar surplus.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: And then you got  
12 relieved.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. Where did you go  
15 from there?

16 MS. TAYLOR: I stayed there. I  
17 just -- Dave -- that's when Dave Saxby came in  
18 kind of -- I reported to Dave and then Dave  
19 and Manuel --

20 MR. PATTON: And then did Dave Saxby  
21 take a crack --

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

23 MR. PATTON: -- at working the  
24 numbers? What did Dave Saxby come up with?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Same thing I came up

1 with.

2 MR. PATTON: So everybody was coming  
3 up -- so, in fact, there was about a  
4 twenty-plus million dollar surplus?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: And what ultimately  
7 happened? The year ended and you had a  
8 surplus minus whatever was spent on vacations?

9 MS. TAYLOR: No.

10 MR. PATTON: No?

11 MS. TAYLOR: We didn't know -- the  
12 vacation buyout stuff didn't happen while I  
13 was there. That was after the fact.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: What we did is we  
16 started calling the districts and asking them  
17 if they had needs for projects or to purchase  
18 things.

19 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

20 MS. TAYLOR: And so it was trying to  
21 figure out how to spend the money, which  
22 probably should have been done earlier, but it  
23 wasn't. So we actually ended up doing a bunch  
24 of repairs on buildings and buying equipment  
25 for the rangers in the parks.

1 MR. PATTON: Bought some cars.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

3 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Computers.

5 MR. PATTON: Right.

6 MS. TAYLOR: I think Manuel talked  
7 about --

8 MR. PATTON: This was for the FY  
9 ending June 30, 2010?

10 MS. TAYLOR: No. I wasn't there in  
11 2010. This would be have been --

12 MR. PATTON: Was it before?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Maybe after -- because  
15 you came in in '08. Maybe this was FY June  
16 30, '09?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, because I came  
18 back -- I've been back to Caltrans now two  
19 years. I came back to Caltrans in 2011, and  
20 so this would have been -- I would say this  
21 was probably the '09-'10 fiscal year.

22 MR. PATTON: Yeah. That's what I  
23 was thinking.

24 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

25 MR. PATTON: The year --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: -- June 30, 2010.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, yes.

4 MR. PATTON: It's August 2012 right  
5 now.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: So if you went back to  
8 Caltrans two years ago, that would have been  
9 in 2010, not '11.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, I think it was  
11 the '09-'10 fiscal year.

12 MR. PATTON: Okay.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I think you're  
14 right.

15 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then  
16 sometime in that -- in 2010 you went back to  
17 Caltrans.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. So were you --  
20 were they able to spend down then that  
21 twenty-plus million dollar surplus?

22 MS. TAYLOR: That year we did.

23 MR. PATTON: Did you get it down  
24 to -- you spent it all?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Just about all of it.

1 MR. PATTON: Just about?

2 MS. TAYLOR: I don't remember but  
3 quite a bit of it.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then you  
5 left, and was a new budget -- because you were  
6 relieved of the Budget Officer position before  
7 you left, right?

8 MS. TAYLOR: I was still doing the  
9 work --

10 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

11 MS. TAYLOR: -- still doing the  
12 day-to-day work, and all the policy and  
13 decision making went to Dave Saxby.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. You were a Staff  
15 Services Manager --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum, yes, I was.

17 MR. PATTON: 3?

18 MS. TAYLOR: 3. And then I --

19 MR. PATTON: Did you get demoted?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I was asked to  
21 step down.

22 MR. PATTON: From your SSM3 --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: -- or just from the --

25 MS. TAYLOR: From the SSM3 down to

1 an SSM2.

2 MR. PATTON: And did you?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, I did.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay. How do you feel  
5 about that?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I wasn't happy  
7 about it, but --

8 MR. PATTON: Well, it doesn't sound  
9 like your work was incorrect.

10 MS. TAYLOR: I know that.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Who am I going to tell?

13 MR. PATTON: Well, you just told me.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Well, but I -- you  
15 know.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay.

17 MS. TAYLOR: I did the best thing I  
18 could, which was to find another job.

19 MR. PATTON: It's water under the  
20 bridge, I guess, at this point.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. So I don't even  
22 let it -- it was a --

23 MR. PATTON: All right.

24 MS. TAYLOR: -- not --

25 MR. PATTON: Something you could

1 have challenged; you elected not to.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yep. It was more  
3 healthier for me to leave the toxic  
4 environment.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay. Well, tell me  
6 about that, just a little. Toxic environment.  
7 And I've read this, so -- but go ahead, give  
8 us a little flavor of it.

9 MS. TAYLOR: I just -- I came there  
10 with some budgeting skills that I learned at  
11 Caltrans on how to manage your budget for the  
12 twelve-month cycle, and I tried to implement  
13 some of those things, and they weren't  
14 interested in it so --

15 MR. PATTON: "They" who?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Mr. Lopez --

17 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

18 MS. TAYLOR: -- my boss.

19 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

20 MS. TAYLOR: He didn't believe our  
21 work. The numbers spoke for themselves. I  
22 think he ended up in the same problem the  
23 following year. If you talk to Dorothy Kroll,  
24 that was a problem before I got there so --

25 MR. PATTON: This prior transcript,

1 you indicated he had the ability to become  
2 animated.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: Tell me. You called it  
5 "toxic". Tell me what the behavior was like.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Well, if things don't  
7 go his way, he can get a little upset, a  
8 little upset.

9 MR. PATTON: He would yell at  
10 people?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

12 MR. PATTON: Yell at you?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: My staff. I could take  
16 it, but my staff --

17 MR. PATTON: And this -- is this  
18 what you're referring to as a toxic  
19 environment?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay. Fairly highly  
22 charged?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay. Things are  
25 better where you are now?



1 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God, yes. I'm  
2 home.

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: I'm home.

5 MR. PATTON: Did you ever try to say  
6 or -- what did you try to do to deal with this  
7 toxic environment and Mr. Lopez's behavior?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Because Manuel and I  
9 had a history and I felt like we were friends,  
10 I tried to handle it a lot just between he and  
11 I.

12 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

13 MS. TAYLOR: When it got to the  
14 point where that just wasn't going to happen,  
15 I tried to -- Dave was in between us at that  
16 point, and I tried to use David as a conduit  
17 to try to kind of keep it to a level where we  
18 just do our work and don't have the toxic  
19 thing going on, and that just didn't work  
20 either. So my next step would have probably  
21 be to go to Michael Harris or Ruth, but I  
22 didn't feel comfortable doing that either  
23 so --

24 MR. PATTON: So you never told  
25 Michael or Ruth that you had an explosive boss

1 that was being unnecessarily hard on staff?

2 MS. TAYLOR: I don't think I had to  
3 say it. I think in my transcript I did talk  
4 about Manuel blowing up at the finance people  
5 with Michael Harris sitting in the room.

6 MR. PATTON: Right.

7 MS. TAYLOR: So if I'm sitting there  
8 with Pat Kemp and Michael Harris --

9 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

10 MS. TAYLOR: -- and Manuel's allowed  
11 to stand up in his chair and go point at a  
12 finance analyst, what am I going to do?

13 MR. PATTON: And he was yelling at  
14 the finance person?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, he was.

16 MR. PATTON: And pointing a finger  
17 at him?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, he was.

19 MR. PATTON: So this is fairly  
20 routine behavior for Mr. Lopez?

21 MS. TAYLOR: From what -- those are  
22 my experiences, yes.

23 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

24 MS. TAYLOR: So --

25 MR. PATTON: And Mr. Harris, Mr.

1 Kemp, nobody ever -- you've seen anybody try  
2 to stop Mr. Lopez?

3 MS. TAYLOR: No. After the meeting  
4 was over and everybody left, Pat did reprimand  
5 him. He did say it was inappropriate, because  
6 the person he was yelling actually worked for  
7 Pat when Pat worked over at Finance, and he  
8 said he had never ever been that upset with  
9 her that he would have ever yelled like that.  
10 Pat did say something to him.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

13 MR. PATTON: So I guess what I'm  
14 hearing from you is that you just sort of  
15 learned over time and you knew Mr. Lopez going  
16 back quite a few years --

17 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

18 MR. PATTON: -- you just sort of had  
19 adopted a way of existing that -- to avoid  
20 further confrontation.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Right. Well, when he  
22 was at Caltrans, I didn't work for him.

23 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

24 MS. TAYLOR: We just worked  
25 together. I worked in Maintenance; he worked

1 in Budget. So we had a different relationship  
2 when we worked at Caltrans. There was never a  
3 problem.

4 MR. PATTON: Did you -- did he have  
5 a -- did Mr. Lopez have a reputation being of  
6 screamer at Caltrans?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Rumor has it. He never  
8 did it in front of me.

9 MR. PATTON: But you had heard that?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Rumor has it.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: So when you got over to  
14 Parks and working for Mr. Lopez, was -- were  
15 you surprised to find out that he was --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Actually, he wasn't  
17 like that the first year and a half that I was  
18 there. He was the Manuel that I knew. He  
19 wasn't like that all the time. The whole  
20 three years I was over there, it wasn't  
21 like -- it wasn't as bad.

22 MR. PATTON: Oh, really. So the  
23 first year and a half it was --

24 MS. TAYLOR: It was fine.

25 MR. PATTON: His behavior was okay?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: So he -- this all kind  
3 of started halfway through your three years  
4 there?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: Do you have any idea  
7 what triggered this change in his --

8 MS. TAYLOR: I have no idea, no  
9 idea.

10 MR. PATTON: Do you -- did you get  
11 the sense it was -- that it had to do with  
12 this twenty-plus million dollar surplus?

13 MS. TAYLOR: No, no, I wouldn't say  
14 that because I think there's always kind of  
15 been a surplus there. I just don't know what  
16 changed. I don't know if he was getting  
17 pressured by upper management. I really don't  
18 know what caused him to change like that. He  
19 was -- his -- I mean, he actually wrote me up,  
20 and in the write-up, he did say that I had  
21 risked the department's ability to spend  
22 money, and I thought, I did that? So, I don't  
23 know, maybe he was getting pressure from  
24 upstairs, and he was putting it back on me. I  
25 wasn't there in their meetings, so I couldn't

1 tell you.

2 MR. PATTON: I read that where you  
3 told Ms. Murphy that you'd been reprimanded  
4 for having jeopardized people's livelihoods.

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: And in fact, your work  
7 was correct. Your numbers were right.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yep, but he's the boss.  
9 He wrote me up so --

10 MR. PATTON: Well, why didn't -- so  
11 why didn't you challenge that?

12 MS. TAYLOR: With whom?

13 MR. PATTON: I don't know. Do  
14 you -- is there not a method for challenging  
15 your boss's reprimand if it's not -- if you  
16 don't agree that it --

17 MS. TAYLOR: Sure, but it still has  
18 to go to upper management. And like I said,  
19 they saw his behavior.

20 MR. PATTON: No, but I mean on this  
21 particular issue. He -- you said you were  
22 reprimanded for jeopardizing people's  
23 livelihoods, right?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

25 MR. PATTON: You were reprimanded

1 for inadequate work performance.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: And in fact, that  
4 wasn't correct, right?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: So I guess I'm just  
7 trying to understand why you didn't challenge  
8 that.

9 MS. TAYLOR: I didn't think I had  
10 anybody to challenge with it short of me  
11 hiring an attorney and spending my hard-earned  
12 money to fight something that --

13 MR. PATTON: Okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: -- could cause a  
15 financial strain for my family.

16 MR. PATTON: So you didn't -- you  
17 just didn't want to engage in that battle,  
18 didn't seem worthwhile.

19 MS. TAYLOR: It's time to leave.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Time to leave.

22 MR. PATTON: Okay. So now let's  
23 talk about the other twenty-five million, not  
24 the surplus. Let's talk about the discrepancy  
25 that you talked about you saw between what was

1 reported in the year-end financial statement  
2 to the Controller and in the fund condition  
3 statement to Finance.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

5 MR. PATTON: How did that first come  
6 to your attention?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Well, probably the  
8 first year Marilyn and I were there, so if I  
9 missed the first budget cycle, which would  
10 have probably been '08-'09, it would have been  
11 the '09-'10 fiscal year when we were building  
12 the budget.

13 MR. PATTON: Let me ask you, when  
14 you're building a budget, as you and Marilyn  
15 are doing -- Marilyn was your next in  
16 command --

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: -- in the budget  
19 section?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: You, I assume then,  
22 necessarily are going to be aware of what's in  
23 the accounting side year-end financial  
24 statement?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.



1 MR. PATTON: There's no way you're  
2 going to be able to build a budget without  
3 being aware of that?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, yeah. That's --  
5 you need -- that's your starting document.

6 MR. PATTON: Okay.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

8 MR. PATTON: So every Budget Officer  
9 who's building a budget is going to see  
10 what's -- what the accounting side is  
11 reporting as a year-end financial?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: Okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: That's handed to us,  
15 and that's what we use to start building a  
16 budget.

17 MR. PATTON: You need that.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you use that.  
20 And is it at that point you see that --

21 MS. TAYLOR: That's when Marilyn saw  
22 it. When she did her spreadsheet and the  
23 numbers looked really big, she came to me and  
24 said, something doesn't look right, my numbers  
25 are way higher. She went and researched and

1 looked at some prior year budgets --

2 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

3 MS. TAYLOR: -- and noticed that the  
4 SPRF, the State Parks and Revenue Fund, didn't  
5 have quite a bit of balance as what she was  
6 showing. So she came to me --

7 MR. PATTON: Didn't have quite a  
8 what?

9 MS. TAYLOR: As big a balance --

10 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

11 MS. TAYLOR: -- as what the  
12 financial statement was showing. So I was new  
13 there, so I didn't know the answer, but since  
14 Manuel --

15 MR. PATTON: The bottom line balance  
16 reflected in the SPRF was lower than in the --

17 MS. TAYLOR: The financial  
18 statements.

19 MR. PATTON: -- by a significant --

20 MS. TAYLOR: A significant amount.  
21 Plus Marilyn went and looked at some prior  
22 year budgets, too, just to make sure that --

23 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

24 MS. TAYLOR: -- there wasn't  
25 something odd.

1 MR. PATTON: How much was the  
2 difference? What were you seeing?

3 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know. Ten,  
4 fifteen million.

5 MR. PATTON: Yeah?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: For prior years?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

9 MR. PATTON: And in the year you  
10 were looking at, do you remember how big the  
11 difference was?

12 MS. TAYLOR: It's -- I think it's  
13 been hovering around twenty million plus, in  
14 the twenties.

15 MR. PATTON: Okay. Had Marilyn  
16 started around the same time as you?

17 MS. TAYLOR: She -- I hired her  
18 after I got there, so I came at the end of  
19 December. I think I hired Marilyn in maybe  
20 April.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

23 MR. PATTON: What -- and what year  
24 did you go over there?

25 MS. TAYLOR: I went over there in

1 December of '08.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay. You were there  
3 for three years?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: You've been back to  
6 Caltrans for two?

7 MS. TAYLOR: It will be two in  
8 January, so a year, year and a half.

9 MR. PATTON: So you went back to  
10 Caltrans in January of 2011?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

12 MR. PATTON: So you worked all of  
13 2010 at Parks?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

15 MR. PATTON: And all of 2009?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: You went to Parks in  
18 December of '08?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Maybe I went January.

20 MR. PATTON: Of '08?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, maybe it was  
22 January.

23 MR. PATTON: So you think you were  
24 there for three --

25 MS. TAYLOR: I was there for three

1 years.

2 MR. PATTON: I think you said you  
3 got --

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

5 MR. PATTON: -- there at the  
6 beginning -- or you think you -- the reason I  
7 said it was like the beginning of the year.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Probably was January.

9 MR. PATTON: Okay.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, probably was  
11 January --

12 MR. PATTON: So you --

13 MS. TAYLOR: -- '08, yeah.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. And you brought  
15 Marilyn Evans-Jones in April of '08?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I hired her from  
17 Water Resources.

18 MR. PATTON: Okay.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

20 MR. PATTON: Did you know her from  
21 before?

22 MS. TAYLOR: No.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you and she  
24 then are working together for the first time  
25 on the next budget?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: And so you both come  
3 across this discrepancy --

4 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

5 MR. PATTON: -- at the same time.

6 MS. TAYLOR: And I had never built a  
7 budget, but Marilyn had. That's what she did  
8 at Water Resources.

9 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

10 MS. TAYLOR: So she had actually had  
11 experience with building a budget, which is  
12 why I hired her.

13 MR. PATTON: So she's the one that  
14 brought to your attention, hey, there's a  
15 discrepancy between what's in the -- being  
16 reported to the Controller?

17 MS. TAYLOR: She just -- yes, what  
18 was reported and what her numbers were coming  
19 out to be because she thought there was  
20 something wrong with her formulas.

21 MR. PATTON: For the fund condition  
22 statement?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you looked at  
25 it and you saw what she was talking about?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay. And then what  
3 did you do?

4 MS. TAYLOR: We called Jason Summers  
5 who had her job prior to her coming there and  
6 asked to look at it because we're like maybe  
7 we're doing it wrong.

8 MR. PATTON: Her job was what?

9 MS. TAYLOR: She was the support  
10 manager, the Cap Outlay manager and support  
11 manager.

12 MR. PATTON: In Budget?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, in the budget  
14 shop.

15 MR. PATTON: Out of Cap Outlay?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Cap Outlay support. I  
17 had -- she -- there was a different -- there  
18 had two Staff Managers 1.

19 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

20 MS. TAYLOR: One was Marilyn, she  
21 did the support budget.

22 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

23 MS. TAYLOR: And then I had a Cap  
24 Outlay support manager who -- the Cap Outlay  
25 support people actually build the budget for

1 projects.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay.

3 MS. TAYLOR: So it's a different  
4 budget cycle.

5 MR. PATTON: But she was in the  
6 part --

7 MS. TAYLOR: She was the support.

8 MR. PATTON: -- that would look at  
9 the SPRF fund?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay. So -- and Jason  
12 Summers had previously been in that position?

13 MS. TAYLOR: That was his job, yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: So he came over, and we  
16 showed it to him and --

17 MR. PATTON: What did he say?

18 MS. TAYLOR: He just smiled, and he  
19 said, yes. And we said, well, what's wrong  
20 with it? And he said, if I tell you, I'll  
21 have to kill you. And we were like, what are  
22 you talking about? He goes, go talk to Lopez.  
23 That's what we did.

24 MR. PATTON: All right. Okay. So  
25 you did.



1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: And tell me about that.

3 MS. TAYLOR: When he saw the  
4 numbers, he said, you absolutely cannot report  
5 that. And we're like, what's wrong with it?  
6 And he told Marilyn, go e-mail the spreadsheet  
7 and come back to my office. That's what she  
8 did, and we sat there while he updated the  
9 SPRF account to what he wanted it to be, and  
10 then he gave it to us, and that's what we sent  
11 over to Finance.

12 MR. PATTON: So he physically  
13 changed then numbers in the spreadsheet?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, because that's all  
15 the fund condition statement is; it's an Excel  
16 spreadsheet with categories on it. It's --

17 MR. PATTON: And you watched him?  
18 You were in his office when he did that?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: Yes?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: Do you remember what  
23 item in the spreadsheet for the fund  
24 condition?

25 MS. TAYLOR: No. We were sitting at

1 a table, and he was at his computer. I  
2 couldn't see from there. My eyesight's not  
3 that good.

4 MR. PATTON: Do you -- did you then  
5 look at the spreadsheet after he had done his  
6 thing with it?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, we looked at it.

8 MR. PATTON: And that's what went  
9 over to Finance?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: Do you have copies?  
12 Did you keep copies of --

13 MS. TAYLOR: No, but it's part of  
14 the budget documents. They have to have them  
15 over there.

16 MR. PATTON: Now, wait a minute.  
17 Let me get this whole question out.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Oh.

19 MR. PATTON: Marilyn had worked up  
20 one spreadsheet --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: -- and she saw that  
23 this was -- she saw that there was a  
24 discrepancy between what was in the fund  
25 balance statement?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. What she saw is  
2 when she did the fund condition statement  
3 using the prior financial statements, she came  
4 out with a budget fund balance.

5 MR. PATTON: Much bigger than the  
6 previous year's --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Than what he had  
8 historically, and she new something --

9 MR. PATTON: Ah, yeah.

10 MS. TAYLOR: -- was wrong.

11 MR. PATTON: So what did -- the  
12 difference she saw was in the fund condition  
13 balance statement she's coming up with --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Which was probably  
15 right.

16 MR. PATTON: -- which was right  
17 versus what the prior year's fund condition  
18 statement looked like.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: Hers was much bigger?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: The bottom line.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: So she takes this --  
25 she takes hers and you go with her to Manuel

1 Lopez --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: -- and he says -- tell  
4 me again what he says. Do you remember?

5 MS. TAYLOR: You can't report that.

6 MR. PATTON: You can't report that.  
7 So he says, send me -- e-mail me the  
8 spreadsheet?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 MR. PATTON: And then you're in his  
11 office while he changes it?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: My question is, Marilyn  
14 Evans-Jones had worked up one spreadsheet --

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: -- with what was an  
17 accurate number and then e-mailed that to Mr.  
18 Lopez.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: This would have been in  
21 2008?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

23 MR. PATTON: What part of 2008?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Condition statements  
25 are due around September/October, depending on

1     how late we get started.  They're usually due  
2     to Finance around September-ish.

3             MR. PATTON:  Um-hum.

4             MS. TAYLOR:  Yeah.

5             MR. PATTON:  So you're getting close  
6     to that point, and you're trying to get this  
7     thing ready to go to Finance.

8             MS. TAYLOR:  Right, because the  
9     budget has to be printed.  The printed  
10    document --

11            MR. PATTON:  Yeah.

12            MS. TAYLOR:  -- has to be printed by  
13    December before the legislature goes out on --  
14    out of session.

15            MR. PATTON:  You say it's got to go  
16    to Finance from the agency by about September?

17            MS. TAYLOR:  Yes.

18            MR. PATTON:  So maybe it's August  
19    when you're --

20            MS. TAYLOR:  I would say it was  
21    probably around September because -- I mean,  
22    if you know the budget process, which you  
23    don't, nothing ever happens exactly like it's  
24    supposed to happen.

25            MR. PATTON:  Well, you're, like,

1 doing this as it's coming through?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: You're right up against  
4 the due date?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: So it's probably in  
7 September of '08.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Probably around  
9 September or so.

10 MR. PATTON: And so then you say  
11 Manuel Lopez changes it and, you said, send it  
12 to -- and he sent it to Finance.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: How do you know he sent  
15 it to Finance?

16 MS. TAYLOR: No. We send it.  
17 Marilyn is the -- she's the direct contact  
18 with the finance, yeah --

19 MR. PATTON: Okay.

20 MS. TAYLOR: -- so the e-mails come  
21 from her and go to Maria.

22 MR. PATTON: So he modified it --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: -- and then he e-mails  
25 it back --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: -- to Marilyn  
3 Evans-Jones.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: And she's the one that  
6 then --

7 MS. TAYLOR: One of us. I don't  
8 know. I can't remember at that time.

9 MR. PATTON: Could have been you?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Could have been me,  
11 could have been her.

12 MR. PATTON: In September of '08?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Did either you -- did  
15 you save the prior version that Marilyn  
16 Evans-Jones had worked out?

17 MS. TAYLOR: It would probably be on  
18 Marilyn's computer. She doesn't work there  
19 anymore either. She left.

20 MR. PATTON: Did you save on your  
21 computer?

22 MS. TAYLOR: All the documents  
23 that -- they're of her document -- well, we  
24 have a share drive, so they would probably be  
25 on hopefully the share drive if they still

1 have those files. So they're --

2 MR. PATTON: Did you have a name for  
3 that share drive?

4 MR. MATTSON: Sort of like an S  
5 drive --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, an S drive. All  
7 the budget people work in and out of the  
8 folder, so it's -- everybody in the budget  
9 shop would have had access to that folder.

10 MR. PATTON: Was it called the S  
11 drive?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Like my office called H  
13 drive. It's either R or S. It's whatever the  
14 IT people name it.

15 MR. PATTON: Okay.

16 MS. TAYLOR: But it's the one file  
17 where everybody can go in and out of it.

18 MR. PATTON: You didn't -- okay. So  
19 the amended -- following Manuel Lopez's work  
20 on it, the change --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: -- which, from what  
23 we're hearing, was -- a down -- it was a  
24 downgrade --

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.



1 MR. PATTON: -- of those numbers, an  
2 incorrect downgrade --

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: -- you -- we should be  
5 able to find that, and we should be able to  
6 find it at Finance because that's what was  
7 submitted.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. It is part of the  
9 budget process.

10 MR. PATTON: Are we going to be able  
11 to find the one -- the version prior to the  
12 change?

13 MS. TAYLOR: You should be able to  
14 if it's on the share drive. Marilyn should  
15 probably be able to tell you where she put it  
16 on the share drive.

17 MR. PATTON: You didn't personally  
18 save Marilyn's pre-amended work?

19 MS. TAYLOR: No, because it --  
20 again, it's just saved on a share drive --

21 MR. PATTON: Well, I understand that  
22 --

23 MS. TAYLOR: -- so I could go get  
24 it, yeah.

25 MR. PATTON: -- but it's possible

1 also to save documents on your own hard drive.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, but not --

3 Budget --

4 MR. PATTON: It's possible to e-mail  
5 them to yourself.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, but Budget  
7 build -- no --

8 MR. PATTON: It's possible to print  
9 them.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. Yeah. No, I  
11 never did that.

12 MR. PATTON: You didn't do any of  
13 those things?

14 MS. TAYLOR: No.

15 MR. PATTON: You did not personally  
16 save a copy of the pre-amended --

17 MS. TAYLOR: No, I did not.

18 MR. PATTON: -- the correct version?

19 MS. TAYLOR: No, I did not.

20 MR. PATTON: And do you know whether  
21 or not Marilyn Evans-Jones did?

22 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know that.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay. All right. So  
24 Manny said, we're not going to be reporting  
25 that, and he fixed it -- he changed it.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: And then, to the best  
3 of your knowledge, Marilyn Evans-Jones then  
4 transmitted them?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, either her or I.

6 MR. PATTON: Did you talk with  
7 anyone else other than Manuel Lopez about  
8 this?

9 MS. TAYLOR: About the fund  
10 condition statement and how it's developed?

11 MR. PATTON: About this change.

12 MS. TAYLOR: No.

13 MR. PATTON: About the downgrade.

14 MS. TAYLOR: No.

15 MR. PATTON: You're smiling at me.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Because who else would  
17 I talk to? It's like, no.

18 MR. PATTON: Did you consider maybe  
19 going to Michael Harris with it?

20 MS. TAYLOR: No.

21 MR. PATTON: Why not?

22 MS. TAYLOR: I'm -- I've been in  
23 meetings where it was discussed about this  
24 SPRF fund. They know how much money was  
25 sitting in SPRF.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay. Well, that's  
2 "they". Okay. You've been in meetings. Tell  
3 me about that.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God.

5 MR. PATTON: It's all right.

6 MS. TAYLOR: The couple of meetings  
7 that I was in is for hearings. Before Ruth  
8 goes to a hearing, there are lots of -- we  
9 prepare a hearing binder for her.

10 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

11 MS. TAYLOR: And we put things in  
12 there that might come up that she needs to  
13 address at the hearing, and she --

14 MR. PATTON: A legislative hearing?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah -- she needs right  
16 in hand there. And during that time, Brendan  
17 Murphy, who was the LAO analyst -- I think  
18 that's the year that they had Parks raise  
19 their fees. They took General Fund, and they  
20 had the department raise our fees to make up  
21 for the General Fund money that they had to  
22 take. And Brendan Murphy who was the LAO  
23 analyst was -- did his own analysis, and he  
24 felt like that Parks could bring in more  
25 revenue than what they were. And so there

1 was -- I don't know. There was hearing after  
2 hearing where Brendan would come to the  
3 meetings with his analysis, and he and  
4 Michael --

5 MR. PATTON: Come to what meeting?

6 MS. TAYLOR: The hearings, the  
7 legislative hearings.

8 MR. PATTON: The hearings?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. It's usually the  
10 legislature, us, and Finance at the hearing.

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: And Brendan was pushing  
13 that he thought that there was the -- that  
14 Parks could make more revenue if they just  
15 would increase certain revenues in their parks  
16 where they earn a lot of money. So we had --

17 MR. PATTON: In what year are these  
18 hearings occurring?

19 MS. TAYLOR: This would have been  
20 probably for the '09-'10 fiscal year, probably  
21 '09-'10.

22 MR. PATTON: So these hearings would  
23 be occurring when? In '09?

24 MS. TAYLOR: They would have been  
25 occurring -- yes, early '09.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

3 MR. PATTON: So sometime after you  
4 discuss -- discovered Marilyn had  
5 discovered --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

7 MR. PATTON: -- in '08.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

9 MR. PATTON: And then you say in  
10 September of '08 you're having a conversation  
11 with Manuel, and then in '09 you're -- there  
12 are hearings going on that involve Finance,  
13 the legislative analyst's office, and Parks.

14 MS. TAYLOR: Right. And they're  
15 looking for a way to -- they knew they had to  
16 take the General Fund money. They were  
17 looking for other revenue streams --

18 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

19 MS. TAYLOR: -- to keep Parks whole.

20 MR. PATTON: Right.

21 MS. TAYLOR: And that's why Brendan  
22 was doing analysis on certain parks and how  
23 much revenue they bring in and if he -- what  
24 if he raised it a dollar. So Brendan had done  
25 his own analysis.

1           And I just will tell you that I know  
2 one of the meetings that I was in -- or one of  
3 the hearings I was in that it was acknowledged  
4 that, yes, there are years where we make a lot  
5 of revenue where people come to parks because  
6 they can, and then in a down time when the  
7 economy is bad, you don't get as much  
8 visitation, and your revenue goes down. So  
9 the fear is in the years that the revenue goes  
10 down, if you lose that General Fund match,  
11 you're not going to get it back. So then  
12 you're operating at a lesser amount in your  
13 down years.

14           MR. PATTON: So prior -- then in  
15 preparation for this -- these hearings --

16           MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

17           MR. PATTON: -- in '09, you started  
18 to tell us that you had been in various  
19 meetings.

20           MS. TAYLOR: Right.

21           MR. PATTON: And tell me about  
22 those. Tell me the meetings you can recall.

23           MS. TAYLOR: They were pre-meetings  
24 to look --

25           MR. PATTON: At Parks?

1 MS. TAYLOR: At Parks.

2 MR. PATTON: With whom present?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Michael, Ruth,  
4 Manuel -- I can't remember some of the other  
5 deputies that were there because the whole  
6 thing was we were losing -- I can't remember,  
7 like seven million in General Fund, and they  
8 were trying to figure out, again, how to make  
9 Parks whole. And Brendan was looking at  
10 raising fees.

11 MR. PATTON: Was Brendan at these  
12 meetings?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Brendan was not at our  
14 pre-meetings.

15 MR. PATTON: Okay.

16 MS. TAYLOR: We always have  
17 pre-meetings --

18 MR. PATTON: Got it.

19 MS. TAYLOR: -- before we go to  
20 the --

21 MR. PATTON: Brendan would come to  
22 the hearings?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

24 MR. PATTON: You were at a  
25 pre-meeting with Ruth, Michael, Manuel, some



1 other Deputy Directors --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: -- yourself?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: Would Marilyn come to  
6 these?

7 MS. TAYLOR: No, Marilyn didn't go  
8 to those.

9 MR. PATTON: Would Dorothy Kroll  
10 come to these?

11 MS. TAYLOR: I don't think  
12 Accounting was at those --

13 MR. PATTON: Okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: -- because these are  
15 for budget hearings.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay. And so tell me  
17 what would happen at these meetings --  
18 pre-meetings.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Because what happens  
20 is, before the meetings, the people like  
21 Brendan, the legislative analyst, they give us  
22 pre-questions before the meeting so you're  
23 prepared.

24 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

25 MS. TAYLOR: And Brendan had already

1 kind of evaluated where he thought we could  
2 make more money.

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: And Michael and Ruth,  
5 even though they agreed that he's right, there  
6 are -- like I said, in certain years, when  
7 there's a lot of park visitation, there's a  
8 lot of revenue that comes in, but the argument  
9 back to Brendan was, but when you have down  
10 years, and this is when -- not when the  
11 economy was first going bad because we were  
12 already in a bad place, but the argument was,  
13 as long as you keep visitation up, then we  
14 would be able to maintain a higher stream of  
15 SPRF and then having less General Fund  
16 wouldn't matter, we would still be whole.

17 Ruth and Michael argued that, but  
18 that's not consistent, that we can't say that  
19 we're going to consistently make a certain  
20 amount of revenue every year; it depends on  
21 visitation and how often people come to the  
22 park and how much money they spend. So the  
23 argument was we need to keep our General Fund  
24 match at the level that it is if we're going  
25 to be able to operate our parks efficiently.

1 MR. PATTON: Do you remember at any  
2 of these pre-hearing meetings the topic of  
3 this undisclosed twenty million dollar plus  
4 SPRF coming up?

5 MS. TAYLOR: I won't say that a  
6 dollar amount was mentioned.

7 MR. PATTON: What was -- tell me  
8 exactly what you can recall.

9 MS. TAYLOR: What I can recall is  
10 that the plan was or what the administrative  
11 wanted was to keep our --

12 MR. PATTON: What who wanted?

13 MS. TAYLOR: The administration,  
14 Ruth, Michael --

15 MR. PATTON: Okay.

16 MS. TAYLOR: -- was to keep our  
17 ratio of General Fund and SPRF at a  
18 sixty-forty match, meaning sixty percent from  
19 General Fund, forty percent from SPRF.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Even though the revenue  
22 in SPRF might have been higher, they were  
23 afraid if that General Fund match kept going  
24 down --

25 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

1 MS. TAYLOR: -- but you weren't  
2 making that same level of SPRF, that Parks was  
3 not going to have enough money to operate.

4 MR. PATTON: Got it. I guessed  
5 that.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

7 MR. PATTON: I want to know if this  
8 undisclosed fund amount in SPRF ever comes up,  
9 and if so, how does it come up, because so far  
10 what you've told me is -- three times you've  
11 told me that their intent is not to have the  
12 General Fund component reduced.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

14 MR. PATTON: You've not yet touched  
15 on, for one second, the discussion or touching  
16 on this undisclosed amount in SPRF.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Well, there's another  
18 document that has visitation on there, and  
19 that is something that is prepared by another  
20 lady that worked for Michael. It's called --  
21 oh, shoot, what is it? It's an accounting of  
22 all of our parks, the type of revenue that's  
23 generated, and how -- and it's an estimate  
24 again of how much you think you're going to  
25 bring in through the year, and then Mary

1 Velliquette actually does how much we actually  
2 bring in a year.

3 I'm not going to say a dollar amount  
4 was discussed. What I will tell you is, if  
5 you get that document, you're going to see  
6 whatever their projected amount was to bring  
7 in, they made 104 percent of what they thought  
8 they would make. I'm not going to say they  
9 said it was twenty million, but I'm telling  
10 you it shows that they brought in more than a  
11 hundred percent of the revenue they projected  
12 they would bring in. What that extra four  
13 percent calculates to I don't know.

14 MR. PATTON: What do you think it  
15 might calculate to?

16 MS. TAYLOR: I never bothered to  
17 look at it. I was just in the meetings.

18 MR. PATTON: All right. You're  
19 going to have to walk me through this again.  
20 Mary Velliquette --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

22 MR. PATTON: -- is responsible for  
23 tracking visitor numbers.

24 MS. TAYLOR: Revenue, so it's --

25 MR. PATTON: The revenue.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. So it's broken up  
2 into parking, camping, and it's for each park.  
3 It's a huge report. And it does an estimate  
4 of the year of how much you think you're going  
5 to bring in, and then as the year goes on  
6 month by month --

7 MR. PATTON: Give me a ballpark for  
8 how much revenue is brought in in this SPRF  
9 fund in a year.

10 MS. TAYLOR: I don't even remember.

11 MR. PATTON: Is it five million?  
12 Five thousand dollars?

13 MS. TAYLOR: No.

14 MR. PATTON: Fifty million? 500  
15 million?

16 MS. TAYLOR: I'm trying to think of  
17 what the SPRF appropriation is. I've been  
18 gone so long. It's more than that. I just --  
19 I can't -- just because I haven't been in in a  
20 while.

21 MR. PATTON: Give me your best guess  
22 ballpark.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, my God. I have to  
24 figure out what our budget is over there. Oh,  
25 my gosh. What is the SPRF? In my mind, I

1 think I'm seeing seventy to eighty million,  
2 but I could be wrong. I think their total OE  
3 budget is like 149 million. If I had a  
4 budget, I could tell you.

5 MR. PATTON: I might have one. You  
6 keep thinking.

7 MS. TAYLOR: The governor's budget.

8 MS. MCNULTY: Huh-uh.

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, if you show me  
10 that, I can show you the line item. That's  
11 not the governor's budget, but I know what  
12 that is.

13 MR. MATTSON: I don't think you're  
14 too far off.

15 MR. PATTON: See if that helps.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God, I was close.  
17 Okay. All right. It's right there.  
18 Eighty-two million there.

19 MR. PATTON: Total revenues from  
20 beaches and parks, 82,293,000.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, in that account.  
22 And these are also accounts.

23 MR. PATTON: And then we've got some  
24 miscellaneous revenue, property. That must be  
25 like leases or property use --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Probably.

2 MR. PATTON: -- thirteen million and  
3 change.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Parking violations.

5 MR. PATTON: 1.1 million in parking  
6 violations. That's pretty good.

7 Miscellaneous revenue, 287,000000. Income  
8 from SMIF. What's SMIF? Something investment  
9 funds.

10 MS. TAYLOR: What does SMIF stand  
11 for? I forget.

12 MR. PATTON: State full money  
13 investment fund?

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I can't remember  
15 what it stands for.

16 MR. PATTON: Looks like interest,  
17 157,000. "IF" I always read as investment  
18 fund --

19 MS. TAYLOR: It could be.

20 MR. PATTON: -- or interest fund.  
21 Total revenue in SPRF, ninety-seven million,  
22 eighty-two point approximately three million  
23 of it from --

24 MS. TAYLOR: Those are the fees.

25 MR. PATTON: -- user fees.



1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: What are you telling us  
3 about -- let's set this down for a minute.

4 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh.

5 MR. PATTON: I don't want to get you  
6 sidetracked by looking at too many numbers.  
7 When you tell me Ms. Velliquette -- run me  
8 through this again.

9 MS. TAYLOR: She actually takes that  
10 and breaks it down a little bit further to see  
11 how we're performing in each park.

12 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

13 MS. TAYLOR: So for each park  
14 whatever they do, if they're -- if they have  
15 parking, because not all parks have  
16 concessions --

17 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

18 MS. TAYLOR: So her report actually  
19 breaks down by park the kind of revenue  
20 they're -- that we project we're bringing in  
21 and then what we're actually bringing in.

22 MR. PATTON: Okay. You said that  
23 she would -- if I go and look for that report,  
24 her breakdown --

25 MS. TAYLOR: It'll show you the

1 percentage. And I haven't seen it in a while.  
2 It might have the dollars on it. I haven't  
3 seen it in a couple of years.

4 MR. PATTON: Show me the percentage  
5 of what?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Of the percentage that  
7 they -- because they have a guess of how much  
8 they think they're going to bring in in each  
9 park in each area.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: So they do like she  
12 does, like we do, she estimates based on what  
13 we did in the prior years.

14 MR. PATTON: Um-hum.

15 MS. TAYLOR: And then as the revenue  
16 comes in and posts every month --

17 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

18 MS. TAYLOR: -- she actually puts  
19 how much we are actually earning, if we're  
20 hitting our target --

21 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

22 MS. TAYLOR: -- if we're below our  
23 target in certain parks, if we're -- which  
24 parks are doing well.

25 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

1 MS. TAYLOR: So it kind of shows you  
2 where the revenue -- where we're making our  
3 most revenue. And I guess it also gives  
4 management an idea of the parks where they  
5 need to kind of do other things to try to  
6 bring in revenue.

7 MR. PATTON: I see here for that --  
8 and that was for fiscal year ending June 30,  
9 2011 -- 82.3 million in park user revenue.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: You said that she then  
12 would produce a piece of paper that's  
13 forecasting and would track performance --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

15 MR. PATTON: -- based on a  
16 percentage of --

17 MS. TAYLOR: What our goals --  
18 because it's --

19 MR. PATTON: -- what our goal was.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

21 MR. PATTON: Now -- and then you  
22 indicated that we actually collected, I think  
23 you said 104 percent.

24 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, a lot of cases,  
25 in the heavy revenue parks.

1 MR. PATTON: So 104 percent of our  
2 goal.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

4 MR. PATTON: And we don't -- I don't  
5 know exactly what the goal was, but I'm  
6 thinking somewhere in the neighborhood of  
7 eighty million.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Probably.

9 MR. PATTON: Let's just say eighty  
10 million. And I'm sorry, you said that she  
11 would produce a report showing that we -- that  
12 the actual performance was 104 percent?

13 MS. TAYLOR: In some cases, because  
14 again it is by district and by park unit.

15 MR. PATTON: How does this relate to  
16 the twenty million in undisclosed?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Well, because the 104  
18 percent -- anything over what you think you're  
19 going to achieve --

20 MR. PATTON: Wait, wait, wait, wait,  
21 wait, wait.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh.

23 MR. PATTON: 104 percent of eighty  
24 million in projected revenue?

25 MS. TAYLOR: What I'm telling you is

1 if they projected eighty-two and that's their  
2 goal --

3 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

4 MS. TAYLOR: -- to try to hit that  
5 at a hundred percent --

6 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

7 MS. TAYLOR: -- when they're  
8 bringing in the extra four percent, that money  
9 gets deposited into the SPRF account. You  
10 can't use it because you don't have budget  
11 approval to use it.

12 MR. PATTON: Well, it seems to me --  
13 I guess I'm not quite -- okay. A hundred  
14 percent of 82,000 is 82,000 (sic).

15 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

16 MR. PATTON: Four percent of 82,000  
17 (sic) -- well, every one percent is 820,000.  
18 So four percent is 368,000 or something like  
19 that.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

21 MR. PATTON: That make sense?

22 MS. TAYLOR: No, but --

23 MR. PATTON: Ten percent of 82,000  
24 is --

25 MS. TAYLOR: Eight --

1 MR. PATTON: -- 8,200.  
2 MS. TAYLOR: Got it.  
3 MR. PATTON: Five percent of 8,200  
4 (sic) is 4,100.  
5 MS. TAYLOR: Right.  
6 MR. PATTON: Four percent is 3,000  
7 something.  
8 MS. TAYLOR: Right.  
9 MR. PATTON: You with me?  
10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.  
11 MR. PATTON: Now -- but it was in  
12 the millions, eighty-two million, okay?  
13 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.  
14 MR. PATTON: Ten percent of  
15 eighty-two million is 8.2 million. Five  
16 percent is 4.1 million.  
17 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.  
18 MR. PATTON: Four percent is going  
19 to be three point something million.  
20 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.  
21 MR. PATTON: My rough calculation is  
22 3.6 something million.  
23 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.  
24 MR. PATTON: That's not twenty  
25 million dollars.

1 MS. TAYLOR: You have to realize  
2 it's been building like that --

3 MR. PATTON: Ah, yeah.

4 MS. TAYLOR: -- for twelve years.

5 MR. PATTON: That's what I'm trying  
6 to get to.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

8 MR. PATTON: However, let me show  
9 you something. So I guess -- then that is  
10 what I was hearing from you is what you were  
11 suggesting is that the actual performance in  
12 park revenues they have exceeded --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: -- by a few percentage  
15 points --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: -- which would equate  
18 to a few million dollars.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: And over time, if you  
21 didn't report that, if you didn't accurately  
22 report that as SPRF fund revenue --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

24 MR. PATTON: -- you could grow an  
25 undisclosed revenue.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: That could explain how  
5 we have some undisclosed revenue.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: Okay. Is that your  
8 belief is that --

9 MS. TAYLOR: That's my belief, that  
10 it's just been over the years that --

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: -- we've just --

13 MR. PATTON: All right. So you  
14 think that over years by -- in increments --

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: -- the SPRF -- there's  
17 been revenues undisclosed that have grown by  
18 the time you showed up in 2008 to be twenty  
19 plus million.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: That's your theory?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay. Got it. I told  
24 you I was slow.

25 MS. TAYLOR: You told me that



1 yesterday when you called.

2 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

4 MR. PATTON: I wasn't kidding, was  
5 I? Had you ever seen --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Excuse me.

7 MR. PATTON: You may never have seen  
8 these, but back in '02 and '03, the Department  
9 of Finance issued some memos with some numbers  
10 and talking about fund balance differences,  
11 and I'll tell you, these two memos are  
12 identical.

13 It says, a recent State Controller's  
14 Office review revealed many differences  
15 between corresponding prior year fund balances  
16 in the Controller's annual report and the  
17 governor's budgets -- budget. Departments are  
18 responsible for reconciling these differences.  
19 For the General Fund, Finance compares  
20 governor's budget revenue and expenditure  
21 amounts to its Controller corresponding data  
22 from year-end reports and asks departments to  
23 explain the differences. For special funds,  
24 Finance designates an administering  
25 organization. That organization prepares the

1 fund condition statement for the governor's  
2 budget and must reconcile fund balance  
3 differences between the Controller's annual  
4 report and the governor's budget. And  
5 departments must provide a written explanation  
6 of differences.

7 Now, in this report issued '03, the  
8 State Parks and Rec Fund, fund 0392, is shown  
9 here with a discrepancy between the ending  
10 fund balance -- and this is the Controller's  
11 report -- ending fund balance less reserves  
12 for encumbrances for fiscal year ending June  
13 30, 2002, of forty-eight million compared to  
14 the governor's fund balance having been  
15 understated as of the same time, the  
16 governor's fund balance is reported -- and  
17 this would be the fund condition statement,  
18 correct?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: -- of twenty-one  
21 million for a difference, an underreport, of  
22 twenty-six million.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

24 MR. PATTON: This is '02.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

1           MR. PATTON: We get the same memo  
2 and a new report for fiscal year ending  
3 June -- I'm sorry, this was the prior year --  
4 for June 30, 2001, and we are advised by  
5 Finance that there's an underreport in the  
6 State Parks and Rec Fund of 22,765,000. And  
7 I've been handed some -- this is nice; I get a  
8 chance to teach you something, huh?

9           MS. TAYLOR: You get to.

10          MR. PATTON: I've been handed from  
11 the -- you'll find this even more. I've been  
12 handed from the Finance Department a  
13 spreadsheet showing disparities between what  
14 was reported to the Controller and what was  
15 reported to the governor in the finance  
16 report, the fund condition report.

17          MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

18          MR. PATTON: This is the bottom line  
19 Controller balance reported, this is the fund  
20 condition, nine-and-a-half million, fiscal  
21 year ending '98 to fourteen million for '99,  
22 about twenty million for '00. That number  
23 appears to me to be an outlier. There's some  
24 kind of a problem with this fifty million  
25 dollar number.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

2 MR. PATTON: I haven't figured that  
3 out yet. But then here's the numbers we just  
4 looked at: 26,825,000 for '02; twenty-nine  
5 million in '03; 26.6 in '04; 23.9 in '05. And  
6 then we level out for the last six years right  
7 around twenty million.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

9 MR. PATTON: Now, when you get in,  
10 you're looking, I think, at fiscal year ending  
11 '09.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

13 MR. PATTON: And we've got about  
14 18.9 million underreported.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

16 MR. PATTON: That sound consistent  
17 with what you and Marilyn Evans-Jones were  
18 looking at?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

20 MR. PATTON: So this is telling me  
21 something different than what you're saying  
22 about an incremental buildup.

23 MS. TAYLOR: So it's been there for  
24 a while --

25 MR. PATTON: I think.

1 MS. TAYLOR: -- because what you're  
2 saying --

3 MR. PATTON: I don't know. I  
4 don't -- I mean, this is what Finance is  
5 showing me as being the reality of what was  
6 underreported --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

8 MR. PATTON: -- when we do a  
9 comparison of Controller numbers to Budget  
10 report numbers.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

12 MR. PATTON: So --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Wow --

14 MR. PATTON: -- you've told me --

15 MS. TAYLOR: -- it's been there a  
16 while.

17 MR. PATTON: Well, you've given me a  
18 scenario about how you might go about building  
19 up through projecting a certain amount of  
20 revenue and then the actual revenue exceeds  
21 it, but you don't really disclose the reality  
22 of what was received, and so you got  
23 additional revenues you never disclosed, and  
24 so you gradually build up --

25 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

1 MR. PATTON: -- an excess, right?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

3 MR. PATTON: Now, so I'm trying to  
4 really sort of get to bedrock on -- you told  
5 Ms. Murphy back in April there was probably  
6 twenty-five million or more sitting in the  
7 SPRF account, and you didn't discuss with Ms.  
8 Murphy in any detail, let alone the detail we  
9 just did, about how you might do this --

10 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

11 MR. PATTON: -- through not  
12 reporting actual revenues --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

14 MR. PATTON: -- year by year. And  
15 you say -- you make a good point that I -- so  
16 I don't know why you're on the financial side,  
17 you're on the accounting side, why these two  
18 people don't put their books together. It's  
19 simple. The Controller is a control person.

20 You said that Ruth knows about it.  
21 That's what I'm saying. That's why I was  
22 hesitant to even have discussions with you.  
23 Ruth and Michael are very much aware. You  
24 know, Michael used to be Manuel, which I think  
25 you meant Michael used to be in the

1 position --

2 MS. TAYLOR: He was a CEA, Manuel  
3 was.

4 MR. PATTON: He was the head of  
5 Admin Services.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: And before that, I  
8 think the Budget Officer, maybe.

9 MS. TAYLOR: He came from Fish and  
10 Game, so yeah.

11 MR. PATTON: Oh, that's right. He  
12 was the head of -- he was in the position  
13 Manuel was holding --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

15 MR. PATTON: -- the head of Admin  
16 Services.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: What you were saying  
19 was Michael has all the prior experience that  
20 Manuel had.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Manuel worked for him.

22 MR. PATTON: Well, I mean, is it  
23 true what I just said? Michael, in your  
24 opinion, had all the -- all that same prior  
25 experience?

1 MS. TAYLOR: I would say, yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay. So I'm trying to  
3 figure out what -- how do you know that Ruth  
4 knew it?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I'm just --

6 MR. PATTON: I mean, are you  
7 speculating or --

8 MS. TAYLOR: I'm speculating.

9 MR. PATTON: -- do you have --

10 MS. TAYLOR: I'm speculating from  
11 working there and being in meetings and  
12 knowing -- building the budget, what I saw --

13 MR. PATTON: Okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: I'm speculating and the  
15 conversations with Brendan Murphy and why we  
16 didn't want to disclose our full account of  
17 the SPRF. I'm speculating.

18 MR. PATTON: You had -- did you have  
19 meetings that Ruth was in where you discussed  
20 not disclosing the full amount in SPRF?

21 MS. TAYLOR: I would say yes because  
22 that's what Brendan was asking. He wanted  
23 them to show how much --

24 MR. PATTON: Brendan was not at  
25 those meetings, right?



1 MS. TAYLOR: He -- no, those were  
2 pre-meetings.

3 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

4 MS. TAYLOR: He would not be at  
5 those.

6 MR. PATTON: Brendon, from the  
7 legislative analyst's office, is asking for  
8 data --

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 MR. PATTON: -- about what's in  
11 SPRF?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. Show me how much  
13 money you made.

14 MR. PATTON: You were in attendance  
15 at various pre-meetings with Ruth Coleman,  
16 Michael Harris, Manny Lopez --

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: -- and what I'm driving  
19 at is was there a specific discussion about we  
20 know that there's more in SPRF, but that's not  
21 what we're going to tell Brendan.

22 MS. TAYLOR: So the conversation, I  
23 told you, the one that really resonates in my  
24 mind is the maintaining the percentage.

25 MR. PATTON: Maintaining a

1 sixty-forty SPRF to General Fund?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: So the topic of there  
4 being more money than was ever disclosed in a  
5 Department of Finance fund condition  
6 statement, that never specifically came up?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Not the fund condition  
8 statement, no. It was a response for  
9 questions that Brendan was asking for for his  
10 analysis, because they had actually raised  
11 fees. Like I said, I think they -- we were  
12 directed to raise fees in either '08-'09 or  
13 '09-'10, and Brendan was trying to figure out,  
14 after the first year, how well did we do  
15 because he had done some of his own analysis  
16 of how well he thought we should be.

17 MR. PATTON: See, I guess -- I'm  
18 just -- I'm really trying to understand what  
19 leads you to have a strong conclusion that  
20 Ruth Coleman knew. I mean, we know why you  
21 think Manny knew, you had the conversation  
22 with him.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

24 MR. PATTON: You were in his office  
25 when he changed the number.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

2 MR. PATTON: There's no doubt in  
3 your mind that Manny Lopez knew?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

5 MR. PATTON: Now, as far as Michael  
6 Harris knowing, you never -- you haven't told  
7 us about a specific conversation like you had  
8 with Manny Lopez where Michael Harris said,  
9 yeah, I know --

10 MS. TAYLOR: No.

11 MR. PATTON: -- we're not going to  
12 report that.

13 MS. TAYLOR: No.

14 MR. PATTON: Correct?

15 MS. TAYLOR: No.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

18 MR. PATTON: And same thing with  
19 Ruth Coleman. You never had a specific  
20 conversation where --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Not about the fund  
22 condition statement, no.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay. So what you do  
24 recall -- what you said stands out in your  
25 mind is a discussion with Mary Velliquette

1 about revenues exceeding by some percentage  
2 point projections in SPRF.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: And you theorize in  
5 your mind, well, that's -- you do that enough  
6 years, and you're going to build up an excess  
7 in SPRF that if you don't disclose the actual  
8 revenue year by year, that could grow to  
9 twenty plus million.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: Correct?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: But you just saw the  
14 list of numbers I showed you which sort of  
15 indicates that's not how that happened.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Right, right.

17 MR. PATTON: Correct?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

19 MR. PATTON: So it looks like what  
20 we had -- if the numbers Finance is showing me  
21 are correct, is we've had an existing excess  
22 for quite a few years --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: -- that was growing by  
25 increments early on, but that has been at

1 twenty plus million for at least ten years.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: So this concept of not  
4 reporting the actual revenues by a few  
5 percentage points and building it over years,  
6 that doesn't seem to be what we're looking at.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. This doesn't  
8 seem like that's what happened.

9 MR. PATTON: What we're looking at  
10 is twenty plus million sitting in -- as excess  
11 for many years.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

13 MR. PATTON: Do you have any  
14 information that tells you that you're pretty  
15 convinced Michael Harris or Ruth Coleman knew  
16 about that?

17 MS. TAYLOR: I'm going to tell you  
18 what I know just from people telling me.

19 MR. PATTON: Okay.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Dorothy Kroll told me  
21 that when I first came to Parks.

22 MR. PATTON: Told you what?

23 MS. TAYLOR: That there was a  
24 surplus there when Becky Brown was the Budget  
25 Officer there and that Finance sent her

1 letters every year telling them that they  
2 needed to reconcile their budget.

3 MR. PATTON: What I just showed you?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. And so asked me  
5 had I received those letters when I came, and  
6 I've never -- they never sent me those.

7 MR. PATTON: Right.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Different finance  
9 people now. She's like, yeah, you're supposed  
10 to report to Finance because Becky Brown used  
11 to get these letters and I used to get them,  
12 do you get them now? And I said, I've never  
13 seen those.

14 MR. PATTON: So those --

15 MS. TAYLOR: So that's what she's  
16 talking about.

17 MR. PATTON: These two letters I  
18 just showed you do reference a twenty plus  
19 million dollar --

20 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

21 MR. PATTON: -- excess difference.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

23 MR. PATTON: You said that Dorothy  
24 told you that Finance had been sending these  
25 to Becky Brown?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: And Dorothy told you  
3 that Becky Brown was aware?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: Did you ever talk with  
6 Becky Brown?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Nope, don't know her.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay. What led you to  
9 believe -- what leads you to believe, or do  
10 you believe, that Ruth Coleman or Michael  
11 Harris were aware of this?

12 MS. TAYLOR: I'm speculating.

13 MR. PATTON: Well, that's okay.

14 MS. TAYLOR: I'm speculating just  
15 from the -- what I was told --

16 MR. PATTON: By --

17 MS. TAYLOR: -- and just the  
18 conversations I've heard that they were aware  
19 that there's --

20 MR. PATTON: Who told you that  
21 they're aware?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Well, Dorothy telling  
23 me about these letters that I never saw.

24 MR. PATTON: Dorothy just told you  
25 that Finance sent letters that Becky Brown was

1 aware of?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

3 MR. PATTON: Did Dorothy ever tell  
4 you that these letters had been brought to the  
5 attention of Michael Harris or Ruth?

6 MS. TAYLOR: No, she did not.

7 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you don't  
8 know for sure whether these letters --

9 MS. TAYLOR: Don't know what  
10 Becky -- if she ever showed it to Ruth --

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: -- I wouldn't know  
13 that.

14 MR. PATTON: Has anybody else told  
15 you -- did Dorothy ever tell you that Dorothy  
16 knows that Ruth is aware?

17 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know. I know  
18 she said Becky was aware, and she was telling  
19 me that because I have Becky's job.

20 MR. PATTON: Right.

21 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know and I  
22 can't recall --

23 MR. PATTON: So wait a minute.  
24 Dorothy did tell you that Becky was aware?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.



1           MR. PATTON:   Okay.  She -- you don't  
2 recall her -- Dorothy ever telling you that  
3 Ruth Coleman was aware?

4           MS. TAYLOR:   I don't want to -- I'll  
5 say I don't recall because I don't want to  
6 speak out of turn.  I don't recall if she said  
7 Becky told Ruth.

8           MR. PATTON:   Okay.  So not -- you  
9 just don't know.

10          MS. TAYLOR:   I just don't know.

11          MR. PATTON:   Same thing with Michael  
12 Harris?

13          MS. TAYLOR:   I just don't know; it's  
14 speculation.

15          MR. PATTON:   Okay.  Is there  
16 anything else that you can think of that would  
17 lead you to conclude that Ruth Coleman would  
18 have to be aware?

19          MS. TAYLOR:   Other than the one  
20 thing I keep saying, the sixty-forty split.  
21 That's the only thing, and that's my  
22 speculation that if they knew that they wanted  
23 to keep it at sixty-forty that -- I'm  
24 speculating from those conversations and the  
25 conversations with Brendan, they knew they had

1 more revenue than what they were reporting.

2 MR. PATTON: That they annually were  
3 getting more revenue than they were  
4 disclosing?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: Which goes back to our  
7 building an excess nest egg over time.

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

9 MR. PATTON: But it's -- that's not  
10 quite consistent -- that theory is not quite  
11 consistent --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

13 MR. PATTON: -- with what we're  
14 seeing, right?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: So other than knowing  
17 that Ruth and Michael wanted to ensure that  
18 the General Fund portion didn't get reduced,  
19 that we kept this sixty-forty General Fund to  
20 SPRF -- was it sixty percent General Fund,  
21 forty percent SPRF?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. Again, I don't  
23 know the -- remember the budget right offhand  
24 since I don't work there anymore.

25 MR. PATTON: But they didn't want to

1 lose ground on the General Fund side.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right, because that's  
3 guaranteed, right.

4 MR. PATTON: So we know that.

5 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

6 MR. PATTON: But is there -- I mean,  
7 connect the dots for me. Is there something  
8 that tells us that therefore Ruth and/or  
9 Michael necessarily would have to be aware of  
10 twenty plus million more sitting in SPRF than  
11 has been disclosed to the DOF and governor in  
12 the fund condition statement?

13 MS. TAYLOR: No.

14 MR. PATTON: We don't know?

15 MS. TAYLOR: No, I wouldn't say we  
16 know.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay. Is there  
18 anything -- did anybody else tell you at any  
19 time that Ruth or Michael knew? Has -- have  
20 you talked with anybody else about this?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Most of my  
22 conversations would be with Manuel.

23 MR. PATTON: Michael ever tell you  
24 Ruth was aware?

25 MS. TAYLOR: No.

1 MR. PATTON: That Michael was aware?

2 MS. TAYLOR: No. We never discussed  
3 the fund condition statement.

4 MR. PATTON: Okay. So here today,  
5 you're really not -- I mean, how do you feel?  
6 What level of certainty do you have that Ruth  
7 knew, or uncertainty?

8 MS. TAYLOR: I'm certain that, again  
9 from the questions asked by the LAO, that they  
10 knew that they weren't reporting all of their  
11 SPRF.

12 MR. PATTON: Revenue.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Revenue.

14 MR. PATTON: On an annual basis.

15 MS. TAYLOR: On an annual basis.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you have  
17 questions in your mind based on -- you think  
18 that -- you feel fairly confident that there  
19 was a failure to disclose annually the true  
20 revenue.

21 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

22 MR. PATTON: And that a lesser  
23 number than the actual revenue was being  
24 reported?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

1 MR. PATTON: Year to year --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: -- which would  
4 cumulatively grow over time.

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: You're pretty confident  
7 of that?

8 MS. TAYLOR: I'm pretty confident of  
9 that.

10 MR. PATTON: But those numbers from  
11 Finance are --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, they're -- it's  
13 probably longer -- it's been longer than what  
14 I thought; you know what I mean? The twenty  
15 million didn't just happen like -- period.

16 MR. PATTON: Well -- and I showed  
17 you the last six years it's been right around  
18 twenty million unreported.

19 MS. TAYLOR: But you have to realize  
20 that they've done BCPs, and they've done BCPs  
21 out of SPRF, so what Finance is showing you is  
22 the net effect.

23 MR. PATTON: Okay.

24 MS. TAYLOR: They -- like Empire  
25 Mine, that -- a lot of repairs at Empire Mine

1 came out of SPRF. So you're missing how much  
2 was actually drawn out of SPRF for BCPs.

3 MR. PATTON: Oh, okay. So what  
4 you're telling me is that your theory of  
5 actual revenue, some percentage, maybe four or  
6 five percentage of actual revenue not being  
7 reported each year, actually still could be  
8 correct?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

10 MR. PATTON: And that that money  
11 could have been spent --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, if they --

13 MR. PATTON: -- for a BCP?

14 MS. TAYLOR: If they have BCPs for  
15 SPRF, that was their authority to get into  
16 some of that and spend some of it.

17 MR. PATTON: So it's -- and it  
18 wouldn't necessarily reflect on the bottom  
19 line year to year as to --

20 MS. TAYLOR: Well, no, it should  
21 because when you're doing the fund condition  
22 statement in an out year, you have to estimate  
23 what your BCPs are --

24 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

25 MS. TAYLOR: -- because that's how

1 Finance approves a BCP. They won't approve  
2 the BCP unless you can show revenue --

3 MR. PATTON: Okay.

4 MS. TAYLOR: -- or where you're --  
5 how you're going to pay for it. So the BCPs  
6 are part of the fund condition calculation for  
7 your out year.

8 MR. PATTON: Okay.

9 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, you have to  
10 account for it.

11 MR. PATTON: So I guess, at the end  
12 of the day, what you have is a suspicion that  
13 they knew, but you don't really have -- you  
14 don't have any --

15 MS. TAYLOR: It wasn't said in front  
16 of me.

17 MR. PATTON: You don't have  
18 concrete -- you never had concrete proof --

19 MS. TAYLOR: For Ruth and Michael.

20 MR. PATTON: -- but you had indicia.  
21 You had indications.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

23 MR. PATTON: So you saw it yourself  
24 in '08 that there was around twenty million  
25 undisclosed -- there was a discrepancy between

1 the Controller's annual report --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: -- and the fund  
4 condition statement?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: You told Manny -- you  
7 watched him change it. When you submit that  
8 fund condition statement -- now, you --  
9 Marilyn, who reported to you, she did the  
10 actual submission?

11 MS. TAYLOR: It could have been  
12 either one of us.

13 MR. PATTON: Do -- how do you submit  
14 it? Do you --

15 MS. TAYLOR: In an e-mail.

16 MR. PATTON: In an e-mail.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

18 MR. PATTON: Is it an attachment?  
19 You're attaching then a spreadsheet?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Or a PDF.

21 MR. PATTON: To an e-mail from your  
22 e-mail account to someone in Finance.

23 MS. TAYLOR: To Maria --

24 MR. PATTON: To Maria.

25 MS. TAYLOR: -- who is a Finance



1 analyst.

2 MR. PATTON: Maria who?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God. What is  
4 Maria's last name? Annyou (ph.) or something  
5 like that. I couldn't spell it if you asked  
6 me to.

7 MR. PATTON: Annyou?

8 MS. TAYLOR: She reported to Matt  
9 Almee (ph.). She's the finance analyst. I  
10 can't --

11 MR. PATTON: Say it again to the  
12 best of --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Maria -- oh, God. I  
14 used to know her name by heart. All I know is  
15 it starts with an A. I can't think of what it  
16 is. I think she has a hyphenated name.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay.

18 MS. TAYLOR: But she is the finance  
19 analyst over there. So she was -- she's  
20 Marilyn's counterpart over at Finance.

21 MR. PATTON: You ready for some  
22 water?

23 MS. TAYLOR: No, I'm good.

24 MR. PATTON: Time, Michael?

25 MR. MATTSON: 3:57.

1 MR. PATTON: We're doing good.

2 MS. TAYLOR: You weren't kidding.

3 MR. PATTON: No.

4 When you submit those by e-mail --

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: -- did Finance -- did  
7 they require any kind of a certification of  
8 that document?

9 MS. TAYLOR: No, no.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you just --  
11 you're just signing a document attached to an  
12 e-mail?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: Okay. You -- so I can  
15 see from reading the transcript the extent of  
16 your discussion that you had on this that went  
17 for about three pages, it looks like maybe  
18 three or four or five minutes with Ms. Murphy.  
19 We've spent a little more time on the subject.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

21 MR. PATTON: That's good. Well, I'm  
22 slower than most, as I stated.

23 You indicated -- I saw the -- that  
24 you did a declaration for some attorneys in  
25 this Velasquez case.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: And that when you first  
3 did the declaration, the last paragraph -- the  
4 first declaration, which was dated August 3,  
5 2012 -- so this wasn't -- this was this month.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

7 MR. PATTON: You said in the first  
8 version that in 2011 I was asked to come in  
9 for an interview with Jennifer Comilang of the  
10 Department of Parks and Corrine Lee Murphy of  
11 the AG's office.

12 MS. TAYLOR: Right. That was --

13 MR. PATTON: That was actually 2012,  
14 correct?

15 MS. TAYLOR: That was -- yeah, that  
16 was 2012, yeah.

17 MR. PATTON: "They asked if I was  
18 aware of any inappropriate use of funding by  
19 Mr. Lopez. I told them that I was aware of  
20 the underreporting of funds, but that was  
21 directed by Mr. Lopez not" -- "but that was  
22 directed by Mr. Lopez not to report this  
23 information." Just what you told us today --

24 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

25 MR. PATTON: -- other than we've got

1 the date --

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

3 MR. PATTON: -- hammered down a  
4 little better. "I also told them about Ms.  
5 Evans-Jones reporting a twenty million dollar  
6 surplus to Mr. Lopez." That's the other  
7 surplus we talked about first, right?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

9 MR. PATTON: Not the undisclosed  
10 twenty million?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

12 MR. PATTON: Okay. "And the budget  
13 toom (ph.) I think being time" -- "budget" --  
14 "and that the budget" -- I think that should  
15 be "turned out to be accurate and that Mr.  
16 Lopez nonetheless directed Ms. Evans-Jones to  
17 be removed from her out-of-class position."  
18 So "toom" is not a word. I think that must  
19 have been --

20 MS. TAYLOR: Probably --

21 MR. PATTON: -- turn.

22 MS. TAYLOR: -- yeah, it's probably  
23 turn.

24 MR. PATTON: But you didn't type  
25 this up yourself?

1 MS. TAYLOR: No.

2 MR. PATTON: Who typed this up for  
3 you?

4 MS. TAYLOR: The attorney.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay. Did you review  
6 it first?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, I did.

8 MR. PATTON: I notice that there's  
9 typos constantly, I mean a bunch of words that  
10 don't exist. Did you look at that?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I read it. I  
12 probably read it fast.

13 MR. PATTON: Okay. I was just  
14 curious. I mean, I was -- but I mean, you  
15 didn't type it?

16 MS. TAYLOR: No.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay. So then there's  
18 an amended declaration, and I guess your --  
19 the first declaration you actually -- this  
20 says, in paragraph 13 of my July 31  
21 declaration, this --

22 MS. TAYLOR: Looks like the one's  
23 missing.

24 MR. PATTON: Yeah, it looks like the  
25 one's missing.

1 MS. TAYLOR: The statement, yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: It's got July 3, but I  
3 think it means to be 31 --

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

5 MR. PATTON: -- because there's a  
6 space there, right --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

8 MR. PATTON: -- that's not filled  
9 in. All right. This says, "in paragraph 13  
10 of my July 31 declaration" -- see exclamation  
11 point. I'm just -- I'm amazed when I look at  
12 this document. It had some --

13 MS. TAYLOR: Somebody sent this from  
14 an attorney?

15 MR. PATTON: Yeah. I mean, I  
16 just -- I don't quite understand, and  
17 there's -- there -- here it is again.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, God. He's going to  
19 make me look at that.

20 MR. PATTON: Yeah. Put your glasses  
21 on.

22 MS. TAYLOR: I can't see.

23 MR. PATTON: "They asked me if,  
24 exclamation point, was aware." And I think  
25 the exclamation point meant to be a space

1 capital I.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, yeah, yeah.

3 MR. PATTON: "They asked me if" --  
4 we'll just read it that way -- "I was  
5 aware" --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

7 MR. PATTON: -- "of any  
8 inappropriate use of funding by Mr. Lopez. I  
9 told them that I was aware of the  
10 underreporting of funds but that I was  
11 directed by Mr. Lopez not to report this  
12 information. I also told them about Ms. Evans  
13 reporting a twenty million dollar surplus" --  
14 oh, now we got the budget turn about the D.  
15 We're getting better. We're no longer at  
16 toom. We got T-U-R-N-E. "The budget turne  
17 out to be accurate" --

18 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh.

19 MR. PATTON: -- "and that Mr. Lopez  
20 nonetheless directed Ms. Evans-Jones to be  
21 removed from her out-of-class position."  
22 Okay. "After reviewing my appointments and  
23 e-mail correspondences, I recalled the  
24 interview I had with Ms. Comilang and Ms.  
25 Murphy occurred in April of 2012 and not

1 2011."

2 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

3 MR. PATTON: That's good. That's  
4 right. That's April 12. We got the  
5 transcript.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Yep.

7 MR. PATTON: And then you say, "I  
8 also had a meeting on" -- cap O -- "on or  
9 about January of 2012 with an individual who I  
10 recall told me they were from the Department  
11 of Justice."

12 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

13 MR. PATTON: "The individual called  
14 me on the phone while was at work." Was it a  
15 he or she?

16 MS. TAYLOR: It was a she.

17 MR. PATTON: Oh, called while you  
18 were at work?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay. -- "while was at  
21 work" -- while you were at work?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum. Right, while I  
23 was at work.

24 MR. PATTON: -- "and we spoke at  
25 length about whether or not former Deputy



1 Director Manuel Lopez would have access to  
2 funds that were in the department's budget  
3 without going through the legislature. I  
4 provided this individual with the information  
5 they requested and explained the budget in  
6 great detail in order to answer their  
7 questions. I also" --

8 MS. TAYLOR: Like I did you today.

9 MR. PATTON: Yeah. It's good.  
10 You're very -- I appreciate your cooperation.

11 "I also advised this individual that  
12 I was aware that funds were being  
13 underreported but that I was directed by Mr.  
14 Lopez not to report" -- with a cap O -- "this  
15 information. I recall the timing and content  
16 of this -- this conversation because it  
17 happened within day of the governor's 2012  
18 budget being released."

19 See what I mean about typos?

20 MS. TAYLOR: After they PDF'd it, it  
21 looks like that because I don't remember  
22 having that many typos in it.

23 MR. PATTON: Well, this is just what  
24 I'm getting. This was what was filed.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

1 MR. PATTON: How -- did you -- first  
2 of all, what caused you to do an amended  
3 declaration?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Because I realized the  
5 year was wrong.

6 MR. PATTON: Oh, okay.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

8 MR. PATTON: When you reviewed it,  
9 you were getting ready to execute it?

10 MS. TAYLOR: No. Actually, they  
11 asked me if I had backup documents to prove  
12 that there was a meeting, and I was able to  
13 find the meeting notice and all of that.

14 MR. PATTON: With Jennifer  
15 Comilang --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: -- and Murphy?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, and then --

19 MR. PATTON: And so you found out,  
20 and then you figured out it was 2012?

21 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

22 MR. PATTON: You looked at your  
23 calendar?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

25 MR. PATTON: And so then you -- and

1 you were looking at this getting ready to  
2 execute the prior version?

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

4 MR. PATTON: And so you saw that the  
5 2011 was wrong?

6 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

7 MR. PATTON: What caused you then to  
8 do this additional thing of recalling that  
9 there was a telephone conversation?

10 MS. TAYLOR: You know, because the  
11 attorney had asked me before, which I told her  
12 I don't even remember what day it was, and I  
13 didn't remember a name, because she had asked  
14 me about it before, and she said, well, we  
15 didn't put it in your first declaration. I  
16 still don't remember who it is or when it was.  
17 So she was -- I think she was just trying to  
18 see if I had, like, any more e-mail notes or  
19 phone logs or anything, which I don't. I have  
20 nothing to go on with that because I didn't --  
21 I spoke to the person that one day, and then  
22 that was it.

23 MR. PATTON: So I'm real curious,  
24 because I like having access to any records of  
25 anything --

1 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

2 MR. PATTON: -- that's been said on  
3 this. And this one gets hazy to me because I  
4 don't know who the person would have been.

5 MS. TAYLOR: And I don't remember  
6 either.

7 MR. PATTON: Where -- so you said --  
8 a minute ago you just said you don't remember  
9 the date.

10 MS. TAYLOR: It was -- like I said,  
11 it was around January because I remember it  
12 was right before the Jan budget came out  
13 because I was trying to explain, like with  
14 you, what the process is for the Jan 10, and  
15 it came out like that week after I had the  
16 conversation. So I don't remember who it was.

17 MR. PATTON: You -- when you say "it  
18 came out," you mean the governor's release?

19 MS. TAYLOR: The Jan 10 budget,  
20 um-hum.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay. And someone was  
22 asking you if Manny Lopez -- and this is sort  
23 of the part that's interesting to me -- would  
24 have access to funds that were in the  
25 department's budget without going through the

1 legislature.

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

3 MR. PATTON: So somebody was  
4 interested, I think, in whether Manny Lopez  
5 was possibly spending any money that is  
6 weren't appropriated?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Right, correct.

8 MR. PATTON: Now, the person who you  
9 spoke with, did you call them or they called  
10 you?

11 MS. TAYLOR: They called me.

12 MR. PATTON: And where were you?

13 MS. TAYLOR: At my desk.

14 MR. PATTON: At work?

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: At Caltrans?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: And was it a man or a  
19 woman?

20 MS. TAYLOR: It was a woman.

21 MR. PATTON: It was a woman.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

23 MR. PATTON: Now, when you met with  
24 Ms. Comilang and Murphy in April, I mean sort  
25 of like I did, they pretty clearly identified

1 who they were, right?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: Did this person you  
4 spoke to on phone identify who they were?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Probably. I just don't  
6 remember. It was a phone call I took, and I  
7 probably just answered it and then got off the  
8 phone.

9 MR. PATTON: Hmm.

10 MS. TAYLOR: And I looked through  
11 all my phone numbers, and I just -- I can't  
12 remember who it was, which is what I told  
13 them; I don't remember.

14 MR. PATTON: What makes you think  
15 that it was someone at the Department of  
16 Justice?

17 MS. TAYLOR: It may not have been.  
18 It might have been somebody involved in this  
19 other investigation. I -- that's what I told  
20 them; I don't remember.

21 MR. PATTON: Somebody involved in  
22 this other investigation. Which one is that?

23 MS. TAYLOR: No, I'm -- the  
24 investigation that Jennifer and --

25 MR. PATTON: On the vacation leaves?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, yeah.

2 MR. PATTON: Okay.

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

4 MR. PATTON: When you talked with  
5 Ms. Murphy and Ms. Comilang, they identify who  
6 they were with?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

8 MR. PATTON: Ms. Murphy identify  
9 herself as a Deputy Attorney General?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: She give you her  
12 business card?

13 MS. TAYLOR: When she came to visit  
14 me, yes --

15 MR. PATTON: Okay. And did Ms.  
16 Comilang identify who she worked with?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MR. PATTON: And do you recall who  
19 she works with?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Parks.

21 MR. PATTON: She's an attorney with  
22 the Parks Department.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: Was there anybody else  
25 at that interview?

1 MS. TAYLOR: No, just the three of  
2 us.

3 MR. PATTON: There was not an Angela  
4 Nowicki there?

5 MS. TAYLOR: No.

6 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you're not  
7 really sure who the person you talked to on  
8 the phone was from?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Nope.

10 MR. PATTON: How did you come up in  
11 this declaration with this statement that "who  
12 I recall told me they were from the Department  
13 of Justice"?

14 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know if they  
15 asked me had I spoke to anyone else. I just  
16 really don't remember how we got to that  
17 conversation.

18 MR. PATTON: They asked you, you  
19 mean the attorneys who were --

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: -- having you do this  
22 declaration?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: Is it possible they  
25 suggested Department of Justice?



1 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, no, no.

2 MR. PATTON: Because you don't  
3 really remember --

4 MS. TAYLOR: And that's what I told  
5 them.

6 MR. PATTON: -- where this person  
7 was from.

8 MS. TAYLOR: I said I don't even  
9 really remember where they were from, yeah.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Don't remember a name,  
12 it was a phone call, and like I said, it was  
13 just one day. It was a very long  
14 conversation, but I kind of put it out of my  
15 head.

16 MR. PATTON: So in January, on this  
17 phone, you had a long conversation?

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

19 MR. PATTON: And you have no note  
20 about who?

21 MS. TAYLOR: No.

22 MR. PATTON: Because this is kind of  
23 sensitive stuff --

24 MS. TAYLOR: I know.

25 MR. PATTON: -- that you're talking

1 about, right?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

3 MR. PATTON: You realize that?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

5 MR. PATTON: I mean, I've told you  
6 at the outset it's confidential investigation,  
7 don't discuss it --

8 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

9 MR. PATTON: -- other than with --

10 MS. TAYLOR: I am pretty sure, but I  
11 hate to say because I don't have any notes, at  
12 least I found the stuff on Jennifer and those  
13 guys --

14 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

15 MS. TAYLOR: -- that the person said  
16 that they were from the AG's office. I know  
17 it wasn't somebody from Parks --

18 MR. PATTON: Well, that's --

19 MS. TAYLOR: -- because I would have  
20 remembered.

21 MR. PATTON: The female that you  
22 spoke with on the phone --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. And I'll tell  
24 you why I wouldn't have talked to somebody  
25 from Parks, because originally Jennifer called

1 me from Parks, and I refused to talk to her.  
2 And she called me and she called me and she  
3 called, and I didn't return her phone calls.  
4 I only returned the phone calls when Corrine  
5 called and said she was from the AG's office.  
6 I didn't return Jennifer's phone calls.

7 MR. PATTON: When did you first meet  
8 or speak with Ms. Murphy? She obviously  
9 interviewed you on April 12. Did you talk  
10 with her before then?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Probably a week or two  
12 before because they had been trying to call me  
13 for like, I don't know, maybe two or three  
14 weeks, and I wouldn't return Jennifer's phone  
15 calls because I knew she was from Parks, so I  
16 wouldn't call her back. And I didn't call  
17 Jennifer back. I called -- after Corrine  
18 called and said she was from the AG's office,  
19 I did call her back.

20 MR. PATTON: Interesting. Well, we  
21 can't figure it out.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

23 MR. PATTON: And you indicated a  
24 second ago you really don't recall.

25 MS. TAYLOR: And that's what I told

1     them.  I went and looked.  They ask me to look  
2     at my e-mail and which it wouldn't have been  
3     an e-mail because the person called me.  I  
4     looked, I looked for a name.  I tried to go  
5     back to my phone log, and I didn't write  
6     anything down.

7             MR. PATTON:  All right.

8             MS. TAYLOR:  Yeah.

9             MR. PATTON:  Interesting.  All  
10     right.  Well, I -- it is what it is.

11            MS. TAYLOR:  Yeah.

12            MR. PATTON:  We know of no such --  
13     see, when we do an interview --

14            MS. TAYLOR:  Um-hum.

15            MR. PATTON:  -- like this, as you  
16     can tell, we make a record.

17            MS. TAYLOR:  Yeah, yeah, I see.

18            MR. PATTON:  Okay.  So it's very --  
19     I'm very curious who you might have talked to.

20            MS. TAYLOR:  All right.

21            MR. PATTON:  I have my doubts that  
22     it was someone here.

23            MS. TAYLOR:  Well, I'm wondering.  I  
24     don't know if I can get phone records from  
25     Caltrans to see who called me during that

1 week.

2 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

3 MS. TAYLOR: I mean, yeah, because I  
4 get lots of phone calls. I mean, I just  
5 never --

6 MR. PATTON: You know what, if  
7 that's possible --

8 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know.

9 MR. PATTON: -- do that, and let me  
10 know.

11 MS. TAYLOR: I'll check.

12 MR. PATTON: Because if somebody  
13 from here actually did talk to you --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Well, whoever it is.

15 MR. PATTON: -- I'd like -- yeah,  
16 I'd be interested to know.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Okay. I'll find out.

18 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

19 MS. TAYLOR: I'll find out.

20 MR. PATTON: And we don't -- see, we  
21 don't normally -- in a matter like that, and  
22 also we had -- it was right about that time  
23 that we -- from my understanding, I wasn't the  
24 person who did the investigation --

25 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

1 MR. PATTON: -- but it was right at  
2 about that time, it was sometime in January  
3 that we got the request to do that  
4 investigation or be involved in to assist  
5 actually the Park's Department.

6 MS. TAYLOR: Okay. I'll see what I  
7 can --

8 MR. PATTON: So I'm very curious.

9 MS. TAYLOR: I'll see what I can  
10 find out --

11 MR. PATTON: Yeah. All right.

12 MS. TAYLOR: -- see if they have  
13 phone records back that far.

14 MR. PATTON: All right. Yeah. And  
15 this person didn't record it, whoever you  
16 spoke to on the phone?

17 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know.

18 MR. PATTON: You don't recall them  
19 telling you they were going to record it?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Don't even member, no,  
21 I don't.

22 MR. PATTON: Because, see, when  
23 someone -- if they're on the phone in this  
24 state and a recording is going to be made --

25 MS. TAYLOR: They have to say --

1 MR. PATTON: -- you're supposed to  
2 be informed. Yeah.

3 MR. MATTSON: It's against the law  
4 the record someone unless you're a peace  
5 officer --

6 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, okay.

7 MR. MATTSON: -- conducting an  
8 investigation.

9 MR. PATTON: And you have the  
10 authority -- you have legal authority to do  
11 a --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

13 MR. PATTON: -- wiretap and to  
14 record a conversation.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Oh.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay? Yeah. We don't  
17 record conversations without people knowing.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Acknowledging.

19 MR. PATTON: And we don't do these  
20 kind of interviews -- an investigative  
21 interview unless we're recording it.

22 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

23 MR. PATTON: Anyways, whatever.

24 MS. TAYLOR: Uh-huh. I'll see what  
25 I can find out.

1 MR. PATTON: I appreciate it.  
2 So -- all right. So you told  
3 Manny -- you were told -- you watched him  
4 change the number. You were told, we're not  
5 going to -- we're not reporting what Marilyn  
6 Evans-Jones came up with.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

8 MR. PATTON: And so she got -- did  
9 she get demoted when Manuel was unhappy with  
10 her workup of the numbers?

11 MS. TAYLOR: She was in an  
12 out-of-class, so he had me remove her from her  
13 out-of-class.

14 MR. PATTON: Oh, okay.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

16 MR. PATTON: And so she went back to  
17 her SSM2 --

18 MS. TAYLOR: 1.

19 MR. PATTON: -- 1 work.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

21 MR. PATTON: Okay. And do you know  
22 where she is today? She still working there?

23 MS. TAYLOR: No. She went to  
24 another department. I can't think of the name  
25 of it right now.



1 MR. PATTON: Okay.

2 MS. TAYLOR: So he demoted her, and  
3 I had to remove her from the job. I moved her  
4 to another job.

5 MR. PATTON: We heard something  
6 about another thing occurring which was that  
7 there was some monies that were being  
8 generated through automated pay machines and  
9 park showers --

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: -- and that some of  
12 those monies, rather than being reported as  
13 revenue, were being -- a portion of those were  
14 being placed in a reimbursement account from  
15 where they would not revert --

16 MS. TAYLOR: Hmm.

17 MR. PATTON: -- and they could be  
18 freely expendable. Do you know anything about  
19 that?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Not really. That's  
21 something probably -- again, might be  
22 something that Mary Velliquette has in her  
23 reports or Dorothy from Accounting because  
24 that's an accounting thing, that's not a  
25 budget thing.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay.

2 MS. TAYLOR: That's an accounting  
3 maneuver, not budget process.

4 MR. PATTON: Do you -- have you  
5 ever -- do you -- did you look at the Off  
6 Highway Vehicle account at all when you were  
7 in your position as Budget Officer?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Yes, because you have  
9 to do fund condition statements on all of  
10 them.

11 MR. PATTON: Did -- were any similar  
12 concerns ever brought to your attention about  
13 disparities in reports in the OHV account?

14 MS. TAYLOR: No.

15 MR. PATTON: No? Okay. We have --  
16 Finance has also given us a spreadsheet for  
17 the Off Highway Vehicle fund going back to  
18 '98.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

20 MR. PATTON: And numbers -- this is  
21 the adjusted balance, this forty-five million  
22 in fiscal year ending June 30, '98.  
23 Forty-five million is the adjusted balance  
24 reported to Controller.

25 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

1 MR. PATTON: 7.9 million is what  
2 was --

3 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

4 MR. PATTON: -- in the governor's  
5 budget for a difference of an underreport of  
6 thirty-seven million --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

8 MR. PATTON: -- to the Department of  
9 Finance and governor.

10 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

11 MR. PATTON: And then we look across  
12 here, and we see an underreport of twenty-two  
13 million for FY ending '99, and then we spike  
14 up to forty-eight million underreported in  
15 '00, thirty-nine in '01, and then all of a  
16 sudden, we reverse course and we have a  
17 thirty-four-and-a-half million dollar  
18 overreport. Thirty-four-and-a-half million  
19 more is reported to the governor than in the  
20 financial statement --

21 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

22 MR. PATTON: -- to the Controller.  
23 And then --

24 MS. TAYLOR: I wonder if they did  
25 some kind of offset there.

1 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

2 MS. TAYLOR: That's what it looks  
3 like.

4 MR. PATTON: We don't know. We  
5 haven't analyzed -- we haven't gotten enough  
6 detail -- enough intelligence yet to know  
7 everything that went in here. And then for a  
8 few years, we're very close to being the same  
9 within a couple of million dollars at the  
10 most. And then all of a sudden, we're back  
11 to -- this is actually a thirty-five million  
12 dollar overreport in the fund condition  
13 statement --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

15 MR. PATTON: -- to Finance, a  
16 thirty-one million overreport. And then we're  
17 back to close, and then we're at a twenty  
18 million overreport, and then last year a 33.4  
19 million dollar underreport.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Wow.

21 MR. PATTON: You never seen anything  
22 like that? Have you ever seen numbers showing  
23 the --

24 MS. TAYLOR: No.

25 MR. PATTON: -- disparities --

1 MS. TAYLOR: No.

2 MR. PATTON: -- in the OHV  
3 reporting?

4 MS. TAYLOR: No, but you do know  
5 that the governor borrowed money from the OHV  
6 fund either '08-'09 or '09-'10?

7 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

8 MS. TAYLOR: So I don't know if  
9 that -- and I want to see it was -- it was a  
10 huge number, not ninety million, but it was  
11 pretty high.

12 MR. PATTON: Okay.

13 MS. TAYLOR: And they've taken a  
14 couple of loans, and some of those might have  
15 been where they paid back loan, that was  
16 before my time, but that might be what you're  
17 seeing with the OHV.

18 MR. PATTON: Well, that's a good  
19 tip.

20 MS. TAYLOR: But I'm not sure.  
21 Yeah.

22 MR. PATTON: There were monies  
23 borrowed from it. We've also heard something  
24 about some gas tax swap dollars going into it,  
25 perhaps erroneously basically. Yet, I haven't

1     been able to make much heads or tails out of  
2     these wildly disparate numbers, and I'm  
3     waiting for more information out of Finance  
4     who's analyzing. But I wondered if you knew  
5     anything. It doesn't sound like you've ever  
6     studied these and seen --

7             MS. TAYLOR: No.

8             MR. PATTON: Yeah.

9             MS. TAYLOR: I knew about the loans,  
10     but other than that, OHV, no, I never  
11     really --

12            MR. PATTON: So --

13            MS. TAYLOR: -- heard it.

14            MR. PATTON: -- you knew about --  
15     you found out about the underreport in '08,  
16     that there was twenty something plus million  
17     not being reported in the fund condition  
18     statement regarding SPRF?

19            MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

20            MR. PATTON: Did -- nobody ever said  
21     to you how long that might have dated back to?

22            MS. TAYLOR: Well, Dorothy did.

23            MR. PATTON: What did she say?

24            MS. TAYLOR: She -- well, she just  
25     said when Becky was here. She didn't tell me

1 exactly how long. She just told me there used  
2 to be this memo which --

3 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

4 MS. TAYLOR: -- looks like they were  
5 actually e-mails.

6 MR. PATTON: Yeah. Showing some  
7 disparity?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Right.

9 MR. PATTON: But you and Dorothy  
10 didn't discuss specific numbers?

11 MS. TAYLOR: No. I knew what they  
12 were because I saw her year-end closing  
13 statements. I knew -- that's why she was  
14 concerned. She knew there was more cash.

15 MR. PATTON: You saw Dorothy's  
16 year-end closing?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

18 MR. PATTON: You knew what they were  
19 currently?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

21 MR. PATTON: You didn't look at the  
22 history.

23 MS. TAYLOR: No, no, just the years  
24 that I was working there.

25 MR. PATTON: Okay. So you -- this

1 is the first time you've seen a view going  
2 back --

3 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I've never seen  
4 one like that, yeah.

5 MR. PATTON: Have you -- do you stay  
6 in touch with anybody at Parks?

7 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, I'm still in  
8 contact with quite a few people that work over  
9 there. Most of them -- actually, the staff  
10 and stuff, I still talk too them.

11 MR. PATTON: Yeah. Who did you get  
12 to know pretty well over there?

13 MS. TAYLOR: Oh, everybody, Dorothy.  
14 I mean, our management group was pretty close;  
15 we were pretty close.

16 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

17 MS. TAYLOR: So Dorothy, Alan  
18 Friedman who's no longer there.

19 MR. PATTON: What was his job?

20 MS. TAYLOR: He was the head of IT.  
21 He was our IT manager. I know quite a few  
22 people over there: Roy, Sedrick. So I know  
23 quite a few people over there, and I still see  
24 them at La Bou. We all run into each other  
25 for lunch and stuff. So I still see quite a



1 few people. I'm only like two blocks up from  
2 where they are so --

3 MR. PATTON: The only conversation  
4 that you've indicated today that you had with  
5 anybody that specifically discussed a  
6 disparity in what was being reported in the  
7 SPRF account to Controller and governor -- the  
8 only people you specifically discussed this  
9 with you -- as you've told me today are  
10 Marilyn Evans-Jones who came to you with the  
11 information --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

13 MR. PATTON: -- Manny Lopez who you  
14 and Marilyn went to with that information --

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: -- and, I think,  
17 Dorothy Kroll.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

19 MR. PATTON: And you indicated you  
20 can't recall it ever being specifically  
21 discussed with Michael Harris or Ruth Coleman.

22 MS. TAYLOR: We would have never  
23 discussed fund condition statement with  
24 Michael and Ruth. I wouldn't. That would not  
25 be my role.

1 MR. PATTON: Okay. And were you --  
2 and you were never in a meeting with other  
3 people where this specific disparity was  
4 discussed?

5 MS. TAYLOR: No, not the fund  
6 condition statement.

7 MR. PATTON: The disparity between  
8 the Controllers and --

9 MS. TAYLOR: No. Oh, no, no, not  
10 an -- no, not in executive meetings.

11 MR. PATTON: So you know of no  
12 conversation where any other Deputy Director  
13 was present where this was specifically  
14 discussed?

15 MS. TAYLOR: No, no.

16 MR. PATTON: Do you know of any  
17 other financial reporting irregularities that  
18 we ought to be aware of?

19 MS. TAYLOR: No, I can't think of  
20 anything.

21 MR. PATTON: Was anybody doing  
22 anything that looked irregular are regard to  
23 reporting encumbrances, creating something --

24 MS. TAYLOR: Well, Dorothy talks  
25 about -- or talked about before I got there,

1 the programmatic encumbrances --

2 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

3 MS. TAYLOR: -- which are high-level  
4 encumbrances.

5 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

6 MS. TAYLOR: So I've heard about  
7 those. They weren't doing them when I got  
8 there, but Dorothy did talk about -- because I  
9 think -- I guess, with the high-level  
10 programmatic encumbrances, there's no document  
11 to tie them to.

12 MR. PATTON: Uh-huh.

13 MS. TAYLOR: But for Dorothy to  
14 close the books out, you have to actually find  
15 something to charge to that encumbrance or it  
16 just stays there, and after the third year, it  
17 liquidates. So it sounded like it was always  
18 a problem for the accounting office because  
19 then Dorothy was made to figure out how to tie  
20 documents back to that -- the higher-level  
21 encumbrance.

22 MR. PATTON: So Dorothy talked with  
23 you about this?

24 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

25 MR. PATTON: So you were aware that

1 she had some concerns with that?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

3 MR. PATTON: But it's not something  
4 that you had to deal with?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, because we didn't  
6 do programmatic encumbrances when I was there.

7 MR. PATTON: Okay. And you can't  
8 think of anything else that caused you concern  
9 that ought to be -- that we ought to be made  
10 aware of?

11 MS. TAYLOR: That's money related?

12 MR. PATTON: Any -- anything  
13 related.

14 MS. TAYLOR: I'm just thinking.

15 MR. PATTON: Anything related.  
16 Personnel actions, hirings.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I'm a little  
18 reluctant to say stuff because a lot of it  
19 probably is hearsay. Being a part of the  
20 management staff, I am aware of a lot of  
21 things that were going on near that -- I don't  
22 want to talk about stuff that I didn't hear  
23 directly. But yes, I've heard conversations  
24 about other things like that but --

25 MR. PATTON: Like what?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Well, I've heard about  
2 people being hired maybe inappropriately how  
3 some people got their jobs.

4 MR. PATTON: More than one person?

5 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 MR. PATTON: There -- are there any  
7 particular hires that come to mind that you  
8 were told -- that you heard were a little bit  
9 suspicious?

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: Would you please give  
12 me the names of the hires that you're -- that  
13 you were told --

14 MS. TAYLOR: Well, David Saxby is  
15 one.

16 MR. PATTON: His own hire?

17 MS. TAYLOR: His own hire.

18 MR. PATTON: Okay.

19 MS. TAYLOR: He was a retired  
20 annuitant. I hired him as a retired annuitant  
21 and --

22 MR. PATTON: As a what?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Research Analyst 2.

24 MR. PATTON: Okay. To work on the  
25 budget side?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MR. PATTON: So he was working for  
3 you?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Yes. And then he --

5 MR. PATTON: What year did you hire  
6 him?

7 MS. TAYLOR: God.

8 MR. PATTON: You came in in '08,  
9 early '08.

10 MS. TAYLOR: '09 --

11 MR. PATTON: Okay.

12 MS. TAYLOR: -- I guess. I can't  
13 remember how long, so he came to work for me,  
14 and then Manuel pulled him over with him. He  
15 came out of retirement. They appointed him as  
16 a 3. We didn't have a 3.

17 MR. PATTON: A what 3?

18 MS. TAYLOR: A Staff Service Manager  
19 3.

20 MR. PATTON: Okay.

21 MS. TAYLOR: That's how he came back  
22 in, and then he got his CEA.

23 MR. PATTON: As the Assistant Admin  
24 Director?

25 MS. TAYLOR: Yep. And I wasn't --

1 I'm not a personnel person, so that paperwork  
2 would have been done by the lady who was the  
3 personnel officer, Debbie Yu (ph.), and Jason  
4 Summers would have did that paperwork.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay.

6 MS. TAYLOR: And I know he hired his  
7 son-in-law.

8 MR. PATTON: "He" who?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Dave Saxby --

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: -- in my shop, but he  
12 never came to work for me. He works in IT.

13 MR. PATTON: And what's that  
14 person's name?

15 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know his  
16 son-in-law's name because it's not Saxby; it's  
17 something else. I don't know his son-in-law.

18 MR. PATTON: Any other hires?

19 MS. TAYLOR: Not that I can think of  
20 right off the top of my head.

21 MR. PATTON: So the name Paul Furry,  
22 does that ring a bell?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Maybe that's his  
24 son-in-law.

25 MR. PATTON: That is his son-in-law.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

2 MR. PATTON: He didn't work for you?

3 MS. TAYLOR: He never worked for me,  
4 but I understand he was hired in the budget  
5 shop. Never saw him. Never met him. Don't  
6 know him.

7 MR. PATTON: Were you aware that he  
8 went to work in the IT section?

9 MS. TAYLOR: I knew -- yes, I have  
10 heard that IT hired somebody.

11 MR. PATTON: Is IT part of the  
12 budget shop?

13 MS. TAYLOR: No, but we were all  
14 under Manuel.

15 MR. PATTON: Under Admin Services?

16 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MR. PATTON: Okay. So when you say  
18 "into my shop," you mean Admin Services?

19 MS. TAYLOR: I mean he was hired in  
20 a budget position that I did not have --

21 MR. PATTON: Oh.

22 MS. TAYLOR: -- but he reported to  
23 IT.

24 MR. PATTON: Oh, okay. So he filled  
25 a budget position under your budgeted



1 umbrella?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Right, which I did not  
3 have any vacant budget positions when he was  
4 hired.

5 MR. PATTON: Okay. So a position,  
6 to your understanding, was created --

7 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

8 MR. PATTON: -- that reflects it's  
9 in the budget part --

10 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

11 MR. PATTON: -- when, in fact, that  
12 assignment was sent over IT.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. PATTON: And what do you know  
15 about whether or not that's a legitimate thing  
16 to do?

17 MS. TAYLOR: Well, it's not  
18 legitimate. You're not supposed to create  
19 positions without budget authority.

20 MR. PATTON: Oh, you need budget  
21 authority to do something?

22 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah, unless you have  
23 a vacant position somewhere that you're moving  
24 it around.

25 MR. PATTON: Do you know that some

1 sort of position was created that was not  
2 authorized?

3 MS. TAYLOR: I'm telling you I did  
4 not have a vacant Staff Service Manager 1.

5 MR. PATTON: And all of a sudden,  
6 there was one in your position -- in your  
7 shop.

8 MS. TAYLOR: I was told that  
9 somebody was hired in my shop that I never  
10 met.

11 MR. PATTON: In an SM1 position --

12 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

13 MR. PATTON: -- that you didn't  
14 have.

15 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

16 MR. PATTON: All right.

17 Interesting. And then they're working at IT.

18 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

19 MR. PATTON: Someone's hired into  
20 your shop into a position that you don't have  
21 but apparently all of a sudden you do, and  
22 they're working in IT.

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yes.

24 MR. PATTON: I guess I don't  
25 understand how that -- why you would even do

1 that. Why not -- if you're grabbing or  
2 creating out of whole cloth an SM1 position  
3 and you want the person to work in IT, why not  
4 have that position reflected as being in IT?

5 MS. TAYLOR: I have no clue.

6 MR. PATTON: Why would you reflect  
7 it in Budget?

8 MS. TAYLOR: Have no clue why he was  
9 hired that way.

10 MR. PATTON: Okay.

11 MS. TAYLOR: Wasn't part of the  
12 process.

13 MR. PATTON: All right. Have you  
14 talked to anybody since around the -- around  
15 April, I think was, around April-May when this  
16 vacation buyout investigation was coming to a  
17 conclusion? I think our report on that was  
18 issued May 1.

19 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

20 MR. PATTON: And sometime around  
21 that time -- maybe it was a month or so later  
22 that story came out about this undisclosed  
23 SPRF money. That sound about right? What I  
24 want to know is who you've talked to at Parks  
25 about this undisclosed SPRF money story.

1 MS. TAYLOR: Probably just Dorothy.

2 MR. PATTON: When did -- when have  
3 you talked with Dorothy about this?

4 MS. TAYLOR: Gosh, I don't know.  
5 I'm trying to think. Honestly, when the  
6 article came out in the paper, everybody was  
7 calling me, so --

8 MR. PATTON: Who called you?

9 MS. TAYLOR: Everybody, everybody.

10 MR. PATTON: Ruth call you?

11 MS. TAYLOR: Well, no. Ruth didn't  
12 call me.

13 MR. PATTON: Michael Harris?

14 MS. TAYLOR: People that worked in  
15 my shop did.

16 MR. PATTON: Michael Harris call  
17 you?

18 MS. TAYLOR: No, Michael didn't call  
19 me. Other people called me just --

20 MR. PATTON: Manny Lopez?

21 MS. TAYLOR: -- to see if I was  
22 okay. People just called to see if I was  
23 okay.

24 MR. PATTON: Did Manny Lopez call  
25 you?

1 MS. TAYLOR: No, he did not.

2 MR. PATTON: Who called you to see  
3 if you were okay?

4 MS. TAYLOR: People that worked for  
5 me over there. Dorothy, Marilyn who works at  
6 the other department now. That's it because I  
7 really haven't talked to anybody other -- in  
8 administrative staff. Alan's retired, so  
9 probably Dorothy called to check on me.  
10 Marilyn called to check on me. I think that's  
11 it. I haven't talked to anybody else that  
12 works in that area.

13 (Pause)

14 MR. PATTON: Did you go to -- when  
15 did you leave? You said you were there for  
16 '08, '09, and '10.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

18 MR. PATTON: You left in -- at the  
19 end of '10?

20 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I started at  
21 Caltrans in January so --

22 MR. PATTON: Of 2011?

23 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

24 MR. PATTON: I thought it was  
25 Dorothy -- you say you have talked to Dorothy?

1 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

2 MR. PATTON: And I thought it was  
3 Dorothy -- I'm looking for my note on that,  
4 and I'm not seeing it right at the moment,  
5 although I know I made a note.

6 You may have a note, Michael.

7 But I thought Dorothy told us that  
8 she had spoken with Cheryl and that Cheryl had  
9 said to Dorothy, yes, Ruth knew. Did you talk  
10 with Dorothy and have a conversation about  
11 whether or not Ruth knew?

12 MS. TAYLOR: Probably the same thing  
13 I told you, they all had to have known, just  
14 from, again, my assumption of all the  
15 information we knew.

16 MR. PATTON: Okay.

17 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah.

18 MR. PATTON: You didn't have any  
19 different conversation with Dorothy about the  
20 basis for why you'd come to the conclusion  
21 Ruth and Michael --

22 MS. TAYLOR: Other than be in the  
23 meetings, same thing I told you guys, just the  
24 meetings that I attended and, again, the  
25 conversations about maintaining the match.

1 MR. PATTON: Maintaining the  
2 sixty-forty --

3 MS. TAYLOR: Um-hum.

4 MR. PATTON: -- General Fund SPRF --

5 MS. TAYLOR: Correct.

6 MR. PATTON: -- ratios. I'm going  
7 to let Michael look at his notes for a second.

8 So what else should I have asked of  
9 Cheryl Taylor?

10 MS. TAYLOR: God, I don't know.  
11 What do you want to know? Let this be my last  
12 interview. What else do you want to know that  
13 you think I might have knowledge of from  
14 working over there?

15 MR. PATTON: I'm hoping we've  
16 covered everything that --

17 MS. TAYLOR: We've talked about how  
18 the budget's built, why do I make the  
19 assumption of who know what and when. Talked  
20 about the experiences, his volatile  
21 temperament. Talked about the hiring.

22 MR. PATTON: You never met or talked  
23 to Becky Brown?

24 MS. TAYLOR: No.

25 MR. PATTON: Did you ever meet or

1 talk with Freda Luanne Dunne?

2 MS. TAYLOR: Who's that? Don't know  
3 her.

4 MR. PATTON: That's it. All right.  
5 I think that's it. Let me give you my card,  
6 and if you think of anything else --

7 MS. TAYLOR: I don't know if I want  
8 to talk to you again, Tom.

9 MR. PATTON: Why not?

10 MS. TAYLOR: You're pretty tiring.

11 MR. PATTON: Me? I promise any  
12 future conversations should be a lot shorter.

13 MS. TAYLOR: Yeah. I don't know.  
14 Is that true?

15 MR. PATTON: Yeah.

16 MS. TAYLOR: Is he --

17 MR. PATTON: And --

18 MR. MATTSON: No, the subsequent  
19 interviews are always shorter.

20 MS. TAYLOR: Shorter.

21 MR. MATTSON: Always, because  
22 there's specifics so --

23 MS. TAYLOR: Okay.

24 MR. MATTSON: Yes.

25 MR. PATTON: So it's 4:33, and we're



1 going to go off the record. And we thank you  
2 so much for your time.

3 (End of audio)

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[& - account]

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[inadequate - know]

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