

Testimony of Darlie Kee

DIRECT EXAMINATION

25 BY MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS:
Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5603

1 Q. Ms. Kee, would you please introduce
2 yourself to the jury and tell them who you are.

3 A. My name is Darlie Kee and I am the
4 mother of Darlie Lynn Routier.

5 Q. Where do you live now?

6 A. I live in Plano, Texas.

7 Q. How long have you lived in Plano?

8 A. Since 1993.

9 Q. What do you for a living?

10 A. I work as an executive assistant to a
11 VP at Ericsson Incorporated in Richardson.

12 Q. What kind of company is Ericsson?

13 A. Telecommunications. They build
14 switches for mobile phones.

15 Q. And how long have you worked for that
16 company?

17 A. Seven years.

18 Q. Is it safe to characterize your
19 position as a managerial or administrative position?

20 A. Like office management, yes.

21 Q. Okay. And, how long -- you use to
22 live in Lubbock; is that right?

23 A. That is correct.

24 Q. And prior to Lubbock, where did you
25 live?

Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5604

1 A. Pennsylvania.

2 Q. And, coming from Pennsylvania to
3 Lubbock you brought Darlie with you; is that right?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. You have how many children?

6 A. I have three daughters. I have
7 Danielle Stahl who is 14 years old, and I have Dana Stahl
8 who will be 17 at the end of this month.

9 Q. Now, does Danielle live with you?

10 A. Yes, she does.

11 Q. Does Dana?

12 A. Yes, she does.

13 Q. Before we go any further, can you
14 describe first, Darlie, your daughter, for the jury.

15 A. Darlie is a very kind, sweet person.
16 She is a very good mother.
17 I am not judging you for what your
18 opinion is. I'm telling you, I know her better than
19 anybody else in this world.
20 I don't agree with your verdict and we
21 will continue to support her and fight her. We have not
22 chosen Darlie over these two little boys. They were my
23 grandbabies, Devon and Damon. I watched them being born,
24 along with Drake.
25 If I thought she was capable of doing
Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5605

1 this --

2

3 MR. GREG DAVIS: I'm sorry. If we
4 could just have this as question and answer, please.

5 THE COURT: Ma'am, if you could please
6 just answer the questions, please?

7 THE WITNESS: Okay.

8

9 BY MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS:

10 Q. Darlie, you have believed in, and have
11 had faith and confidence in your daughter from the
12 beginning?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. And you understand, and you were in
15 the courtroom when the verdict was read, and you
16 understand that all we can do is move forward?

17 A. That is correct.

18 Q. And is your confidence, and your
19 faith, and your belief in Darlie, the same as it was
20 before Saturday?

21 A. Absolutely.

22 Q. Okay. Describe for the jury the
23 relationship between Dana and Danielle and Darlie.

24 A. She was almost like a second mother to
25 them because of the age difference. A lot of times when
Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5606

1 I traveled in my business, they would go over to her
2 house, or I went to Sweden this year, so she came to my
3 house and stayed with Danielle even though Danielle is
4 14. She just felt like Danielle needed someone there
5 rather than take her out of school and down to the farm.
6 We have a farm also.

7 Q. So she was not only big sister, but
8 many times she was a stand-in mom, is that right?

9 A. Oh, yes, she was. A very good one.
10 She taught me to be a better grandmother. She really
11 did.

12 Q. What do you mean by that?

13 A. I just think that when they were
14 growing up, you know, I had to -- I was thinking more of
15 my career than I was of all this special moments that I
16 have been able to enjoy with them now, because Darlie
17 always took time with Devon and Damon and Drake. And she
18 would play with them, you know, and on the living room
19 floor, and cut out crafts and she did special things at
20 the school. She was kind to everybody. She is a very
21 good person.

22 Q. Was she devoted to her children?

23 A. Very much so. I have never seen her
24 harm the children ever.

25 Q. Did you ever see her use, what you
Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5607

1 considered to be an inappropriate method or way to
2 discipline the children?

3 A. Never. Never.

4 Q. With respect to what lays before us in
5 the decision of this jury, you know it means the
6 difference between life in prison and execution. You're
7 aware of that?

8 A. Yes, I am.

9 Q. Do you have anything that you want to
10 say to the ladies and gentlemen of the jury as to that
11 issue?

12 A. From June 6th, this family has endured
13 hell on earth. It has been horrible. I don't think any
14 of you can imagine what we have been through. We have
15 not accepted the death of Devon and Damon nor what has
16 happened with Darlie.

17 We have to deal with that. I have two
18 other daughters out there that will be in counselling for
19 years over this. And I am asking you, if you have any
20 compassion, do not put her to death because she did not
21 do this.

22

23 MR. S. PRESTON DOUGLASS: Pass the
24 witness.

25 MR. GREG DAVIS: No questions.

Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5608

1 THE COURT: Thank you very much for
2 coming, ma'am. We appreciate it.

3 Ma'am, I need to tell you this. When
4 you are not testifying, please remain outside the
5 courtroom. Don't discuss your testimony with anybody who
6 has testified. In other words, don't compare it. You
7 may talk to the attorneys for either side. If someone
8 tries to talk to you about your testimony, please tell
9 the attorney for the side who called you.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 THE COURT: Your next witness.

12 MR. DOUGLAS MULDER: Judge, I missed a
13 point with Darin Routier. If you will send him back.

14 THE COURT: Happy to recall him.

15 Let's bring Mr. Routier back in, please.

16 In the meantime, we will take a 10

17 minute break.

18

19 (Whereupon, a short
20 recess was taken, after
21 which time, the
22 proceedings were
23 resumed in open court,
24 in the presence and
25 hearing of the

Sandra M. Halsey, CSR, Official Court Reporter
5609

1 Defendant, being
2 represented by his
3 Attorney, as follows:)
4

5 THE COURT: All right. Everybody
6 ready?

7 MR. GREG DAVIS: Yes, sir, we are
8 ready.

9 MR. DOUGLAS MULDER: We are ready.

10 THE COURT: All right. Bring the jury
11 back in.