

**Drew Peterson Trial 2012 - Murder of Kathleen Savio
People of the State of Illinois v. Drew Peterson (09CF-1048)
Will County, Joliet, Illinois**

**Patrick Collins Testified August 29, 2012
“Defense Witness”**

**A Personal Collection of Found Materials ("as is")
(Note: This is “not” an official legal court transcript)
(Dialog spacing done below for format and reading ease)**

08/29/2012: Defense Attorney Steve Greenberg on direct examination

In Session

<https://www.facebook.com/InSession>

August 29 at 11:15am

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The jurors enter the courtroom.

The defense calls its first witness of the day:

Illinois State Police Sgt. Patrick Collins (questioned by attorney Greenberg).

In Session

He previously testified as a prosecution witness.

“I just want to tie up some things about your investigation . . . were you involved in the case after the original investigation in 2004?”

“Yes.”

“When did you stop being involved as an investigator?”

“What case are we talking about? I was involved most of the time, yes, Sir.”

“Did you go out and interview witnesses in 2007, 2008?”

“I can’t recall, but I assume I did.”

August 29 at 11:15am · Like · 11

In Session

The witness is shown a photo of Kathleen Savio (taken by Nick Pontarelli).

“Did you get that photo in the course of your investigation, in 2004?”

“I don’t remember it.”

“You never had a chance to talk to Nick Pontarelli in 2004?”

“Never spoke to the son.”

“You knew he had been there that night?”

“Right.”

“You didn’t know he had taken a container of orange juice and put it back in the refrigerator that night?”

“I never spoke to Nick Pontarelli.”

August 29 at 11:18am · Like · 7

In Session

The witness identifies a photograph of the Savio home.

“Have you and I had a chance to talk about your testimony today?”

“No.”

“Is that how the house appeared when you were there that night?”

“Yes.”

“Can you tell what lights are on in what room?” Objection/Overruled.

“I see a light on, but I cannot testify as to what room that is.”

The witness is then shown another photo of the Savio house, followed by a photo of Savio’s bedroom..

“That’s just another picture of what the house looked like?”

“Yes.”

“This is the photo of the Pontarelli home and the Savio home?”

“I can’t recall whose [sic] house that is on the right . . . those pictures were taken by the crime scene tech . . . he had taken pictures prior to me getting there . . . in case we have to testify in court, to bring back our memories.”

“Did you ever go back to that house?”

“That night, yes.”

“Ever go back any other time?”

“That I can’t recall.”

“But you did go back that night?”

“Yes, to inform Drew Peterson’s supervisors that we would have to talk to him.”

August 29 at 11:23am · Like · 8

In Session

“Recall anyone bringing anything unusual to your attention?”

“No.”

“That’s the entrance to the master bedroom?”

“Yes, Sir.”

“Do you recall the cat? See those beady little eyes there?”

“No.”

“The pictures are taken to preserve what’s there?”

“Yes, Sir.”

August 29 at 11:23am · Like · 8

In Session

“See this lamp? Nothing appears to be broken there?”

“No.”

“And there appears to be stacks of things on that dresser, like that mirror?”

“Yes, I see the items you just mentioned.”

“Remember the flowers close to the bed?”

“I can’t remember, but evidently they were there.”

“You didn’t see any broken flowers, anything that looked like it had been grabbed at, torn away?”

“No.”

“And the other stuff didn’t seem like it had been moved?”

“It wasn’t scattered like it had been knocked over, anything like that.”

August 29 at 11:25am · Like · 5

In Session

Another picture of the bedroom is projected.

“Nothing unusual there?”

“No.”

The witness says only he, Ofc. Deel and Ofc. Falat were with him when he was inside the house.”

“Did you see anyone in there when you first arrived?”

“No.”

“Do you recall if there were things hanging on the wall in that bedroom?”

“I looked for the obvious: things that might have been twisted, turned around . . . things on top of the dressers, pictures on the wall. Things like that.”

August 29 at 11:28am · Like · 6

In Session

The next photograph shows Savio’s body in the bathtub.

“The only people who took pictures were the state police that night?”

“It was crime scene investigator Deel.”

The next photograph shows “the things that are next to the tub. Did you look for signs of a struggle around the tub?”

“Yes.”

August 29 at 11:29am · Like · 6

In Session

“You didn’t see anything that appeared to be moved?”

“I can’t say if it was put back. But at the time, it didn’t appear to be knocked over.”

“Did you look for broken pieces of ceramic?”

“Yes, Sir.”

“You didn’t find any broken ceramics, or anything like that?”

“No.”

“Looked around for things that might show signs of a struggle?”

“Yes.”

August 29 at 11:30am · Like · 7

In Session

The witness is now shown a photograph of Savio’s kitchen.

“Have you seen this picture before?”

“No.”

“When you were preparing for this case, they didn’t show you this picture?”

“No.”

The defense then asks for a sidebar.

August 29 at 11:32am · Like · 6

In Session

The sidebar ends.

The witness is then shown a photograph of Savio's body.

"There appears to be white tape around her wrists, and then paper sacks, like lunch bags, over her hands?"

"Yes . . . based on the fact that might have been a struggle, she might have something under her nails."

"So it's following procedure to bag her hands?"

"Yes."

"To preserve fingernail evidence?"

"That was my first homicide. So it was a learning experience for me. I assume that's what they do."

"So if anything comes off the hands, it's saved in the bags?"

"Yes."

August 29 at 11:37am · Like · 5

In Session

"You spoke to Mr. Peterson, right?"

"Yes, I interviewed him."

"At the police station?"

"Yes."

"He told you he'd been home all day Saturday?"

"Yes."

The witness is handed a copy of his report, which he skims through.

"Did he ever use the word 'Sunday' when he said he had gone to work that weekend?"
Objection/Overruled.

"I can't recall that statement."

August 29 at 11:39am · Like · 2

In Session

"You had a canvas done of the neighborhood?"

"Yes . . . to see if we can obtain any additional information that might assist in our investigation."

"By my count, 24 different people were spoken to in that neighborhood?"

"I can't recall that number . . . if that report reflects that number of people, I'll defer to it."

August 29 at 11:41am · Like · 8

In Session

The prosecution objects, and asks for a sidebar.

August 29 at 11:41am · Like · 8

In Session

The sidebar ends.

Using his report, Sgt. Collins confirms that 24 people were canvassed at the time in question.

"In that canvas, did you learn that anyone had observed anything unusual?"

"The agents reported nothing unusual to me."

As part of his investigation, he obtained the phone records of Steve Maniaci, Drew Peterson, and Kathleen Savio for that day.

"Mr. Maniaci suggested you talk to some other people, and you talked to those people?"

"Not me personally, but other people maybe."

"The Bolingbrook police officers who arrived before you did prepared reports, and you reviewed those reports?"

"Yes."

“Agents spoke to them?”

“Yes.”

“And you spoke to Steve Carcerano that night?”

“Yes.”

“Mary Pontarelli?”

“Yes.”

“Tom Pontarelli?”

“Yes.”

“Did you have agents go back and talk to them again?”

“Eventually they were re-interviewed.”

“And all those reports were eventually given to you?”

“Yes.”

“The locksmith and EMTs were interviewed?”

“Yes.”

“Any physical evidence collected by Deel was submitted for testing?”

“He would have submitted it. But the only thing I can recall are the pictures.”

“The autopsy was reviewed by you?”

“Yes.”

“You didn’t get any calls from anyone who was a friend of Miss Savio’s, did you?”
Objection/Sustained.

“Did you get any calls from anyone alerting you to problems between Ms. Savio and Mr. Peterson, during the course of your 2004 investigation?”

“No.”

August 29 at 11:47am · Like · 6

In Session

The defense asks for a sidebar.

August 29 at 11:48am · Like · 5

In Session

The sidebar ends.

The judge calls a brief recess, and leaves the bench.

The trial is currently in recess.

August 29 at 11:49am · Like · 5

In Session

The parties are heading into the courtroom.

We should be resuming shortly.

August 29 at 12:00pm · Like · 7

In Session

Judge Burmila is back on the bench.

He sends for the jury.

August 29 at 12:09pm · Like · 9

08/29/2012: Prosecutor Chris Koch on cross examination

In Session

The jurors are now back in the courtroom, and attorney Greenberg announces that he has completed his direct examination of ISP Sgt. Patrick Collins.

Prosecutor Koch then begins his cross.

“You don’t know how the house looked prior to your arrival?”

“That’s correct.”

“You did not take these photographs?”

“That’s correct.”

“Sgt. Deel uses a flash when he takes photograph?”

“I would assume that.”

August 29 at 12:11pm · Like · 11

In Session

The witness repeats that Savio’s hands were bagged to collect any possible evidence.

“You know that sometimes the hands are bagged and yet no evidence is collected?”

“Correct.”

August 29 at 12:13pm · Like · 9

In Session

Sgt. Collins repeats that he was looking for signs of a struggle at Savio’s house.

He is shown a photograph.

“There’s a can of carpet cleaner?”

“Yes.”

“You said you looked at this photo and didn’t notice any pictures knocked down?”

“Yes.”

“There is something knocked down on that dresser, like a picture that’s knocked down?”

“It’s down in that picture.”

“You were asked about regarding the people who went into the house and found Ms. Savio that night?”

“Yes.”

“And then you were asked if they were ever re-interviewed?”

“Yes.”

“It wasn’t until the case was reopened that they were interviewed again?”

“Yes.”

“That was several years later?”

“Yes.”

“Did you talk to them when this case was reopened?”

“No.”

August 29 at 12:15pm · Like · 13

08/29/2012: Defense Attorney Steve Greenberg on redirect examination

In Session

That concludes the cross-examination.

Greenberg begins his redirect.

“When there’s a struggle, sometimes there’s evidence an sometimes there’s not?”

“Yes.”

“And there were no signs that night that Ms. Savio had been in a struggle?”

“No.”

“Did you see signs of a struggle on Mr. Peterson?” Objection/Sustained.

The defense asks for a sidebar.

August 29 at 12:18pm · Like · 8

In Session

The sidebar ends.

“When you spoke to Sgt. Peterson, you looked at him?”

“Yes.”

“You didn’t see any signs of a struggle on him, either, right?”

“As far as I can see, no.”

August 29 at 12:19pm · Like · 6

In Session

The witness is shown a photograph of Savio’s bedroom.

“Did you see any broken glass there?”

“No.”

“Would you have noted that somewhere?”

“Yes.”

August 29 at 12:19pm · Like · 6

In Session

“If there had been anything unusual about those items, would the crime scene investigator have taken a photograph?”

“I assume he would.”

That ends the redirect examination of Sgt. Collins.

August 29 at 12:20pm · Like · 5

In Session

The State has no recross for this witness.

He is excused, and leaves the stand.

August 29 at 12:20pm · Like · 6

In Session

There is a new thread

August 29 at 12:24pm · Like · 1
