FBT-CR20-0336785-T : SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT : JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF BRIDGEPORT

v. : AT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

NICHOLAS ROBERT HALL : FEBRUARY 21, 2025

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE PETER A. MCSHANE, JUDGE AND JURY

## APPEARANCES:

Representing the State of Connecticut:

ATTORNEY KELLY E. DAVIS
ATTORNEY ELENA M. PALERMO
Office of the Chief State's Attorney
300 Corporate Place
Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067

Representing the Defendant:

ATTORNEY ROBERT M. BERKE Law Office of Robert Berke, LLC 640 Clinton Avenue Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605

## APPEARANCES:

ILEANA LOPEZ- VICTIM'S ADVOCATE

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THE COURT: All right. We're on the record on State of Connecticut versus Nicholas Hall. Parties are not present. I -- I told them they don't have to This is a case in which the jury has been deliberating. This is now onto the third day -- not full day, but third day.

They all showed up as promised at about 9:30, 9:40, and they're back there deliberating at 9:45. The evidence, the information, all the things they need are back there. They're ready to go. So, we'll go off the record. We'll recess for now and call upon when needed. Thank you. Recess.

(Court in Recess.)

THE COURT: Good morning, everyone. Please be seated. Can I have notes, please? I had counsel in chambers to notify them. We have Court's Exhibits 32 32 reads as follows: we have a verdict. We and 33. are completing the interrogatories. Thank you, singed the foreperson.

Next note was -- you know, relatively soon thereafter, said, Your Honor, the interrogatories are completed, signed by the foreperson.

Anybody want -- needs to be heard at this time or anything?

ATTY. DAVIS: No, Your Honor.

ATTY. BERKE: No.

THE COURT: Okay. I will say this. I didn't

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say it earlier. We're on the record, State of

Connecticut versus Nicholas Hall. The parties are

present. Mr. Hall is here. I will say this, ladies

and gentlemen. It -- it -- it's -- it's an emotional

trial. I get it. I've been here also throughout.

Everybody has been, ladies and gentlemen, throughout,

and I ask that they remain.

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We have a lot of marshals here that will escort you out if there is any -- anything above the norm of what we've had so far, which is, calm, cool, and collected. So please, keep your, emotions at check, and we'll bring in the jury. Thank you, Marshal.

(Jury Panel enters the Courtroom.)

THE COURT: Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, we received two notes for you. Did I get them back to you? Will counsel stipulate to the presence of the jurors?

ATTY. DAVIS: State stipulates?

ATTY. BERKE: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. We received two notes for you. The first of which, indicated you had a verdict. The second indicated you were complete with the interrogatories. So, you know, at -- at this point of -- of it, since you haven't been through it, I'll tell you.

My role is -- is very minimal. The star of the show will be the clerk, so I'm going to ask at this

1	time if you pay attention to Madam Clerk. And thank
2	you for sitting in front of the microphone, that
3	makes a big difference. This is what you're going to
4	realize you got paid the big bucks, so to speak, to
5	be the foreperson. So if you could, please.
6	THE CLERK: Okay. Members of the jury, as your
7	names are called, please answer here, rise and remain
8	standing. Patrick Russell?
9	JUROR: Here.
10	THE CLERK: Cole Mariyappa?
11	JUROR: Here.
12	THE CLERK: Lesha Negron?
13	JUROR: Here.
14	THE CLERK: Robert Darken?
15	JUROR: Here.
16	THE CLERK: Walter Mayorga.
17	JUROR: Here.
18	THE CLERK: And William Wong.
19	JUROR: Here.
20	THE CLERK: Members of the jury with the
21	foreperson state his or her name for the record?
22	THE FOREPERSON: Lesha Negron.
23	THE CLERK: Members of the jury, in the case
24	of State of Connecticut versus Nicholas Hall, docket
25	number FBT-CR20-0336785-T, by way of your foreperson,
26	have you agreed upon verdicts?
27	THE COURT: Can you answer out loud, please?

1 THE CLERK: The -- the foreperson. 2 THE COURT: They're all nodding in the affirmative. 3 4 THE CLERK: Will the defendant Nicholas Hall 5 please stand and face the jury. Count one. Madam Foreperson, is the defendant 6 7 quilty or not quilty of the crime of sexual assault 8 in the first degree, in violation of section 53a-70a 2 of the Connecticut General Statutes of which he now 9 stands accused in the first count of the State's 10 substitute information? 11 12 THE FOREPERSON: Not quilty. 1.3 THE CLERK: Madam Foreperson is the defendant 14 quilty or not quilty of the crime of sexual assault 15 in the first degree, in violation of section 53a-70(a)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes of which 16 17 he now stands accused in the second count of the State's substitute information. 18 19 THE FOREPERSON: Guilty. 20 THE CLERK: Madam Foreperson, is your finding 2.1 yes or no that the State has proved all of the -- to 2.2 all of you, beyond a reasonable doubt, that on or 23 about diverse dates from December 2018 through May 2.4 2020, LT was under 10 years of age? 25 THE FOREPERSON: Yes. 26 THE COURT: Do you want the interrogatory? 27 THE CLERK: Yeah.

1 THE COURT: Marshal, if you can get the 2 interrogatory or -- thank you. 3 THE CLERK: All right. Count three. 4 Foreperson, is the defendant guilty or not guilty of 5 the crime of sexual assault in the fourth degree, in violation of section 53a-73a(a)(1)(a) of the 6 7 Connecticut General Statute of which you now stands 8 accused in the third count of the State's substitute 9 information? 10 THE FOREPERSON: Guilty. THE CLERK: Madam Foreperson, is the finding yes 11 12 or no that the State has proven to all of you beyond 13 a reasonable doubt, that on or about diverse dates 14 from December 2018 through May 2020, LT was under 13 15 years of age? 16 THE FOREPERSON: Yes. 17 THE COURT: I have it. 18 THE CLERK: Oh, you have it. Oh. You have all 19 of them. Sorry. All right. 20 Count four. Madam Foreperson, is the defendant 2.1 quilty or not quilty of the crime of risk of injury 22 to a minor, in violation of section 53-21a2 of the 23 Connecticut General Statutes, of which she now stands accused in the fourth count of the State's substitute 2.4 25 information? 26 THE FOREPERSON: Not guilty. 27 THE CLERK: Count five. Madam Foreperson, is

the defendant guilty or not guilty of the crime of risk of injury to a minor, in violation of section 53-21(a)(2) of the Connecticut General Statues of which he now stands accused in the fifth count of the State's substitute information? THE FOREPERSON: Guilty.

THE CLERK: Madam Foreperson, is the -- is it your finding, yes or no, that the State has proven to all of you beyond a reasonable doubt that on or about diverse states from December 2018 through May 2020, LT was under 13 years of age?

THE FOREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: I have it.

THE CLERK: Okay.

Count six. Madam Foreperson, is the defendant quilty or not quilty of the crime of risk for injury to a minor in violation of section 53-21(a)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes of which he now stands accused in the sixth count of the State's substitute information?

THE FOREPERSON: Guilty.

THE CLERK: Madam Foreperson is it your finding, yes or no, that the State has proven to all of you beyond a reasonable doubt, that on or about diverse dates from December 2018 through May 2020, LT was under 13 years of age.

THE FOREPERSON: Yes.

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1 THE CLERK: Your Honor, is the verdict accepted 2 and ordered recorded? 3 THE COURT: So ordered. Thank you. 4 THE CLERK: Members of the jury, listen to your 5 verdict as accepted and ordered recorded by the 6 Court. 7 Count one. In the first count of the State's 8 substitute information, you, upon your oath, do 9 unanimously say that the defendant is not guilty of 10 sexual assault in the first degree. Members of the jury, is that your verdict so say you all? 11 12 JURY PANEL: Yes. 13 THE CLERK: Count two. In the second count of 14 the State's substitute information, you, upon your 15 oath, do unanimously say that the defendant is guilty 16 of sexual assault in the first degree. Members of 17 the jury, is that your verdict so say you all? 18 JURY PANEL: Yes. 19 THE CLERK: You upon your oaths, do unanimously 20 say, that on or about diverse states from December 21 2018, through May 2020, LT was under 10 years of age. 22 Members of the jury, is that your answer so say you 23 all? 2.4 JURY PANEL: Yes. 25 THE CLERK: In the third count of the State's 26 substitute information, you upon your oath, do

unanimously say that the defendant is guilty of

1 sexual assault in the -- in the fourth degree. 2 Members of the jury, is that your verdict so say you 3 all? 4 JURY PANEL: Yes. 5 THE CLERK: You, upon your oath, do unanimously say that on or about diverse dates from December 2018 6 7 through May 2020, LT was under 13 years of age. 8 Members of the jury, is that your answer so say you 9 all? 10 JURY PANEL: Yes. THE CLERK: Count four. In the fourth count of 11 12 the State's substitute information, you, upon your 13 oath, do unanimously say that the defendant is not 14 quilty of risk of injury to a minor. Members of the 15 jury, is that your verdict so say you all? 16 JURY PANEL: Yes. 17 THE CLERK: Count five. In the fifth count of 18 the State's substitute information, you, upon your 19 oaths, do unanimously say that the defendant is quilty of risk of injury to a minor. Members of the 20 21 jury, is that your verdict so say you all? 22 JURY PANEL: Yes. 23 THE CLERK: You, upon your oath, unanimously say 2.4 that on or about diverse states from December 2018 25 through May 2020, LT was under 13 years of age. 26 Members of the jury, is that your answer so say you

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all?

1 JURY PANEL: Yes. 2 THE CLERK: Count six. In the sixth count of 3 the State's substitute information, you upon your 4 oaths, do unanimously say that the defendant is 5 guilty of risk of injury to a minor. Members of the 6 jury, is that your verdict so say you all? JURY PANEL: Yes. 7 8 THE CLERK: You upon your oaths -- unanimously 9 say that on or about diverse dates from December 2018 10 through May 2020, LT was under 13 years of age? JURY PANEL: Yes. 11 12 THE CLERK: Members of the jury, is that your 13 verdict so say you all? 14 JURY PANEL: Yes. 15 THE CLERK: Thank you. 16 THE COURT: Thank you. You may be seated 17 everyone. I'll ask the parties, anything further 18 with the jury at this time? 19 ATTY. BERKE: No. 20 ATTY. DAVIS: Nothing from the State. 21 THE COURT: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to thank you in public, but I'm also going to 22 23 go back and talk to you later on. I have 2.4 certificates for each and every single one of you. 25 But, you know, I -- I said this from day one, and --26 and I -- I truly mean it, and I get choked up every 27 time I say it. Our system of justice depends on an

1 active citizenry. Because of all of you, you have 2 guaranteed a -- a right to a trial by jury, and, you 3 know, both sides appreciate that. And I -- I am your 4 biggest fan. 5 So I want to have you go in there. I just got a 6 -- a couple matters -- for the last time, you're 7 going to go into your room. But I've -- I've got 8 some matters to address with counsel, and I'll be 9 right in with your certificates, and personally, 10 thank you each for your jury service. Thank you. (Jury Panel exits the Courtroom.) 11 12 THE COURT: We have to continue the matter for 13 sentencing. At this time, we'd like to go out 12 14 weeks for the presentence investigation. That brings 15 us to the second week in May. Is that right? Or the 16 third week in May? Third -- third week in --17 THE CLERK: Week of May 19th. 18 THE COURT: -- third week in May. So it's --19 the 19th is -- is the Monday through the -- the Friday 20 is the 23rd. As of right now, I have that open. That'll be -- that'll change. So, any day there --2.1 ATTY. DAVIS: It doesn't matter to the State. 22 23 THE COURT: -- Attorney Burke? 2.4 ATTY. BERKE: I don't have my calendar with me, 25 but I can address that if --26 THE COURT: All right. 27 ATTY. BERKE: -- we need to.

1 THE COURT: So, what we'll do is, I'm just going to set it for Wednesday the  $21^{st}$ . That would be at 10 2 3 a.m. Is it okay with the --4 VA -- Yes, Your Honor. 5 THE COURT: -- the -- I could say it now, victim's family? Okay. All right. Anything further 6 at this time? 7 8 ATTY. DAVIS: State's going to ask for a bond 9 increase at this time. The -- the presumption of 10 innocence is gone, the defendant has been convicted of four of the six counts, and there are mandatory 11 12 minimums out of at least three of those counts. 13 the State's going to ask for a significant bond 14 increase. 15 THE COURT: Okay. What is the present bond, and 16 are -- are there protective orders in the file? 17 THE CLERK: Yes. There -- the present bond in 18 this matter is 250,000 dollars that has been posted, 19 and there are protective orders in this matter. 20 THE COURT: Okay. Attorney Berke, would you like to be heard? 2.1 22 ATTY. BERKE: Your Honor, as the Court's aware, 23 this matter has been pending for a number of years. 2.4 It's my understanding that there have been no issues 25 regarding the compliance with the protective orders. 26 There's been no issues with his appearance in court.

As the Court has seen, he typically is here before I

am every day. Not only is he here in the morning, every time the Court reconvenes, he's typically sitting here before I am.

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I do not think he's a risk of flight. It's a significant bond. As the Court has seen throughout the entire trial he has extraordinary family support, and his family has been with him driving him down to court for this extended period of time.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. The defendant is, as the State indicated, no longer cloaked in the presumption of innocence. He's been found guilty. Guilty by a jury of his peers, a -- jury that he helped select. But, Attorney Berke has certainly pointed out, the obvious, which is what I would have considered. That is, family support and other matters under our Practice Book we consider in the setting of bond.

I recognize, as -- as the State has indicated, that there is mandatory minimum time involved here on three of the counts. Actually four -- four of the counts, there -- there is mandatory minimum time, and his -- exposure is significant, given the fact that he's now looking at 70 years. It's a little bit different when you walk in here as a -- a suspect and then, you get, handcuffs on you and then you become a defendant. And now, it -- it's -- it's a different description of you. It's -- it's convicted.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 is not one that pertains to GT. 17 18 you are correct. 19 20 21 22 23 2.4 25 know who they are. 26 You are to stay away from their house or

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So, I  $\operatorname{\mathsf{--}}$  I  $\operatorname{\mathsf{I}}$  -- I feel as though the bond should be increased, if anything, to -- to demark the significance of the jury finding. A jury that -that worked very hard. This is day three of deliberation. They asked for some playback, and they -- they -- they've been working. They've been here since nine o'clock yesterday morning right until close of business day. And this morning, they came in at 9:30 until the verdict came in at about 11:15. So, a bond increase is -- is necessary in this. But I'm only going to increase the bond by 250,000 for a total of 500,000 dollars. What is the present protective orders that apply to LT, GT? ATTY. DAVIS: I believe there's one in place right not for LT, and one for her sister, ST. There THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. Madam Prosecutor, Sir, I'll remind you that -- I -- I think the language in here will apply to GT as well, that you are not to have any contact. You -- first of all, you're to surrender any firearms and ammunitions. You're not to assault, threaten, abuse, harass, follow, interfere, or stalk ST, and LT. You clearly

wherever they shall live, and you should have no

1 contact with any manner, not in writing, not in -- in 2 person, not through a third party, that is anyone who 3 reaches out to them, will -- it will be assumed that 4 it came from you. You are to stay 100 yards away from 5 them, and you are not to go to where they reside. 6 So, that being said, we'll continue the matter, and -- as indicated. 7 8 ATTY. DAVIS: The State was going to --9 THE COURT: Go ahead. 10 ATTY. DAVIS: The State was going to ask for an in court only posting of the bond, because the State 11 12 would ask for electronic monitoring or GPS monitoring if -- he does live out of state. So the State would 13 14 ask for those conditions if he posts bond. 15 THE COURT: That's reasonable. The -- the Court 16 is to be put -- made in Court only. The bond will be 17 posted in Court only. Nothing further? We stand 18 adjourned. Thank you, Marshal. 19 (Court adjourns, then reconvenes.) 20 THE COURT: Good afternoon, everyone. Please be seated. We're back on the record in State of 21 22 Connecticut versus Nicholas Hall. Mr. Hall is 23 present. The parties are present. It's my 2.4 understanding he's going to make bond. 25 ATTY. BERKE: Yes. 26 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to add an

additional condition of a GPS, which, it's been -- I

1	know he does not live in state, but apparently it's
2	been approved or it's it's an approved
3	practice, I should say. And that GPS is to be worn
4	on you at all times. It's an it's an ankle
5	bracelet. It's to be charged, fully charged at all
6	time, and you should be have a phone with you
7	fully charged at all time.
8	And it's your responsibilities if for some
9	reason you don't, it'll show up as a violation,
10	you'll be back here in court. Anything further?
11	ATTY. DAVIS: Nothing further.
12	ATTY. BERKE: Your Honor, (Indiscernible)
13	THE COURT: Are you (Indiscernible)
14	working?
15	I have a question for you.
16	THE COURT: Yes?
17	I don't recall in the past that they placed the
18	GPS in this building, I think you have to do at the
19	GA. Is that still the process?
20	THE CLERK: No. They'll come here.
21	ATTY. BERKE: Okay.
22	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
23	ATTY. BERKE: So, do you know where?
24	THE CLERK: They'll
25	ATTY. BERKE: I'm sorry, Your Honor.
26	THE CLERK: Oh.
27	THE COURT: Where will they do it?

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                THE CLERK: They'll do it on the Second Floor.
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           In the --
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                THE COURT: Second Floor.
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                THE CLERK: -- (Indiscernible) -- he won't be
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           released until they hook him up. So, he'll be --
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                ATTY. BERKE: Okay.
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                THE CLERK: -- with -- with the Marshal.
 8
                ATTY. BERKE: Okay. Thank you.
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                THE COURT: Okay. Is he working right now?
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                ATTY. BERKE: Not right now.
                THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, I'm not
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           going to put any conditions on other than the -- the
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           -- the GPS.
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                THE CLERK: So no curfew? Or anything?
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                THE COURT: No -- no curfew. No.
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                THE CLERK: Okay.
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                THE CLERK: So GPS --
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                ATTY. DAVIS: The protective orders?
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                THE COURT: Oh. The -- the protective orders
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           remain in effect, and --
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                ATTY. BERKE: Yes. That's our understanding.
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                THE COURT: -- he -- he's been made aware of
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           that. Hold on one more -- a couple more things.
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                THE CLERK: PSI.
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                THE COURT: PSI, I didn't order. Which I -- I
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           thought I did, but I -- apparently I didn't. So it's
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           on that same date that -- that I continued it to, but
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1	a PSI is ordered. And that's a cash or surety bond.
2	THE CLERK: Do you want him on IPS? Or just
3	THE COURT: No. Just GPS.
4	THE CLERK: Okay. And
5	THE COURT: I apparently, IPS, they may not
6	be able to do out of state. So
7	THE CLERK: Oh. That's right. He's out of
8	state. Okay.
9	THE COURT: Thank you.
10	ATTY. BERKE: I'd like to be present for the
11	PSI, please.
12	THE COURT: What?
13	ATTY. BERKE: If that can be noted?
14	THE COURT: Oh. That thank you. I I'm
15	I'm out of practice on those. So, Counsel should be
16	notified of the interview with the client. Thank you
17	everyone. Bye now. This time adjourned. Again.
18	(End of Proceedings.)
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FBT-CR20-0336785-T : SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT : JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF BRIDGEPORT

v. : AT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

NICHOLAS ROBERT HALL : FEBRUARY 21, 2025

## 

I hereby certify the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription of the audio recording of the above-referenced case, heard in Superior Court, Judicial District of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut, before the Honorable Peter A. McShane, Judge, on the 21st day of February, 2025.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2025 in Hartford, Connecticut.

Ashlee S. Lewis Court Recording Monitor Trainee

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT : JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF BRIDGEPORT

v. : AT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

NICHOLAS ROBERT HALL : FEBRUARY 21, 2025

## ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the electronic version is a true and correct transcription of the audio recording of the above-referenced case, heard in Superior Court, Judicial District of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut, before the Honorable Peter A. McShane, Judge, on the 21st day of February, 2025.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2025 in Hartford, Connecticut.

Ashlee S. Lewis
Court Recording Monitor Trainee