



Public Integrity Unit

Case # 14-072

Interview of:

Margaret Brosko

**Louisville Metro Animal Services
special initiatives and communication
manager**



LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC INTEGRITY UNIT
OFFICIAL STATEMENT

CASE NUMBER: 14-072

Today's date is November 3, 2014 The time is 0804 hours.

This is an interview with Margaret Brosko (R/S)

This interview is being conducted at:

☒ Public Integrity Unit, 810 Barret Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204

☐ Other Location: _____

Present during this interview is;

Sgt. C. Kessinger Sgt. M. Haytham

Ms. Margaret Brosko
(Title) (Name)

- Q1 ☒ Are you aware this interview is being audio and/or video recorded?
Q2 ☒ Has anyone threatened you in order to obtain this interview?
Q3 ☒ Are you giving this interview of your own free will?
Q4 ☒ Please, state your full name, and spell your last name. What is your date of birth?
Q5 ☒ State your home address including the zip code.
Q6 ☒ Is this the same as your mailing address? (If no) Mailing address?
Q7 ☒ State your home telephone number with the area code.
Q8 ☒ State your mobile and an alternate phone number with area codes.
Q9 ☒ Are you employed?
Q10 ☒ State your employer and the position you hold there.
Q11 ☒ What is your work telephone number?
Q12 ☒ Are you aware the following interview will be a sworn statement?

PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND

Do you, Margaret Brosko, solemnly swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

I UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE OATH THAT I HAVE TAKEN.

X [Signature]
Signature

11/3/14
Date

08:06
Time

Sgt. Marcus Haytham
Witness signature

11/03/2014
Date

0807
Time

Subscribed and sworn to me by

This 3 day of November, 2014 Margaret Brosko

[Signature]
Notary Public, State at Large

Notary Public, State at Large, KY
My Commission Expires Mar. 29, 2017

My Commission Expires



LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Special Investigations Division

Public Integrity Unit

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

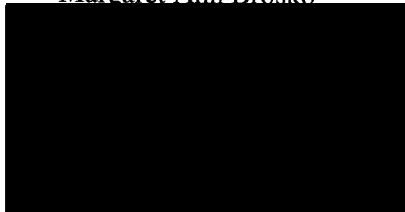


Type of Investigation Animal Cruelty/Neglect	File No. 14-072	Date of Report: November 3, 2014
Activity: Interview with Margaret Ann Brosko	Submitted By Sergeant Chad Kessinger	
	Lead Investigator: Sergeant Chad Kessinger	

INTERVIEW WITH MARGARET ANN BROSKO

On November 3, 2014, at approximately 0804 hours an interview was conducted with Margaret Ann Brosko. Mrs. Brosko is more specifically identified as:

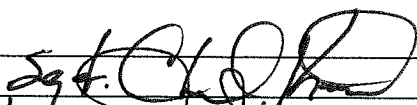

Margaret Ann Brosko



The interview was conducted at the office of the Public Integrity Unit located at 810 Barret Avenue. Also present during the interview was Sergeant Marcus Laytham. Mrs. Brosco was employed at Louisville Metro Animal Services (LMAS) as the Public Information Supervisor during the time frame of this investigation. Mrs. Brosco's interview was taken in the form of a sworn statement and the following are the key aspects of the interview:

- Assistant Director Donald Robinson was the Acting Director of LMAS in the absence of an appointed director during the time frame this investigation encompasses
- Mrs. Brosco assumed more responsibilities and roles in the absence of a director to include but not limited to grants and working with National Partners
- Mrs. Brosco confirmed email communication with Heather Adkins (individual identified as fostering Sadie) in regards to Sadie: estimated cost of surgery, Sadie being treated at Mrs. Adkins personal veterinarian and the veterinarians diagnosis that Sadie would be okay until funds could be raised for the surgery
- In December 2013, Mrs. Adkins was granted permission by Mrs. Brosco to begin raising money for Sadie's surgery
- Individuals fostering animals had unlimited access to the veterinarian staff at LMAS during normal business hours; outside normal business hours or in emergency situations they could contact dispatch in order to speak with the on call veterinarian
- The fostering party, in this case Mrs. Adkins, is responsible for the day to day care of the animal for which they are fostering
- Mrs. Adkins never brought Sadie to LMAS to be treated by the veterinarian staff
- LMAS does not conduct home visits on animals in foster care
- LMAS Foster Coordinator explains requirements and responsibilities of being a foster, additionally each foster is given a manual and are checked through LMAS database for any previous issues regarding the mistreatment of animals
- LMAS was aware Sadie had an injury, but Mrs. Adkins was not required to bring her in for evaluation and/or treatment at any time during the six month foster period

This interview was audio recorded and shall be made a part of this file.

Investigator's Signature:		11/6/2014
Supervisor's Signature:		11/6/2014

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LMPD # 05-0002 10/05.

November 3, 2014

This is Sgt. Chad Kessinger, with the Louisville Metro Police Department's Public Integrity Unit. This is gonna be an official statement in regards to Case#14-072. Today's date is November 3rd, 2014; the time is now 0804 hours. This is gonna be an interview with Margaret Brosko. This interview is being conducted at the Public Integrity Unit office, at 810 Barret Avenue, here in Louisville, Kentucky. Present during this interview is myself, Sgt. Chad Kessinger, and also Sgt. Marcus Laytham.

Kessinger	Miss Brosko, are you aware this interview is being audio-recorded?
Brosko	Yes.
Kessinger	Has anyone threatened you in order to obtain this interview?
Brosko	No.
Kessinger	Are you giving this interview of your own free will?
Brosko	Yes.
Kessinger	Please state your full name and spell your last.
Brosko	Margaret Ann Brosko...B-R-O-S-K-O.
Kessinger	And what is your date of birth, please?

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Brosko



Kessinger

Please state your home address, including the zip code.

Brosko



Kessinger

And it's the same as your mailing address.

Brosko

that is.

Kessinger

Please state your home phone number with the area code.

Brosko



Kessinger

And please state a mobile or alternate...alternate phone number with area code.

Brosko



Kessinger

And are you employed?

Brosko

Yes.

Kessinger

And please state your employer and the position that you hold there.

Brosko

Louisville Metro Government. Right now I'm a special assistant to the mayor.

Kessinger

Now what is your work telephone number?

Brosko

502-574-5549.

Kessinger

And are you aware the following interview will be a sworn statement?

Brosko

yes.

Kessinger

If you would please raise your right hand. Do you, Margaret Brosko, solemnly swear or affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Brosko

I do.

Kessinger

If you would please right here on the...next to the X, sign your name?

Brosko

Sure. (She writes.)

Kessinger

And then next to that the date please, November 3rd.

Brosko

The time as well?

Kessinger

And the time please is 806.

Brosko

Um-hmm.

Kessinger

And we're here today to discuss uh, a case in regards to Sadie. If you would, just can you tell me how you first became aware of the dog, Sadie?

Brosko

I first became aware of the dog, Sadie, when uh, one of the employees, Heather Adkins, asked me if there was anything that we could do to help a dog who had injured, who had an injured leg.

Kessinger

Okay. And when you say "injured leg"...

Brosko	Um-hmm...
Kessinger	...what, do you know what was wrong with the dog at the time?
Brosko	At that point the only information I knew is that she said that the dog may need an amputation and she said, "Do we have any options to help the dog?".
Kessinger	Okay. And at the time that Miss Adkins came to you what was your role, your responsibility at...
Brosko	...At Metro Animal Services?
Kessinger	...At Louisville Metro Animal Services? Yes.
Brosko	I was the Public Information supervisor at that time, so uh, obviously my job duties were a lot of community engagement, uh, media outreach, those types of things... Uh, also, within my role uhm, I would do different things as part of the management team.
Kessinger	Um-hmm...
Brosko	...so we had a very open style. So we all worked together. At that time uh, we did not have a director, uhm, so i was doing a little bit more in the sense of grants, uhm, working with our national partners, those types of things.
Kessinger	Okay. And in front o' me...and I'm gonna show you here in just a moment...
Brosko	...Sure...

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Kessinger

..are some emails, that I believe were between you and Miss Ward. This Le...I'm sorry...this one is from Miss Adkins.

Brosko

Okay.

Kessinger

...uh, to you. And I believe it, here it says uh, she wanted to give you her vet's number.

Brosko

Um-hmm.

Kessinger

I guess to help assist with providing medical attention for the...for Sadie? Do you recall that email?

Brosko

Yes.

Kessinger

And with that email did you ever reach out to I believe it's Dr. Pollitt?

Brosko

No, I did not.

Kessinger

Now also there was, there's an email saying there was gonna be a PR...I guess a press release with...let you look at the email here...

Brosko

...That's fine.

Kessinger

On that one she quoted, I guess \$575 to do the surgery. Correct?

Brosko

...That's correct.

Kessinger

And then you all were gonna have your own...raise funds...is that correct...through Animal Services for Sadie?

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Brosko

It was a joint fund-raiser, so initially what was talked about was there was a vet who in the past had done surgery uh, as part of a donation.

Kessinger

Um-hmm.

Brosko

Uh, unfortunately that didn't work out, so we were looking at another option. So the second option that we were gonna do is we were gonna raise funds jointly. Uh, so she said that she was able to raise funds through her family and friends...we said we would try to help as well. Uh, so at that point it was a...it was a dual campaign, if you will...

Kessinger

...Okay...

Brosko

...to raise funds.

Kessinger

And who was it joint with?

Brosko

Uh, Metro Animal Services and Miss Adkins.

Kessinger

And Miss Adkins.

Brosko

Correct.

Kessinger

Was you ever aware of the cost associated with the surgery?

Brosko

Yeah, there were two different uh, cost estimates. I think uh, initially one was like uh, 545, and then this one is 575. So...that was my understanding.

Kessinger

Now was there ever a press release done...

Brosko

...No.

Kessinger ...to raise...to raise money for Sadie?

Brosko No. We've never done that, at Metro Animal Services to raise money for an individual animal.

Kessinger Okay. Was there ever any money came in specific for Sadie, that you're aware of?

Brosko There, there was some money that came in, uh...a couple of checks came in uh, that, that were specifically to help Sadie. I believe those were from uh, people who knew Miss Adkins.

Kessinger Okay. And apparently there was an email that said Brosko was gonna push a story and it would be pro'bly pretty big. Do you recall that being said?

Brosko No, sir.

Kessinger and I believe in late December you sent an email to Heather allowing her to start raising money on her own.

Brosko That's correct.

Kessinger For, for Sadie.

Brosko Um-hmm.

Kessinger Were you ever given updates on the dog's condition throughout this?

Brosko Uh, one, one time. Uhm, I was given an update on the dog's condition. At that point I talked to Miss Adkins and uh, i asked her uh,

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what, what the condition of the dog was and uh, if there was anything that needed to be done. At that point she told me that she was going to her own personal vet, uh, and that the vet said that the dog would be okay until the money was raised for the surgery.

Kessinger

And do you know who her own personal vet would be?

Brosko

Uh, I believe it's, it's the same vet that, that she had here, uh, Stephanie Pollitt.

Kessinger

Okay. And what was the condition of the dog when she updated you on it?

Brosko

She said that the dog was tryin' to get out of its cone, uh, and...and uh, take the bandages off the leg, uhm, is what she had said, and so I asked her uhm, you know, if there, if there was anything that we needed to do and she said that she went to her vet and the vet said that it would be fine until we raised the money.

Kessinger

Okay. And I believe in December you emailed Heather Adkins and said you needed to speak with the spot board. Is...

Brosko

That she needed to speak with the spot board?

Brosko

Yeah, someone...that you were gonna speak with the spot board.

Brosko

Oh.

Kessinger

And did you ever speak with anyone on the spot board...

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Brosko ...uh, about this particular...

Kessinger ...about this dog, Sadie?

Brosko Not about this particular case. No.

Kessinger Did anyone on the spot board contact you in regards to Sadie?

Brosko Aft...they...recently.

Kessinger Oh, no, I mean during...

Brosko ...Yes...

Kessinger ...during this incident.

Brosko ...No, not till we...

Kessinger ...not recently, but...

Brosko ...No.

Kessinger ...while Sadie was in care at Louisville Metro Services or in Miss Adkins' care...did anyone from the spot board contact you?

Brosko No.

Kessinger Now do you know a of the dog ever being neglected? Did anyone ever come to you, whether Miss Adkins or anyone else from Animal Services, saying the dog was being neglected?

Brosko No.

Kessinger And who do you report to, within Animal

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Services, at the time?

Brosko

Uh, at the time Donald Robinson.

Kessinger

Did he ever come to you uh, telling you the dog was being neglected?

Brosko

No, sir.

Kessinger

Sgt. Laytham...

Laytham

You, you said at the time that you worked at Animal Services...

Brosko

Um-hmm.

Laytham

...there was no director in place?

Brosko

That's correct.

Laytham

And was there not...

Brosko

...Well, there was, but not at this particular time.

Laytham

...Was it...this...okay. Well, was there an acting director or who was the, as, I guess assuming the role, in the absence of a director?

Brosko

right. Donald would be assuming that role as assistant director.

Laytham

Okay. Now you said you also worked with the management team out there?

Brosko

Um-hmm.

Laytham

Who else did that management team consist

of?

Brosko

Uhm, the senior management team was Donald, myself, and then Justin Scally, the former director...and then otherwise, as far as the managers, uh, there's, there's supervisors in charge of each division. Uhm, so that would be Tabitha Gray, Adam Hamilton, and Amanda Ball. All of us are (inaudible) in charge of community engagement and I'm not sure at that particular time uh, Rebecca Riggs was the adoption supervisor, and I, I don't remember exactly when, when she left. I think she was there at parts of that, of those times.

Laytham

Okay. When, it's to my understanding that Sadie was out being fostered by Heather Adkins. Would that be accurate to say?

Brosko

That's correct.

Laytham

Okay. Who oversees the fostering aspect of...

Brosko

The adoption supervisor.

Laytham

The adoption, which you think was Rebecca Riggs at the time?

Brosko

Ri...right.

Laytham

Okay. Now do you have any intimate knowledge on how uh, fostering the process is up there?

Brosko

Yeah, I have a basic knowledge of, of how fos...fostering works.

Laytham

Okay. And I believe that Sadie went in to

November 3, 2014

Heather Adkins' care or foster, approximate early September. That sound...

Brosko

Correct.

Laytham

...pretty accurate?

Brosko

Um-hmm.

Laytham

Okay. Is...when you're fostering a dog uh, is there...is the vet available to the person who's fostering that dog?

Brosko

Yes, it is. So to help fosters in general, their open hours every day Monday through Friday...so if a foster has any questions or concerns they can bring the animal in to see our vet staff at any time. Uh, and then in emergency situations uh, our dispatch line uh, is open uh, I believe until 11 pm, so from like 7 in the morning till 11 pm...so if it's an emergency situation then they're instructed to call dispatch, and we have a vet that's on call, and so then that on call vet would assist the foster.

Laytham

Okay. I believe Heather...like we said, Adkins, took uh, was foster this dog early September...

Brosko

Um-hmm...

Laytham

...until it was euthanized on February 28th. That sound pretty accurate?

Brosko

Believe...believe so, yes.

Laytham

Okay.

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Brosko	Yes. It was September to February. Correct.
Laytham	Now did Miss Adkins ever bring Sadie in to be seen by the vet at Louisville Metro Animal Services during that timeframe?
Brosko	To...to my knowledge no, she did not.
Laytham	Okay. But Heather Adkins was responsible for the daily care of that dog.
Brosko	That's correct. So the dog was at Heather's uh, Heather's house...the, the entire time.
Laytham	Okay. I don't think I have anything else.
Kessinger	Okay. This is Sgt. Kessinger again...and...again, I just wanna show you just a couple emails...
Brosko	...Okay...
Kessinger	...and this one is dated October 19th, 2013, at 10:52 am.
Brosko	Okay.
Kessinger	And it says "Margaret came out and did my home visit yesterday." Is that in relation to Sadie?
Brosko	No. It's not in relation to Sadie.
Kessinger	Alright. Thank you.
Brosko	Um-hmm.
Kessinger	Also there is a second email, that's dated

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November 13th, 2013...time was 4:37 pm. Said, "I wanted you send"..."I wanted to send you my vet's name and number because I'm pretty sure when she quoted \$575 that covers everything, including equipment, pain meds, board etc., so we wouldn't be responsible for any cost or ordering anything extra for the surgery, if you wanted to open conversation with her about it." The, vet's name at the bottom, Dr. Stephanie Pollitt. Correct?

Brosko

Um-hmm. Correct.

Kessinger

And was there any conversation made with her about this with the vet?

Brosko

No.

Kessinger

Alright. And it looks like Heather Adkins emailed you on November 16th...I believe it'd be you and Miss Tabitha Gray. Says "Any decision on her amputation yet; uh, and the subject of this is Sadie. Says "My vet is willing to do this ASAP and if I need to cover some of the surgery cost to get this done I will happily do it." Apparently here's the email here...do you recall ever getting that one?

Brosko

Yes.

Kessinger

It says uh...I'll finish this... it says, "I will happily do it. I came home yesterday having her broken leg through her e-collar and chewed on her paw again, a bloody, gross mess. This arm needs to go." Now Sgt. Laytham said a moment ago...and I'd just like to touch on it again...

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Brosko

...Um-hmm...

Kessinger

...and this was on November 16th, 2013, at 11:45 am. If Ms. Adkins noticed the dog...and again, the wording she used here was "she had broken through her e-collar and chewed on her paw again. A bloody gross mess. The arm needs to go." Now if the dog needed medical attention you all have a vet on staff. Correct?

Brosko

That's correct.

Kessinger

So would you all deny...deny seeing the dog for any reason?

Brosko

No. For no reason at all.

Kessinger

And if the dog...if she brought the dog in would the dog be seen?

Brosko

Absolutely.

Kessinger

And do you recall if she ever brought the dog in?

Brosko

She did not.

Kessinger

Is there anything that, that you wanna state for the record about this?

Brosko

I think that the important thing to note is that uh, not only was there vet care available...

Kessinger

...Um-hmm...

Brosko

...we've really tried to work with Miss Adkins to, to save the dog and to do what we can to uh, you know, to help out. And I think that,

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you know, it's an unfortunate situation, it really is...but I think that, you know, over all, we really, you know, have a, have a commitment to saving lives. And that's what we were trying to, to do in this particular case.

Kessinger

And again, when a...when a dog is being fostered, when someone takes the dog in...whether it's Sadie or any other dog, cat, or animal at Animal Services...who is responsible for providing medical attention for that dog, if needed?

Brosko

If medical attention is...

Kessinger

...If it...if it is being fostered...

Brosko

If it's being fostered uhm, Metro Animal Services, it, will provide medical attention for that dog.

Kessinger

But whose responsibility is it to bring that dog in to be seen?

Brosko

It's the, it's the foster's responsibility. If the animal is in the foster's home uhm, it's not in the, the shelter environment or in a, in a location where any Metro Animal Services staff is taking care of it, so it's the responsibility of the foster uhm, to bring that animal in.

Kessinger

Now...and you might not be aware...I'm gonna ask you this anyway...while a dog is being fostered...

Brosko

...Um-hmm...

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Kessinger

...does anyone from Animal Services periodically go out and do a home visit or a check on that dog to check the condition?

Brosko

No.

Kessinger

Is the dog or, required to come in every so often to be evaluated if it's being fostered?

Brosko

Uh, it depends on the situation, so if it's a kitten or puppy uh, they're required to get shots uhm, every...I believe it's every two weeks. Uh, so at that particular time yes, they are required to bring the animal in to get its booster shots, like for a kid. Uh, but other than that, no, they're not required to bring the animal in.

Kessinger

Okay. And I believe that Kim Ward put in an email, she said...let me flip to it real quick...look like...and Kim Ward appears to send an email saying that it's becoming an issue of neglect on our part, as far as I'm concerned. Do you recall that being said in an email?

Brosko

That...I've, I've read the email since all this has come out, but no, that email was never sent to me, nor did anybody say that. To me.

Kessinger

Okay. And in your opinion, uh, or I'm sorry, not in your opinion, but while you were aware of the incident with Sadie, did you ever feel there was an issue of neglect for Sadie?

Brosko

No.

Kessinger

Is there anything else you'd like to state for the

record before we end?

Brosko

No.

Kessinger

Sgt. Laytham?

Laytham

Now as far as what kind of uh, procedure does somebody have to go through to be considered a foster for one of y'all's animals?

Brosko

It, it's uh, a longer application process, so basically what happens is they'll fill out a packet uh, of information and then it comes with a foster manual that explains exactly what's required of the fosters and then the foster coordinator will actually sit down with that individual and talk to them uh, just to try to figure out their experience level and ask 'em questions about uh, you know, how many animals they have in the, in the home...what kind of animals that they're willing to foster, those types of things...and then uh, once that happens then, just like a normal adoption process, that individual uh, their name and address is searched in our database uh, so it's basically just to make sure that there, there's no previous history of any issues with animals. And then once that is done then the, the individual uh, can become a foster.

Laytham

Okay. So there is a manual that this uh, that fosters get?

Brosko

That's correct.

Laytham

And in that manual does it cover that they're responsible for the daily care of the animal?

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Brosko

Yes.

Laytham

Okay. Is there any way...way we can get a copy of one of those manuals?

Brosko

Sure. Um-hmm.

Laytham

Uh, now when y'all do a search to make sure they haven't had any incidents, as far as any previous complaints to neglect or anything of that nature?

Brosko

That's correct.

Laytham

Uh, now do all your fosters have to be a Louisville or a Jefferson County resident?

Brosko

They, they do not. We're a little bit more selective uh, as far as fosters out of county because we don't have jurisdiction uh, so tho...that's a situation where uh, it's on a very, very limited basis if there's a foster that's outside of the county.

Laytham

Do you know whether or not Miss Adkins lived in the county or not?

Brosko

I'm, I'm not sure if she did. I know that we...if they're outside of the county I know we do uh, a home visit just to make sure...we do a home visit on two different...two different occasions. One if they're out of the county 'cause we don't have any records uh, of the past. And then two, if they have uh, more than ten animals uh, we would do that...we would do that home visit.

Laytham

Now if they live out of the county do you

contact the county of which they reside in with their animal services to check to see if they have any history with them?

Brosko

No.

Laytham

No? Okay. And I think uh, Sgt. Kessinger covered that uh, y'all don't typically mandate anybody to bring an animal in for per...periodic checks.

Brosko

No.

Laytham

Unless they need booster shots.

Brosko

Correct.

Laytham

Okay. Now Sadie apparently was with uh, Miss Adkins for six months, but that's, is that unusual for that term?

Brosko

It's not.

Laytham

Okay.

Brosko

It's not, especially with...with uh, with adult dogs, or adult cats. They can stay in foster for, for a long period of time.

Laytham

Okay. Now even though that there was some communication that she was having some issues as far as with the injury, y'all didn't require her to bring her back in just to be checked?

Brosko

No. If...if she needed to come in and see the vet she, she knew she had access to come in and see the vet.

Laytham	Okay.
Kessinger	and uh, what are the names of the vets on staff?
Brosko	Uh, our main vet is Dr. Carolyn Congleton...she's our head vet...and then our supervisor over vet is Tabitha Gray.
Kessinger	Okay. And here's another email...
Brosko	...Um-hmm...
Kessinger	...I'll show you. It says Dr. ...it has on here...this is from you...
Brosko	Oh. Um-hmm...
Kessinger	...to Miss Adkins.
Brosko	Um-hmm.
Kessinger	It says "Hi Heather," Uh, "Dr. Micah," is that correct?
Brosko	Um-hmm. That's correct.
Kessinger	...Uh, has not, I guess, returned any phone calls about the leg amputation. Is he employed at Animal Services, or is she?
Brosko	No. That is the vet who did the...an amputation for us in the past on a donation basis and so that was the individual that we were attempting to, to contact to try to see if she would be willing to do the, the amputation.
Kessinger	Okay. And do you know who tried to make

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contact with her?

Brosko

Uh, it was our vet staff. I'm not sure exactly which one. I was working...uh, I was talking with Tabitha Gray. I'm not sure if she actually made contact or if it was someone else in her department.

Kessinger

Okay. Okay, is there anything else you'd like to state for the record?

Brosko

No.

Kessinger

Sgt. Laytham?

Laytham

No.

Kessinger

Is everything you told me the truth to the best of your knowledge?

Brosko

It is.

Kessinger

We will now conclude this statement. The time is 0827 hours.

END OF STATEMENT

File #PIU14072margaretbrosko-ks

\ks