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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



Language Services Section
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3975 Pole Line Road
Pocatello, ID 83201

File Number: [REDACTED]

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Source Language(s): English

Target Language: English

Source File Information

Name of Audio File or CD: 010518_0231_pm_Nikolas_Cruz_Phone_Call.wav
-Date, Duration: 1-5/2018, 00:13:35

VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTION

Participants:

Unknown Female UF
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Abbreviations:

PH Phonetic
UI Unintelligible
OV Overlapping Voice

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[TN: The Instagram accounts [REDACTED] provides for Nikolas Cruz are nikolas_cruz_, nikolascruzmakarov, cruz_nikolas, crazynikolas_new]

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[start of 010518_0231_pm_Nikolas_Cruz_Phone_Call.wav]

UF: Thank you for calling the FBI. Can I get your name please?

[REDACTED]: Ah, yes. My name is [REDACTED] [PH] [REDACTED]

UF: Thank you. And can I get your telephone number please?

[REDACTED]: Sure. [REDACTED]

UF: Thank you. And how can I help you today ma'am?

[REDACTED]: Okay. I was just fig-I guess I was talking to the operator and, and she transferred me. Um, like I said to her. I don't know how to go about this, but, uh, on the Instagram account. I have a, um, I wouldn't say he's [REDACTED] by blood but, um, I-I would consider him [REDACTED]. He's only 18, but he's got the mental capacity of a 12 to a 14 year old. His mother just passed away on the first of November. He's got Instagram accounts. He started off saying he wanted to kill himself. So what I did was I called the Parkland, which is where he lives. Uh, Parkland Police Department and I spoke to a officer [REDACTED] [PH], uh, [REDACTED] [PH]. Um, I didn't hear anything on, you know, my—I left it. I gave him all the information I had. And then just recently, now he has switched it to he wants to kill people. And then he put that on his Instagram and about two days later, he took it off. Um, if you go onto his Instagram pages, you'll see all the guns he-he's so into ISIS and, um, I-I'm afraid this is, so-something's gonna happen. Because he's, he doesn't have the mental capacity. He can't, he's so outraged if someone talks to him about certain things. And he had pulled a rifle on his mother before she had, uh, passed away because she wanted to get money to [UI]. Um, and the whole, and another problem is that—and-and he's 18 and his mother's life insurance policy is, uh, coming in and he is going to receive \$25,000 from that and then at 21, uh, 24, and up to 30, he's receiving, uh, \$25,000 every year after that, uh, from a, um, a wrongful death suit that the mother had on the father, on his father. So, he went out and he, um, took money out of his mother's account. I don't know how he got the debit card, but he did. And he, uh, took money. This is after she passed away. And he took the money out, the social security money out. And he took it, and he bought all these rifles and ammunition and he posted pictures of them on the Instagram. And the family that, you know, distant cousin and-and myself, um, are very concerned about this because I just want someone to know about this so they can look into it. If they think it's something worth going into, fine. If not, um, I just know I have a clear conscience if he takes off and, and just starts shooting places up.

UF: Okay. And did he say he would do that or he just wanted to, ma'am?

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UF: Uh, on the Instagram, he says, "I want to kill people." Um. Yeah, let me see. [UI] uh, yes. "I want to kill people." And, um, I can, give you, the Instagram accounts and you can look at them and you'll see the pictures.

UF: Yeah.

UF: Um.

UF: Yes please, ma'am.

UF: Okay. The one account where it was on there, "I want to kill people," and then he took it down is Nikolas, N-I-K-O-L-A-S Cruz, C-R-U-Z. Now there's another, um, that you should really look at and that's Nikolas. Oh this is all one word all, uh, underca-lowercase, N-I-K-O-L-A-S-C-R-U-Z-M-A-K-A-R-O-V.

UF: Okay.

UF: Okay. And then there's an-there's another one, um, uh, it-it's Cruz, C-R-U-Z, underline, Nikolas, N-I-K-O-L-A-S. Um, and that's where all [UI]. And, now, it-it's cutting up animals and things like that. Little animals. Right now it's just frogs and I know for a fact it was a bird at one time. Uh, just to, just to give you a little background on him. You know how a bird will fly around in the backyard and then hit your glass door, your sliding glass doors and hit the ground?

UF: Mhm.

UF: Well that's what happened. He brought the bird into the house. He threw it on his mother's kitchen counter and he started cutting it up. He has all kinds of hunting knives. I don't know what knife he used though. And he started cutting the, uh, bird up and his mother, Linda [PH], said, "What're you doing?" And he says, "I want to see what's inside." Now . . . I don't know. [chuckle] That to me would be a red flag.

UF: [UI]--

UF: And then, uh, you know, wanting to kill all these animals and uh, he wants to um, uh, do something in Arabic and uh, he-he dresses up like a ninja or a, or a-a-a ISIS guy. And he has pictures of all the rifles and everything on the Instagram, on one of these accounts.

UF: Okay. Does he say anything--

UF: [OV] [UI]

UF: --else about doing anything, ma'am?

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UF: Um, no. He really, he doesn't, um, but he has expre—in different times he expresses different things and then he takes it off. But he left the pictures. Um, there's one of these accounts I had, uh, texted him on his Instagram asking him how he was and, and, you know, if he was doing okay and telling him I needed to speak to someone and um, could he get me the phone number, and I went back on the account because I hadn't heard from him. And at the top of the page it said, "Leave me the f alone." And now I don't believe it's there anymore. And I know he was speaking to me.

UF: Okay.

UF: You know, it-it's just, it's so much and I know he's-he's going to explode. A man he befriended, some young boy who's also on Instagram, and, um, his father, this boy's father took him in. Him and his wife took Nikolas in and said he could live there and, uh, his guns and everything could be in the house because he has them locked up. Um, he also said when, this is another flag I saw. He also said, when Nikolas gets his money, his \$25,000. This man will invest it for him.

UF: Okay.

UF: He doesn't know Nikolas from a hole in the wall. And I don't know who he's going to invest it with or what's going to happen but I do know, and this is a fact, when you ask Nikolas for money, he goes up one rule and down the other. He gets crazy, because he will not give anybody his money. Matter of fact, he thinks anything he [UI] the bank is all is, and, you know, to hell with everybody else including his brother. So, and I have th-the, uh, man's name who uh-I-we've, the family and I have tried to call this gentleman and he refuses to return any phone calls, but I got his name and his address if you'd like it.

UF: Yes please.

UF: Okay. His name is ██████████ [PH] ██████████. His address is ██████████ [PH] ██████████. Now I have um, a phone number here. ██████████.

UF: And is that--

UF: [OV] Um.

UF: --the one that he's staying with, ma'am?

UF: Yes. That's the man he's supposed to be staying with. And um, an aunt of his has, had called him. Another woman who was taking care of Nikolas, uh, who has already spoken to him tried to call him. I tried to call him just to find out how Nikolas was and to make sure he understood the problems of this, he has. And he

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just doesn't return any phone calls, which, if you're going to help somebody and you know there's family involved, at least return the phone calls and talk to them about it. Or, you know, return the phone call and say mind your own business. Yeah, something.

UF: Yeah, and does he talk about ISIS or he just dressed up like one of--

██████: Yeah, well dresses that way and he's, if-if you go into the Instagram account, there's one Instagram where it just, uh, he has a thing for Arabic words, um, let me see. I'm going to it. Um [UI]. Oh boy [UI]. Okay. Well. Okay. Okay, um, there's also a, um, it says crazy Nikolas new. All under case, C-R-A-Z-Y-N-I-K-O-L-A-S new. N-E-W. Now the Cruz Nikolas account.

UF: Mhm.

██████: See, if you go on that, it'll show you all these pictures of him dressed up in, he-he wants to be a, he also wants to join the Army so [UI]. He shows the gun that he purchased. The Maverick, uh, 88 Slug. He paid \$219 for it. Um, and he shows you all the, uh, knives that he's got and the gun. And he does hold up one gun. And I noticed at the end of the one gun it has an orange tip. And that's just to let the police know it's not real. I believe. And, um, he does use that. It's like an air, air pistol. Um, but, you know, and then the other one is where he's um, cutting up frogs and, uh, and he shows his guns also. Uh, where is it? Okay, the, uh, Nikolas Cruz M-A-K-A-R-O-V. In that one there, he's . . . tell you how confused he is he's got the Make America Great Again hat on. And his face is all covered with a scarf. And it shows you a dirt road. It shows you the frogs. They're a little bloody. The American eagle, uh, ammunition. What looks to be a something that you shoot at, it's in a frame. His rifle, and then a whole bag with all kinds of rifles and-and stuff on it. And scopes. I mean he-he . . . and . . . [UI] the main concern is also when he gets this \$25,000. He's not going to give it to this man to invest. He's going to buy guns.

UF: Okay--

██████: And I know the last rifle he bought, he went online and he bought it and it was shipped to, uh, ██████████ in Parkland, Florida. He also works at I believe he's back at his old job which is at the Dollar Tree. And it's right by Walmart and-and, um, in Parkland. I-I-I really don't know exactly which one it is, but I know there's two right now he, it's right by Walmart. And it's the Dollar Tree. And, um, I don't know. It-it just . . . it's alarming to see these pictures and to know what he's capable of doing and-and what could happen. He's not in school any longer. He never graduated high school. He's thrown out of all these schools because he would pick up a chair and just throw it at somebody, a teacher or a student because he didn't like the way they were talking to him. Um, I-I just think about, you know, getting into a school and just shooting the place up. You

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know, he-he . . . unless there's any other information I could possibly give you I, you know, I'm, I will.

UF: Thanks. So if anybody else has questions they can call you back. Is that correct, ma'am?

[REDACTED]: Yes, you can, hum. And your name is?

UF: I can give you my ID number ma'am.

[REDACTED]: Okay.

UF: It's [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]: Seven. Okay. [UI]. Okay. Um. Are you an agent?

UF: Uh, we are Intake Specialists, ma'am.

[REDACTED]: Okay. Very good. Um. I didn't know whether to call you or Homeland Security or who, but, like I said. Um. when you look into this, you can make the decision as to whether you want to go further or not. I just want to, you know, get it off my chest in case something does happen and I do believe something's going to happen. but . . .

UF: Yeah, I do appreciate you calling that in, ma'am.

[REDACTED]: Okay. Well thank you very much. and, uh. have a good weekend.

UF: Thank you. You as well ma'am.

[REDACTED]: [OV] And uh, stay warm [chuckle]. Okay.

UF: Thank you.

[REDACTED]: Bye. Bye-bye.

[end of 010518_0231_pm_Nikolas_Cruz_Phone_Call.wav]