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     Oath Keepers 2024
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     LOG NUMBER:
                    2023-0004935
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     February 1, 2024
              kim130701_001
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     AUDIO:
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SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Log Number 2023-0004935. This is the audio-recorded statement of accused member, Detective Alexander Kim, Star Number 20153, assigned to Area 3 Detective Division, Unit 630. This is relative to an allegation made by Sergeant Keshia Frierson.

This interview is being taken at the Chicago Police Department headquarters located at 3510 South Michigan on the Fifth Floor of the Bureau of Internal Affairs on February 1st, 2024, at 1713 hours.

My name is Sergeant John Bartuch, Star Number 1598. I am the primary investigator assigned to the Bureau of Internal Affairs. I'm in charge of this investigation recorded under Log Number 2023-0004935 and will be the primary interviewer during the course of the statement. Also present in this interview is Sergeant Tiffany Santiago, Star Number 1402, as the secondary interviewer.

This statement will be in audiorecorded format will concern itself with the
following allegation. Allegation number one, it
is alleged by Sergeant Frierson that members of
the Chicago Police Department are members of the

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1	far-right terror group Oath Keepers as documented
2	in an email to First Deputy Carter and numerous
3	news articles by WBEZ.
4	Officer Kim, can you please state and
5	spell your name for the record?
6	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Sure. Detective
7	Alexander Kim, K-I-M, Star Number 20153.
8	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Can you state your
9	rank, star number, and unit assignment?
10	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Rank, detective,
11	Star Number 20153, currently assigned to the Area
12	3 Detective Division, Chicago Police Department.
13	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: How long have you
14	been assigned to your present unit?
15	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Since May of last
16	year, so eight months.
17	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: What is your
18	employee number and date of appointment to the
19	department?
20	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: My employee number
21	is and my date of employment is 26th April
22	of 2004.
23	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Counsel, can you
24	please say and spell your name for the record?

TIM GRACE: I can. For the record, my

- name is Tim, T-I-M; Grace, G-R-A-C-E. I am an
 FOP attorney, and I'm here to represent Detective
 Kim.
 - SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Detective Kim, prior to the start of the recording, audio recording, were you given CPD form 44.140, the audio-recorded statement instructions and quidelines?
 - DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, I was.
- SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you read understand and sign the instructions and
- DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, I did.
- SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Do you have any questions about the process of an audio-recorded statement?
- 17 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I do not.
- SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Counsel, you're reminded that under no instance will you answer questions on behalf of your client.
- 21 | TIM GRACE: I know the rules.
- SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Detective Kim, have
 you been advised in writing of the allegations
 made against you, the name of the complainant,
 the date and time of the incident, and your

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quidelines?

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DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you read and understand those allegations and your rights?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Do you understand that this is an official police department report and that any deviation from the truth could result in allegations being placed against you?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, I understand.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Rule 14 of the Chicago Police Department Rules and Regulations prohibits making false reports, whether written or oral. You may be separated from the Chicago Police Department if you make a false report. Do you understand?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, I do.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Are you ready to give your statement at this time?

TIM GRACE: We're going to put a couple of objections on the record. Then we're going to read our compelled statement rights.

I want to place an objection on the record. Detective Kim, who is not a member of this group, as we will learn as this statement

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moves along, but I want to state that this group, the Oath Keepers, has never been labeled by any law enforcement agency as an FBI, Homeland Security, Border Control, the military, nobody has ever claimed that they are a domestic terrorist organization.

I have bigger concerns also that there's no general order that prohibits police officers from, on their off-duty hours, from joining groups and clubs as long as those groups and clubs are not criminal in nature.

There's also a concern about the First

Amendment portion of these allegations. There is
a freedom of speech and a right to assembly
that's guaranteed in the United States

Constitution under Amendment One. And I think
these allegations are impinging upon the Bill of
Rights.

I just want to also add that these allegations appear to come from a news organization and from the Anti-Defamation League. That's the basis of where the IAD received this information to have Detective Kim come down here today. I understand that Detective Santiago -- Sergeant Santiago and Sergeant Bartuch are not

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the ones that came up with these allegations nor are they the ones that are spearheading this. I don't actually it goes much larger than the fifth floor. I think it goes somewhere else that are spearheading this for illicit purposes. But I don't believe that we should initiate CR numbers based upon news organizations or what an Anti-Defamation League alleges.

With that, Officer Kim will read his compelled statement rights.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I would like to preface this statement by saying that I am not giving the statement voluntarily but under duress. I am only giving the statement at this time because I have been advised by the Chicago Police Department that if I do not give a statement, I will face disciplinary proceedings that will lead to my -- that will lead to termination of my employment.

On advice of counsel, I want to object to the delay in this investigation. This incident occurred approximately 15 years ago. This delay is prejudicial to my ability to clearly recall the details of this incident so that I may defend myself and provide a clear

- 1 recitation of facts.
- 2 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Detective
- 3 | Kim, prior to the start of the audio recording,
- 4 | were you shown Exhibit 1?
- DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.
- 6 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: On Page 3 of
- 7 | Exhibit 1, there's information that the Anti-
- 8 Defamation League provides. Are you on that
- 9 | list?
- 10 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.
- 11 | SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Is the information
- 12 on that list correct?
- DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.
- 14 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Are those still
- 15 your current email address, current phone number,
- 16 | current address?
- 17 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.
- 18 TIM GRACE: Let me just note. I don't
- 19 think there's a phone number on there, but. Oh,
- 20 | I'm sorry, my bad. Yes, there is.
- 21 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Were you ever
- 22 | notified by the Anti-Defamation League?
- 23 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I was not.
- 24 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Are you currently a
- 25 member of the Oath Keepers?

believe I filled out a form if I'm not mistaken.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM:

I filled out -- I

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about the Oath Keepers when you joined?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM:

organization comprised of current and former

military as well as current and former police

That it was an

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SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever think
that you were participating with a hate group or
an extreme group or --

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Absolutely not, no.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Do you remember approximately, you said 15 years. So that takes us back to what, 2009?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Does that sound right about?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yeah, it sounds about right.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Now, do you remember if this was -- you signed up for the Oath Keepers before or after Chicago's handgun ban lifted? So, for reference, that was 2010.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I signed up before.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And how did you hear about this group?

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Some people in the unit that I worked in were talking about it, that unit being the Mobile Strike Force.

1	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And do you remember
2	who those people were?
3	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I want to say
4	Chris Hoffman. Officer Hoffman was one of the
5	main proponents for the organization.
6	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Now, what was
7	Officer Hoffman's role at Mobile Strike Force at
8	this time?
9	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: He was a part of
10	the training staff.
11	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. For the
12	Chicago Police Department?
13	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes. Yes. Yes.
14	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And what did you
15	get with your membership?
16	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Besides the
17	pamphlets, the literature, the stickers, a pocket
18	Constitution, discounts to companies that sold
19	gear, and access to discounted training
20	opportunities.
21	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And how long
22	were you a member of the Oath Keepers?
23	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't know how
24	long my membership was. Through the years, I
25	completely forgot about the organization. I was

never active in it. So, after signing up, I
never participated in anything. I can't give you
a numerical amount of years as to how long I was
a member of it, but I can definitely say it's
been a long time since I've received any emails
from them or, you know.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Do you remember how many times you paid for the membership?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't know.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Was it monthly?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't remember

what the fee breakdown was.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And you don't remember exactly how long you were a remember.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't. I'm sorry, I do not remember, no.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And do you remember how you paid for the membership?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No, I don't.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever participate in any Oath Keeper events?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever attend any of their training?

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1 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No.

2 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever

3 respond to their calls of action?

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DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever meet with any of the Oath Keepers at any point?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Can I have a moment? I'm sorry.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Yeah. I'm going to pause the record at 5:20 -- 1725.

(Off the record)

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. We're going to resume the recording at 1726.

Detective Kim, you were talking about
I had asked you if you were -- ever met up with
a group of Oath Keepers.

with any Oath Keepers outside of the city of Chicago, outside the Chicago Police Department. I have met with other officers that are Oath Keepers but never for the purposes of talking about Oath Keepers' you know, business. Some of the people on this list are friends of mine and I've worked with in the past and I've known for many years.

And so, to your question, I wanted clarification to whether if I met with other Oath Keepers for the purposes of talking about Oath Keeper business or if I met with other police officers that were Oath Keepers in general. So that's why I kind of needed that clarification.

But going back, no, I've never met with any Oath Keepers outside of the Chicago Police Department, discussed Oath Keeper business, or politics, or whatever. And I've met with other officers that are Oath Keepers on this list, but not for the purposes of talking about any Oath Keeper stuff.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. You mentioned Officer Hoffman. What did he tell you? Do you remember what he told you about the Oath Keepers?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't remember what he said exactly. I don't recall the words he used exactly about the organization.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And then what did the membership, the Oath Keepers membership consist of?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Just from my recollection, just the training and the

discounted items, and just, I guess -- to me it was a symbolic group of officers and military that would uphold the Constitution.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Did you ever pay anything related to the Oath Keepers with your credit card?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Not that I remember.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Is there any reason your credit card information would have been associated with the Oath Keepers' leaked information?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yeah. Maybe I did pay for the initial membership fee using a credit card.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And then did you receive monthly emails from the Oath Keepers?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I did, yes.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. So, what about pamphlets? Did you receive monthly pamphlets?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't recall receiving any literature in the mail.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. So, all information you received from the Oath Keepers

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signed up to be on the Oath Keepers, what 1 information did you have to provide to them? DET. ALEXANDER KIM: My demographical 3 information, name, address, email, phone number. 4 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Now, do you 5 remember if they asked you if you were law 6 7 enforcement? DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes. 8 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: They did? 9 10 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I'm sorry. SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: They did? 11 12 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, they did. 13 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever participate in any Oath Keepers private chat 14 15 rooms? DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No. 16 1.7 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Do you have social 18 media? DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes. 19 20 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: What social media 21 platforms do you use? 22 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Facebook, 23 Instagram, X, formerly Twitter, LinkedIn. 24 that's all I can think of off the top of my head 25 right now.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Do you --1 may -- ever -- have you ever made any reference 2 to the Oath Keepers or Oath Keepers events on any of your social media platforms? 4 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No. 5 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: You had mentioned 6 that you don't remember exactly how long were you 7 8 involved. How long would you say your involvement with the Oath Keepers was? 9 10 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Maybe no more than 11 a few years. 12 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And your involvement with it for those years that you were 13 a member, what did it consist of? 14 15 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Nothing. 16 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Were you 17 ever given an order by a CPD supervisor that you didn't comply with because it went against the 1.8 19 rules of an Oath Keeper? 20 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: 21 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Were you ever 22 disciplined by a CPD supervisor for not complying 23 with an order given because it violated the Oath

No.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM:

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Keepers?

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SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Did you ever receive text messages or phone calls from anyone from the Oath Keepers?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Again, outside of the Chicago Police Department?

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Outside of the people that you -- yeah.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Okay. No.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And then what do you know about the Oath Keepers today?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I mean from what I've seen in the news, I guess they've become some kind of right-wing militia, so to speak. I know they had a role in the January 6th incident. And I also know that in the past they've also had calls actions to go down to protest, to kind of keep the peace. But that's pretty much it, just what I've seen in the news.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And have you attended any of these calls to action?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. I'm going to direct your attention to this NPR article. Did anyone from NPR attempt to call you -- or from the news media attempt to call you for a comment?

	Page 21
1	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.
2	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And what number did
3	they call?
4	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: My
5	number.
6	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you did they
7	leave a message?
8	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, they did.
9	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you call them
10	back?
11	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Absolutely not.
12	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And did you make
13	any statements to them?
14	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Absolutely not.
15	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Did you ever notify
16	any supervisor that NPR reached out to you?
17	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I did verbally
18	tell my supervisor that the news media was trying
19	to talk to me.
20	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: And who is your
21	supervisor?
22	DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Currently, Tom
23	Coleman.
24	SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Is that who you
25	told?

1 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't remember who I told exactly, but I remember telling one of 2. my sergeants. In the office, there are three 3 sergeants. SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And Tom is 5 one of them? 6 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Correct. SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. And then did 8 he tell you to generate any reports or anything 10 in regards to them contacting you? DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I don't recall. 11 12 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. Did you ever notify the FOP about being contacted by the NPR? 13 TIM GRACE: No, I did not. 14 15 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Okay. 16 SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: So, did you 17 tell Sergeant Coleman that the media had 18 contacted you? 19 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes. 20 SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: Can you tell me what a call to action is pertaining to the Oath 21 22 Keepers? 2.3 DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I think it's when 24 they ask the membership to come together for

whatever event to provide security or, you know,

something along those lines. That's, I think, what the call to action is.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: All right.

Help me understand. You said that you were involved with Oath Keepers for three years and consisted of nothing. Can you explain that?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Well, I never attended any of the meetings. I never went to any of the call to actions. You know, I mean membership to me would mean -- since I'm a member of the Asian-American Law Enforcement Association, I go to the events, you know, I help out with, you know, plan the events or this, this, and that. I'm a member. I was active in it, right, in the past. Now, I'm not as active anymore since I'm no longer holding office. So, I'm still technically a member, but I don't do anything for the organization. You know, I don't -- aside from talk to the members and give advice. You know if the president asked me how I would conduct this or do that, then I would tell him like, hey, this is what you should do. But I don't plan any events. I don't go to any of the meetings. I don't, you know -- I'm very inactive as a member.

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So, you could, I guess, say in those
three years as a member, I was kind of inactive
in that I didn't do anything actively.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: So, you became
a member approximately what year?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: 2009.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: So, for those first three years, you were actively inactive?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yeah.

TIM GRACE: Actively inactive?

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: So, he was -you were an active member, but you weren't doing
anything with the organization?

mean active in the sense that I was in the organization, but I wasn't doing anything. I wasn't going to the call to actions. I wasn't, you know, attending the meetings, you know, kind of like as I illustrated in -- with my Asian-American Law Enforcement Association, I'm still an active member. I pay the membership, but I don't do anything actively for the organization.

TIM GRACE: Let's take a time out. We

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: 1736.

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(Off the record)

2 SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: We are going to 3 resume the interview at 1742. Detective Kim, you 4 were going to clarify your point about

5 membership.

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes. Yes. So, from the standpoint of the Oath Keepers, I was an active member, but from my own personal standpoint, I was inactive. I wasn't doing anything. So that's what I meant by actively inactive that, you know, I'm on their membership roster, you know, and I'm, I guess a member in good standing if you will. But personally, to me, you know, I had nothing to do with it in that time frame.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: So, to be clear, you paid the membership, or you paid for a membership and then you received emails and that is the extent of your membership?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes, yes.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: You've never gone to any calls to actions. You've never gone to any Oath Keeper meetings?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No, no.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: All right.

What about when -- is it Officer Hoffman from the range?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Yes.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: What do you recall him telling you about the Oath Keepers?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: That is -- it was just this kind of organization comprised of former and current military and former and current law enforcement that wanted to uphold the Constitution and made sure that no one violated anyone's Second Amendment rights more specifically.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: Did he say there were any other benefits to becoming an Oath Keeper?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: Discounted training and discounted items, you know, gear.

SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: Did you ever utilize any of those discounts?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: I did not, no.

21 SGT. TIFFANY SANTIAGO: I think that's 22 all here.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: All right.

Detective Kim, at this point, I'm going to read you Addendum A.

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You're hereby ordered, both verbally and in writing, in written form by me, Sergeant John Bartuch, Star Number 1598, on Thursday, 01 February 2024, at 1744 hours at 3510 South Michigan, Fifth Floor, Bureau of Internal Affairs, the following administrative order.

Detective Alex Kim, you are ordered to deliver to the Bureau of Internal Affairs a package addressed to me, Sergeant John Bartuch, Star Number 1598, on before Wednesday, 07 February 2024 by 10:00 p.m. This package will contain the following documents, any membership info regarding the Oath Keepers, all dates for Oath Keepers meetings you did or did not attend, any material gathered at Oath Keeper meetings, brochures, pamphlets, news articles, any payment information regarding Oath Keeper events and membership, any material you received from attending Oath Keepers events, brochures, pamphlets or news articles, any emails, mail, text messages you received involving the Oath Keepers.

This order is hereby acknowledged at 1745 hours on 01 February 2024, by Detective Alexander Kim at 3510 South Michigan Avenue,

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Fifth Floor, Bureau of Internal Affairs.

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Detective Kim, by affixing your signature, you're acknowledging the request that I've made to you.

TIM GRACE: So, we are going to object to this direct order. This is, in our minds, an illegal order. Again, I don't want to impugn the IAD sergeants here today because I know it's not coming from them, but this is an illegal order.

With that, we will acknowledge the order and we will say on the record we have no pamphlets and no information, nothing at all from the Oath Keepers, no stickers or anything.

Is that correct, Detective Kim?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: That is correct.

TIM GRACE: Okay.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: Detective Kim, is there anything relative to this incident that you wish to add to the statement?

DET. ALEXANDER KIM: No, that is all.

SGT. JOHN BARTUCH: This now concludes the audio-recorded statement of Detective Alexander Kim, Star Number 21153, conducted by the Bureau of Internal Affairs Investigator Sergeant John Bartuch, Star Number 1598, on 01

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1	February 2024, regarding Log Number 2023-0004935.
2	Statement concluded at 1747 hours.
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CERTIFICATION

I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

TU

11 | Veritext Legal Solutions

12 | 330 Old Country Road

13 | Suite 300

14 | Mineola, NY 11501

16 Date: February 23, 2024