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IN THE TRIAL COURTS FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

AT ANCHORAGE

v.8

STATE OF ALASKA,

Plaintiff,

vs

JOSEPH HAZELWOOD,

Defendant.

No. 3AN 89-7217; 3AN 89-7218

OMNIBUS HEARING **DECEMBER 11, 1989** PAGES 1286 THROUGH 1361

VOLUME VIII

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ARLIS

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OMNIBUS HEARING (12/11/89)

1 **PROCEEDINGS** 2 **DECEMBER 11, 1989** 3 (Tape: C-3523) 4 (0767)5 Now in session. THE CLERK: 6 THE COURT: Please be seated. This time set 7 for argument on defendant's motions. I have received 8 the proposed findings by both defendant and the state 9 and am going through them. You can have as much as 10 time as you reasonably like. 11 It seems to me, in this situation the state 12 has a certain burden here and I'm not sure how to 13 allocate the argument, but I'll allow both sides equal 14 full opportunity to address issues. I would suggest, 15 unless you two have a better way, that Mr. Linton would 16 go first. 17 Seems right, Your Honor. MR. FRIEDMAN: 18 THE COURT: Thank you. 19 (0823)20 ARGUMENT BY PLAINTIFF 21 MR. LINTON: Judge, to this point we've heard 22 about the theory that all of this flowed from a single 23 report. 24 The defense theory is this, that all of this 25 flow investigation branched out from a report of an oil

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spill.

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The state has at least two separate theories.

Number one, this really stemmed from a report of a grounding, or at least equally stemmed from a report of a grounding, so that the dot which they say is a report of an oil spill, is actually a little circle that contains both the report of an oil spill and the report of a grounding. And that the report of the grounding alone would have been independent to produce the same line of investigation.

There's an alternative here. The alternative theory is that the Chevron California some time after the spill would have discovered the Exxon Valdez aground even if the Captain had not reported it. that that would have led to an investigation and that that investigation reasonably could be said to have resulted in the same information with a certain bit of exception; some little time period in here where some parts of the investigation may be time sensitive. Things might not have been discovered.

And that the role of the court here is, not only to determine whether, in fact, this would have been discovered and whether the investigation would have been as large, but more properly to define what, if anything, should be excluded by virtue of being time

sensitive. That is, things which would not have been discovered but for the earlier report.

Besides the Chevron California reporting, however, there was another, almost equally likely, opportunity to discover the same evidence. And that came from the Coast Guard radar. That is, the independent source theory that we have that there was a report of a grounding was based on testimony of Coast Guard officials and Dan Lawn of the ADEC. But they would have responded to a report of a grounding.

But their evidence is germane to a second issue, Judge. That is, had the Coast Guard not heard by 1:00 a.m. that the vessel was not abeam Naked Island as it said and had Mr. Blandford discovered that on the radar, then presumably the same testimony bears the fact that they, the Coast Guard, would have responded to the grounding even if there had been no call from the Exxon Valdez as to its status or as to oil in the water. So that the focus of these proceedings really should be defining what kind of evidence fits in the area that would not have been discovered but for the report of the oil spill.

Let me talk about the independent source theory just a second. Judge, it's interesting to note that, when Congress enacted 13.21.B(5), they said any

person in charge of a vessel or an on-shore facility or an off-shore facility, shall, as soon as he has knowledge of any discharge of oil or hazardous substance from such vessel or facility in violation of paragraph 3, immediately notify the appropriate agency of the United States government of such discharge.

In defining what constitutes an on-shore facility in 13.21.10, in the definition section which preceded all of this, on-shore facility means end facility, including but not limited to, motor vehicles and rolling stock of any kind located in, on, or under any land within the United States or other submerged land.

On-shore facility as opposed to off-share facility, includes motor vehicles. What it means is that, if -- excuse me.

(Side conversation)

If a tank truck is carrying fuel oil and gets into an accident and happens to not only spill oil but cause \$500.00 worth of damage, then the very same statutes, the reporting statutes, that state motor. vehicles law require, which we had cited in support of our contention that the master had an independent need to report the ground of the vessel would come into play.

That is, the vehicle driver would have to report that he'd been involved in an accident involving \$500.00 and that would trigger a response which presumably would uncover the oil, just the way the vessel reported its grounding prompted a response that would have discovered the oil even if it had not been reported.

Judge, the independent source theory is founded upon the testimony of three people from the Coast Guard, Commander McCall, Commander Falkenstein, and CWO Delozier that this was the kind of thing that they would have responded to just on the basis of the recorded grounding. But what is equally important is that it bears upon a subsequent or a second type of inevitable discovery; that is that the Coast Guard would have discovered it themselves by radar and would have responded to it.

Now, there certainly would be some interplay between obligation of a vehicle driver or a master of a vessel who had to report a grounding or an automobile accident which resulted in an oil spill. And their requirement to report the oil spill.

That is, if Your Honor were to conclude that this was, in fact, an independent source, you'd be placing both of those people in a position where they

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would have to think or might think, here I have been placed in this position, I am either aground or I've had an automobile accident. Do I report the accident or grounding? Because if I do, I take a risk of losing what immunity I have under the Oil Spill Statute.

on the master or the driver. But in both instances, there are certainly going to be many instances in which both the master and the driver are involved in oil spills which don't require such a report. That is, there are going to be, with respect to vessel, oil spills which occur in the loading or unloading of vessels which do not come under marine casualties and require reporting; similarly with vehicles that are being loaded or unloaded with oil, there will be spillage which doesn't require a report of a motor vehicle accident.

So, it's the exception being carved out, if Your Honor chooses to do that, is a relatively narrow one. And in the marine area, and in some instances in the motor vehicle area even, you really get to a point where judgment is not that hard for a master in this sense.

In some instances, the accident in which the person finds themself, be it a grounding or be it the

accident with respect to a vehicle, endangers life. In testimony before the Grand Jury, Mr. Kunkel, the chief mate, said that he grabbed his survival suit. He entertained notions and suggested to the captain that perhaps he should sound the general alarm to alert everybody on the vessel that there was a danger that the vessel might break up and sink.

The master, when one reaches a catastrophe of that proportion, one's instincts for self-preservation, as well as the safety of his crew, would come first and foremost irrespective of any obligation report of marine casualty or to report an oil spill. This comes close to that case, at least from the testimony of Mr. Kunkel. This was that precarious a situation. So that a report was going to be needed just from the standpoint of the safety of the crew and the vessel, putting aside how they got on the reef, aground; putting aside that there was oil in the water, an oil spill.

So by carving out the exception the state's suggesting, it's a very narrow carving. It's a very small carving. And it's under circumstances where there was a risk of physical harm to people, maybe death. And one where you're not going to be putting a master in a position of having to second guess himself

between reporting grounding and reporting an oil spill.

We talk about inevitable discovery. The U.S. Supreme Court has recognized inevitable discovery in Nix vs. William. What it has said is, where police officers violated the rights of a defendant, violated his Fifth Amendment Rights, and as a result of that violation, found the body of a child he had killed, that evidence was still admissible against him. It was admissible against him because it inevitably would have been discovered. There were search teams that were looking for the child. They had begun at a search point to the east of the interstate highway along which her body had been left and were proceeding westbound in the direction of the location of the body.

The U.S. Supreme Court said, because they would inevitably have come across the body and discovered and the state had proven that by a preponderance of the evidence, the state was permitted to use that evidence at trial.

Now, in Nix vs. Williams, the way they actually got to the body was through a violation of the defendant's Fifth Amendment Rights. Statements were taken from him by police misconduct. And, as a result of that police misconduct, they got to the body.

Here the defense says, we got to the evidence

by means of the improper use of his immunized statements. They say this is different. They say this is not like Nix vs. Williams because there's an exclusionary rule involved in Nix vs. WIlliams and there's a question of whether one relaxes the exclusionary rule. They say that inevitable discovery may apply in an exclusionary rule case, but not in an immunity case. That doesn't make sense to me, Judge.

First, in either case, you're talking about a violation of a person's Fifth Amendment constitutional right. That is the right to remain silent.

In Nix vs. Williams, that was violated by police misconduct and the U.S. Supreme Court said, even if you engaged in misconduct, you can still use the evidence, if it were inevitably discovered.

Here there has been no police misconduct.

There's been a Congressional statute which immunizes the testimony, but there has been no police misconduct. Why would you not permit the doctrine of inevitable discovery in cases where there is no police misconduct, if you permit it in cases where there is police misconduct? You'd think, if the rule were going to be applicable, it would be the reverse. That is, you wouldn't allow inevitable discovery where there was misconduct, but you would allow it where there is no

misconduct.

And here we have the U.S. Supreme Court saying it's allowed even when there is police misconduct. So that speaks very strongly for the fact in this instance the doctrine of inevitable discovery should apply.

Judge, in the answer to the motion I suggested that inevitable discovery would have occurred by 8:30 in the morning. I believe the evidence before you has come out more strongly than anticipated. And I point specifically to the testimony of Captain Eric Dohm.

Captain Eric Dohm was the captain in charge of the Chevron California, which was inbound at the time the Exxon Valdez was outbound.

It was abeam Hinchinbrook at 12:15 a.m. It had a speed which would have caused it to transit

Prince William Sound at 16 knots and would have placed it abeam Naked Island at 2:00 a.m.

Had there been no report, had Captain

Hazelwood remained silent, it would have been at the closest point to the Exxon Valdez at 2:50 a.m. and by the closest point. I mean this. That is Naked Island. Was here at two o'clock. The vessel would have been at a point abeam the position, the red "x" marked by CWO Delozier at 2:50.

At that point, the vessel having radar set on

6 and 12 mile scales would have had an opportunity, this being a 12 mile, to have seen the Valdez before it got that far. But even assuming it had not spotted it on radar and had gotten to this position approximately three miles away, closer to two miles away, it would have seen the lighting of the Exxon Valdez. The Exxon Valdez has, and all ships are required to carry, of that size, required lighting visible for six miles. It would have been producing a radar return.

Had the Exxon Valdez not reported at that point, the Chevron may well have been in contact with the Coast Guard and the Coast Guard confirmed it on their radar.

The Chevron California was expecting to communicate with the Exxon Valdez in two respects.

First, as it was inbound, it was expecting to meet and pass the Exxon Valdez on its way outbound. It expected to do that somewhere south of Naked Island. Had it gotten to Naked Island and not seen it, it would have been curious and alerted to the fact that something was out of the ordinary.

Furthermore, the Chevron California expected to communicate with the Exxon Valdez because of the ice. That is, the Chevron California knew, as the Exxon Valdez knew, that there had been reports of ice

in the south bound tanker lanes. And the Exxon Valdez was going to have to divert to get around the ice.

The Chevron California, therefore, was alerted to the fact that, number one, there was ice there; and, number 2, the Exxon Valdez was going to be coming through and would have had more recent opportunity to observe it and to report to the California what maneuvers might be appropriate for the California to avoid the ice, if any. So the Chevron California was expecting to talk to the Exxon Valdez on that score as well.

There was another avenue that was working simultaneously with that. That is, in the vessel traffic center, Mr. Bruce Blandford had come on duty at about 11:45 as a watch stander there. He had been briefed by the previous watch stander. He'd been told that the Exxon Valdez was outbound and estimated a time of arrival at Naked Island at 1:00 a.m. local time. He had been told that the Exxon Valdez had disappeared from the radar screen and so he did not look at the radar screen prior to actually receiving the report.

He was speaking with the Chevron California.

He knew that it was inbound. He had spoken to it to receive it's report that it was abeam Cape Hinchinbrook and that it estimated that it would be there at 2:00

a.m. and he told the Chevron California that it should be able to get an ice report from the Exxon Valdez once it had gotten through.

He testified that he was about to actually call the Exxon Valdez himself when he received the 12:26 report from Captain Hazelwood. That is, he said that, after you'd been working in such a place for a while, you just have instinctively sense for when it's time for somebody to report; it's an internal clock works. And he would have called just about that time had he not received Captain Hazelwood's call.

But in any event, by one o'clock he would have expected a report or at least a call before hand to update a report that the vessel would be abeam Naked Island at some point in the future.

In any event, one of the things he would have done had the vessel failed to call, would ultimately have been to look on the radar screen and there he would have seen it. That certainly would have occurred no later than the Chevron California's approach to Bligh Reef, if it did not occur sooner than that.

Assuming then that those things had occurred, but for the report, and that the position of the vessel would inevitably have been discovered, the question is, what would the response have been?

The best evidence is probably what the response was. That is, the difference in time between the actual report and these reports would have been a matter of the difference between 12:26 and 2:50. So, one could reasonably estimate that the same response would have occurred. What actually happened is, in some respects, the best evidence of what would have happened.

In assessing how quickly it would have happened, there are, once again, it's perhaps easiest to say what actually happened is one of the best indications of what would have happened. The Coast Guard received a call at 12:26 and was out there by 3:43 and on board. Later Mike Fox got a call at 4:30 and was on board at 6:45 and actually on the bridge at 7:05. His response was a little more quick than the Coast Guards.

But if you take the longer of the responses, giving the defendant the benefit of that, you still come up with a time roughly 6:00 - 6:07 in the morning that the Coast Guard would have, not only discovered it, but been on board the vessel.

We say that the things that flowed after that, the observations that flowed after that, would have otherwise flowed and so that the real focus here is on

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what things would not have been discovered in that time frame? What things would not have been observed?

The crew members would have been on board. So they would have seen, not only what had led up to the grounding, but they would have seen the captain's response to it and what happened over the period of time thereafter. So, their observations are in effect not, I'll use the term, time sensitive. That is, presumably they saw the things there and they were going to know them whether they were interviewed at seven o'clock in the morning, the next day, three days later, five days later.

It's true of documents on board the vessel.

They were there and they were going to be there whether they were picked up by the Coast Guard or anybody else that day or two days later or three days later or four days later. Those documents would have included a crew list, so that in the event the crew were not interviewed the way Sergeant McGhee interviewed them, by going out to the vessel and talking to them. It would have been identified and could have been interviewed at some later point.

By the same token, the records of who was it that was the pilot who took the vessel out was going to exists. Who was the ship's agent was going to exist?

Who was on duty at the Alyeska gate was going to exist? What was the license plate of the cab in which the captain come back was going to exist. The people in town who either had seen or hadn't seen the captain were going to exist whether the report was at 2:26 by the captain or at 2:50 by Chevron California.

It is possible, however, to define some things that would have been lost. To define what kinds of things. And I'd like to define what things fell within this time of this quadrangle right here. Things which would not have been discovered if you had to wait until the Chevron California reported or until the Coast Guard figured it out on radar.

In proposed findings of fact I list with my proposals, the observation by the Coast Guard officers of the odor of alcohol on the captain's breath. The testimony and the observations of alcohol on the breath of the captain by Dan Lawn, which he placed somewhere between 5:15 and 7:00 a.m. I do that for these reasons.

While both of them testified that they made those observations of alcohol on his breath in that time frame, Michael Fox, the trooper who arrived on board at 7:05, met the captain at 8:30. There is no testimony of anyone that they observed alcohol between

the 7:05 time and the 8:30 time.

At 8:30 Mr. Fox had a conversation with the captain and in the course of that did not smell any alcohol or observe any signs of intoxication. For that reason I submit that the observations by Delozier and Falkenstein, with respect to the alcohol on the breath, and Dan Lawn, with respect to alcohol on the breath, would not have been made had they arrived as late as they did. There's some overlap there between six and seven as to Dan Lawn's observations. But I submit that that's not strong enough for us to ask the court to find that.

That doesn't mean, however, that all evidence of alcohol thereafter need be excluded. I say that for this reason. The alcohol testing occurred at roughly 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

While there had been some prior indication from observations of the Coast Guard officer we just talked about there was odor on the breath of Captain Hazelwood, there was no indication of any alcohol on Gregory Cousins, Robert Kagan or Maureen Jones, the other three people who were on the bridge of the Exxon Valdez at the time of the grounding.

Well, if there was no indication of alcohol on their breath, why are they being tested at 10:00 to

(2300)

11:00 that morning? They are being tested in accordance with a Coast Guard regulation. They are being tested in accordance with a Coast Guard regulation that was discussed briefly by Trooper Fox. You recall, it came time for the testing, he, Trooper Fox, testified that he spoke to Mr.Delozier and said, "Are you sure you have authority to do this? I would need a search warrant. Do you have authority to do what you're doing?" And he, Delozier, confirmed that he did.

There is a Coast Guard regulation pertaining to intoxication. It's contained in 33 CFR 95.010. It says that reasonable cause exists for testing whenever an individual is directly involved in a marine casualty. It doesn't say, there's no requirement that there be probable cause to believe that the person had been drinking. And, indeed, there was no indication that Kagan, Cousins or Jones had been drinking, and yet all three were tested.

From that one could reasonably infer that what was occurring at 10:00 to 11:00 was the kind of careful investigation that one would do with a matter of this magnitude. Not just Captain Hazelwood, but anyone who was around the bridge and in the position to control it

or know about the control of the vessel was tested. That would indicate that the testing that occurred at 10:00 to 11:00 was not simply a function of the observations of alcohol on the breath of the captain, but was an application of that general careful kind of investigation that is really called for by that regulation.

With those words on inevitable discovery, let me address myself to the indictment and the information and whether there has been evidence before the Grand Jury or in the probable cause statement which would require dismissal of the indictment or the information. And the analysis on the two has to be separate.

The analysis on the two is separate because the Grand Jury presentation was made by prosecuting attorneys who did not have information which I had when I filed the information. That is, there was a screening process under which they got certain kinds of information. Information as to events, things which happened on March 24th, 1989 in response to the report of the grounding.

Now, from the affidavits of the three lawyers in the District Attorneys office and from the testimony of these hearings, the state set up a system under which the materials were screened. That is, police

reports, exhibits, which went to them were screened so that they didn't get anything which can be said to have been in response to the captain's report. In fact, the more careful standard than is being argued for before this court would apply. Out of caution, they were given nothing as to the 24th rather than cutting things off at the 6:00 o'clock time we suggests now.

So far in the course of these hearings, there has been no evidence that they, in fact, got any materials, any factual materials, that came within that 6:00 o'clock time frame. There was some suggestion that the 24 hour time frame was not observed in one instance with respect to that Rick Wade diagram. The diagram, on its face, indicated the 25th-26th, but, in fact, he'd gone out there on the 24th and began diving late on the 24th.

There was one other instance where Mr. Weeks said that he thought he had talked to or there was a memorandum that he was questioned about which indicated that he had spoken to, might have spoken, to Mary Anne Henry about statements that Captain Hazelwood made to Mr. Cousins and Trooper Fox around 1:00 a.m. They were done, however, in the context of a question of exculpatory evidence.

That is, given the fact that the captain had

told Mr. Cousins and Mr. Fox that he had one beer in town and one or two Moussys after he got on board the vessel, was that exculpatory evidence which the state was obliged to present to the Grand Jury to protect the defendant's right to a fair presentation before the Grand Jury.

In light of the fact that there were other people who had said he had had more to drink than that, that really wasn't exculpatory evidence. And, in fact, it wasn't presented to the Grand Jury.

So that those are the only instances where there has been any indication that the wall that was built and over which was passed only materials fitting that guideline were breached, that would mean that the Grand Jury indictment should not be dismissed. It was produced as a result of evidence which did not contain any of the evidence which we're suggesting would not appropriately be presented.

And it was not even presented by prosecutors who knew about that information, with that one exception on the exculpatory and the Rick Wade exception. Both of those as falling outside the guidelines suggested.

So, strictly speaking, as to the evidence which we agree would not have inevitably have been

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discovered, none of that was presented to the Grand Jury. It was not presented by prosecutors who had knowledge of it.

There was evidence presented that supervisory personnel in the district attorneys office in Anchorage, Mr. McConnell, and in Juneau, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Guaneli, knew of the probable cause statement in the complaint. Let's examine that for two purposes. One, to see what it was that they knew that would be impermissible, and, number two, assuming impermissible matters were to be excluded, does enough remain to support the charges in the complaint -- any information, excuse me.

Judge, if you examine the information and remove from it the things which are time sensitive, what it means is you remove the line which refers to the fact that the two Coast Guard investigators smelled alcohol on the breath of the defendant. It appears on the bottom of the third page of the charging document. The line reads, "The Coast Guards officers, who were the first persons on the ship after the grounding, stated they smelled alcohol on the breath of the defendant." That would be what you would remove from that probable cause statement. It would remain the fact that the blood test showed a result of .061 and

.09 and that that would violate federal law as to the standards of intoxication for one acting as a officer on a vessel like this.

So, therefore, even if you were to exclude from the information the same things which would be excluded under this finding, there would be probable cause in the information to support the charges.

The same thing is true with respect to what the prosecutors who talked to the prosecuting team, that is the supervisor of the prosecutors who talked to the prosecuting team, knew? The thing which would be eliminated from their knowledge which they could pass on and utilize would be the fact that the two Coast Guard investigators smelled alcohol on the captain's breath. They could still utilize the results of the alcohol test. There's no indication that they, in fact, communicated that information in any fashion to the prosecuting team, that is, the results of the alcohol test.

Judge, while there is some authority that, if a prosecutor has even knowledge of such prohibited materials, he may not participate in charging decisions. He may not act like, do the work of, a lawyer.

That's not the law in the Ninth Circuit. The

law in the Ninth Circuit says, it's improper for the prosecutors to use the information in an evidentiary fashion. That is to present it in evidence; to use it to cross examine a witness; as a lead in an investigation. But doesn't go as far as that case which says, if they even know it, they're disqualified.

Judge, for those reasons, we think that the motion to dismiss should be denied, as to both the complaint and the indictment and that we should be permitted to prosecute the case with the evidence we've collected with those exceptions.

(2848)

asked that counsel address the burden of proof. You did barely address it. In the Williams case, I think, they used a standard of proof of preponderance of the evidence. And we have an evidence rule in a couple of cases in this jurisdiction that seems to say the same thing. But do you have anything else you want to add on that?

MR. LINTON: Judge, there were some points in the proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law where I wrote in the court finds these things by a preponderance of the evidence/beyond a reasonable doubt.

I don't know of any authority that requires
Your Honor to find anything beyond a reasonable doubt
in these proceedings. But, there may be some of the
evidence which came through so clearly and so
convincingly that it, in fact, meets that standard.
And, if it, in fact, met that standard, then we'd ask
Your Honor to put the finding in that form.

This is an important matter in a sensitive area and the length that the state went to to try to guard its prosecuting team was in part a reflection of the state's sensitivity to the fact that it is a sensitive area. And we are breaking new ground. And in what we're asking Your Honor, we're asking Your Honor, in some respects, to break new ground.

This is authority which leads in this direction, but there's nothing on point that tells either the state or tells Your Honor how to proceed in this kind of instance.

If we had made showings that rise to that level and Your Honor could make the findings to a higher standard, we'd ask Your Honor to do that. But the law doesn't require it.

THE COURT: Are you saying that, in your opinion, the law requires proof by a preponderance of the evidence?

MR. LINTON: Exactly.

THE COURT: Okay. Now, how about Kastigar, when Kastigar says that the prosecution has a heavy burden, what are they referring in that? Are they referring to a standard of proof or the standard to the volume of proof?

MR. LINTON: I think they're reflecting the practical common sense notion that you kind of start with one foot in a bucket when you start from that position. Not that no one is capable of showing it by a preponderance of the evidence, but that the normal inference to be drawn is adverse, and until there has been a showing by a preponderance to the contrary, the state's going to have a tough row to hoe.

(3044)

ARGUMENT BY DEFENDANT

MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, Mr. Linton says that he's asking the court to break new ground. I would submit that the prosecutors are on thin ice and he's asking the court to join him out there.

My job today, I think, is to point out the cracks in the ice and obviously the court can do what it wants. But, what they're asking you to do, is extraordinary.

I'd like to start by noting for the court

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that, probably a hundred times a day all over the country, witnesses are given immunity. Criminals are given immunity. Some times transactional. use derivative. Contract murderers, drug dealers, embezzlers are given immunity by the authorities because the authorities believe that the information those witnesses have is more important than prosecuting those witnesses. A cost benefit analysis is performed and they say, we would rather have your information because of the good it will do us than put you in jail.

In this case, Congress made that cost benefit analysis. Congress said, we want you to report oil spills whatever the circumstances. And, in return, we're willing to give you immunity. We want you to report so badly, we're going to make it a crime not to report. And, in return, we're going to give you immunity.

Now, if you just took the statute and Kastigar and applied them to the facts of this case, that's the And what it shows is, that everything flows pyramid. from Mr. Hazelwood's report. And, if you just apply these general principles, the prosecution couldn't go forward. That was recognized by the state early on.

They had serious problems in wanting to prosecute Captain Hazelwood. And you had a little bit

of a peak, we've all had a little peak, into the decision making process that the state went through; why they decided to prosecute Captain Hazelwood and not Mr. Cousins and not the higher ups in Exxon, and not Exxon, itself.

(3207)

They had reasons. And we're not here to examine their reasons, but they had reasons why they wanted to go after Mr. Hazelwood and nobody else. But they have to get around a very serious obstacle, which was Kastigar. And under the facts in the law of this case, they had a particularly difficult time.

First, there was the law. Kastigar says you can't use his report to help focus the investigation. You can't use it to lead to other evidence. You can't use it in any way, any way, to help obtain a conviction. It doesn't say you can't use it to lead to other evidence unless you can you show you could have found the evidence otherwise. It doesn't say you can use everything he says, as long as later on down the line, you can prove that you might have gotten it anyway.

Pretty strong. If you read the Kastigar language, it's strong, it's emphatic, and it emphasizes what a heavy burden is being placed on the prosecution,

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24 25 what a strong protection it is attempting to grant to a witness who is being compelled to speak.

So that's the first burden they had to overcome, was the law.

The second one was, that no one else, in fact, reported, as Lieutenant Commander Falkenstein testified, in fact, nobody other than Captain Hazelwood reported the spill. So they don't have, under the law, what traditionally would be regarded as an independent This is not a situation where someone reports themself and they also have a whole other investigation that had been going on for two months and they can say, well, we had this independent batch of evidence that would have led us here anyway. They don't have any of that, as they've candidly admitted. (3380)

They have an investigation that went forward for three weeks using the information he gave them; no efforts made to prevent the use of that information; and only at the end of that three weeks when, as Mr. Linton acknowledged on the stand, the investigation was virtually complete, only at that time did they erect their Chinese wall.

Okay, now that our investigation is done, now that we've used all your information to collect our

evidence, now we'll erect our Chinese wall and decide what we want to put over the wall and what we don't.

That's unprecedented. You won't find another case anywhere where that procedure was followed.

They had a situation where the lawyers and expert witnesses, who were working on the case for the first three weeks, were not given any special instructions. And even the clean team had exposure to a variety of information; news reports and the like.

They had a situation where they went out a week after the spill and charged Captain Hazelwood before they'd even determined the extent of the immunity he was entitled to. And I suggest to the court that that may be the key to why we're here in the first place.

In essence, by charging Captain Hazelwood before they even figured out the extent of his immunity, the state painted itself into a corner. What are they going to do now? Say, whoops, we made a mistake, in front of the entire nation and say, it turns out you've got immunity and we overlooked the statute and so we're going to withdraw the prosecution?

At that point, they'd gotten out on thin ice and there was no way for them to get back.

If they're going to prosecute Captain

1	Hazelwood, they've got to sell the court on some legal
2	and factual propositions that have never been accepted
3	before and which require stretching of the facts and
4	law almost beyond recognition in some cases.
5	They say that, well, the first argument is the
6	independent source doctrine. And what they're asking
7	the court to do, in Mr. Linton's words, is carve out a
8	narrow exception to the statute.
9	(3490)
10	THE COURT: Do you know of any other cases
11	where there's been a compelled reporting that was
12	protected in conjunction with a compelled reporting
13	that was not protected? Or, is Mr. Linton correct that
14	this is a unique situation from that point of view?
15	MR. FRIEDMAN: I'm not sure I understand.
16	THE COURT: Well, as I understand the
17	regulations, Captain Hazelwood was required to report a
18	marine casualty.
19	MR. FRIEDMAN: Uh-huh (affirmative).
20	THE COURT: And there's no immunity provided
21	for that.
22	MR. FRIEDMAN: Right.
23	THE COURT: Compelled report. And he is
24	compelled to report a spill for which there is some
25	
	sort of immunity provided. Do you know of any other

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case that provides that type of scenario to compelled reports, one protected, one not?

MR. FRIEDMAN: I know of no case that explicitly says it in that way. But, if you look at the other oil spill cases that we cited in our brief, and I haven't done this, but I would expect that one could go look at those fact situations and go into the Code of Federal Regulations and find other duties to report.

For example, one of the cases dealt with a situation where a factory was leaking or discharging hazardous waste into a river. Somebody called up and said, we've got a leak here. We've got a problem here. And later claimed immunity.

Now, clearly he had an obligation to report under 13.21.B(5). My guess is, and it's just a guess, that there's a federal regulation somewhere that also required him to report. Some other federal agency, or perhaps a state agency.

If this occurred in New York, for example, my guess is that there's a New York regulation that would have required some sort of self report.

Let's put the law aside. There may have been, if this was ITT or whatever the company was, Exxon, there's probably internal policies that require

reporting to somebody at some point.

And, our point, Your Honor, is that, if you accept that argument, you can almost come up with some other reason why someone could have been reporting.

But you asked us for some argument on the policy issues behind this, and I'd like to provide that to you. But I'd like to start with Mr. Linton's statement that he's asking you to carve out an exception to the statute, because I think that's a very important point.

Congress passed the statute. Congress conferred the immunity. It's not in this court's province to tinker with the statute. To carve out an exception to the statute. If Congress feels that the application of this statute to the facts in a particular way is inappropriate, it's Congress's prerogative to change that.

Going to the policy issues, there's some important distinctions that the court needs to be aware of between the spill statute and the grounding regulations. The spill statute requires immediate reporting. And, if you look at the Coast Guard regulations promulgated under that statute, it's clear what is contemplated is radio reporting or whatever is the next quickest, if for some reason a radio report can't be made.

1 (3758)

The grounding regulations, if you look at those, and, I believe it's .05-10(B), says that in place of the report required by that regulation, a Coast Guard form report may be filed, if it is filed without delay.

So, in other words, the regulatory scheme while it says you are to report, also provides that it can be done in writing, which any common sense reading of that, would have to indicate that a form being filed without delay is going to be somewhat longer than a radio report. Presumably within 24 hours, 36 hours, 72 hours. I don't know what the Coast Guard means by without delay. But the provision that it can be done in writing, clearly shows that the intent is not with the immediate response required by the statute.

And that makes some sense for policy reasons.

If there's an oil spill, we want to get on the scene as quickly as possible to prevent damage to the environment.

If there's a grounding, that can encompass a wide range of problems from some barge going aground in a sand bar in the Mississippi River to something like what we have here. And the purpose of the grounding regulation is to allow the Coast Guard to get notice of

what hazards are in the water; what's causing problems to mariners; and to initiate an investigation if it feels one is warranted. But the sense of immediacy is not there as there is for a spill. And I think that's reflected in the regulations.

It's further reflected in the penalties. It's a crime not to report yourself if you're involved in a spill. That's a crime set out by Congress.

I am not as familiar with the Coast Guard regulations as maybe I should be, but I couldn't find anywhere where it was made a crime, punishable by imprisonment, to fail to file the grounding form that's required under the regulations cited by the state.

Finally, of course, the spill regulation, or the spill statute, gives immunity; and the grounding one does not.

If the state's view were correct, when you think about what's going to cause an oil spill, there are really two categories in terms of maritime things, at least that I'm familiar with. One would be, as you're loading or unloading a tanker and a hose comes loose or malfunctions and oil is dumped into the harbor, it's caught immediately. People see it. It's a problem and it's addressed immediately.

The other category of problems are those that

result from casualties; collisions, groundings, things of that type. And, if the state were correct, whenever there were a grounding, collision, something of that type, a captain would have no immunity for the report ever.

And then you're in this anomalous situation where you have Congress saying, in effect, Captain Hazelwood, when you run aground and start leaking oil, we want you to report and we're going to grant you immunity; and you have the Coast Guard saying, well, we want you to report also...

THE COURT: Is that what Congress says, "When you run aground and you start leaking oil, we want you to report"? Or does Congress say, "When you lead oil, we want you to report"?

MR. FRIEDMAN: For any reason. Exactly.

THE COURT: When you leak oil.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Right.

And it's clear Congress meant it to cover the field. They want you to report if it's grounding.

They want you to report if the hose malfunctions. They want you to report no matter what. And they're giving you immunity no matter what.

(4058)

If some other duty, whatever it is -- part of

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the problem with the state's argument, of course, is the speculative nature of it. I mean, what Kastigar requires it is factually a wholly independent source.

When someone is granted immunity to testify before a Grand Jury, he can say, well, -- I forget the name of the statute. It's cited in all the case. -- he can say, I'm here testifying pursuant to this grant of immunity under this statute. The prosecutor, after he testifies and the prosecutor gets his information, can say, well, yeah, we granted you immunity under the statute, but really you would have testified anyway because your wife wanted you to come and make a clean breast of it. And that's really the reason you testified, so we should be allowed to get around your immunity. Or you really testified because you became a Born Again Christian.

The state, the government, can always come up with some other idea as to why somebody testified against themselves. But the law of immunity is, we don't speculate about those things. If the government grants you immunity, it's not lightly taken away.

> THE COURT: Mr. Friedman.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: If Captain Hazelwood had reported just a grounding and then said, out, and then come back

in an hour and said, we're evidently leaking some oil too, would the report of the grounding, would that have constituted a wholly independent source under the facts of this case for investigation?

MR. FRIEDMAN: I think I can say it might well have, certainly.

THE COURT: How about if it was five minutes later he said, and evidently we're leaking some oil?

MR. FRIEDMAN: I think also in that situation. Well, under the facts, as they've come out in this trial, where we have witnesses saying we would have responded to the grounding anyway, assuming that's given credence, then I think...

THE COURT: Is there any serious dispute that the Coast Guard would have responded to a grounding of the Exxon Valdez on Bligh Reef any less quick than if the Exxon Valdez had just reported evidently leaking some oil? Do you think there's any serious dispute on that?

(TAPE: C-3524)

(0026)

MR. FRIEDMAN: Well, I'm not willing to concede that and this is why, Your Honor. I think, when you look at one of the transcripts, well, let me take that back. I don't think that's in evidence. I

think, given the state of the evidence, we have to say that they would have responded had there been a grounding as well, yes.

What the court would have to find though, in order to find this is an independent source, is that these fifteen words, or however many words there are in that sentence, should be divided in half. And, if you accept the state's argument, then the only thing that's immunized are the words oil spill or leaking oil. And everything else around that is not immunized. And think about that for a minute, because you did want some argument on policy things.

If that were the case, clearly Congress doesn't want Captain Hazelwood to pick up the radio and say, I'm not going to tell you who I am, where I am, or how I got here, but I'm leaking oil, and you now have your oil spill report. That clearly is not what they want. They want a report that gives them the information they need to respond effectively. And that report has to, as a matter of common sense, contain his name, the ship, location, if he knows it, and what happened. Why it's leaking oil.

If there was a fire on board and they were leaking oil because of fire on board, that would be important for the Coast Guard to know. If they're

aground and they're leaking oil, that's important for the Coast Guard to know. And, as a matter of fact, you cannot say one sentence or one group of words in a sentence, is wholly independent from the other group of words.

that we have here, if you adopt the state's view, you also then have this problem of, well, do you apply an objective or a subjective standard? If you're going to apply an objective standard, presumably that would involve searching around as to whether there's any other legal, maybe moral, duty to report. I think that was what Mr. Linton was grappling with in his argument saying, well, if life is in endangered, then you probably would have reported anyway, therefore, there's no immunity.

Well a creative prosecutor is always, in ever case, going to be able to come up with some reason why someone would have reported anyway. There's no fact situation you can come up with where you couldn't find a legal, moral, societal duty to report in that sort of situation. And, so, the objective standard swallows up the immunity.

On the other hand, you could try to apply a subjective standard. Was he thinking of something else

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when he reported. Did he report because his wife wanted him to or because he though he was going to die. And you can speculate as to all of the other reasons he might have reported anyway.

Significantly, there's no evidence that Captain Hazelwood was aware of this grounding regulation. That he was reporting pursuant to this grounding regulation. No evidence that he that he thought his crew was in danger, as Mr. Linton suggested, and was reporting for that reason.

And, so, what you're really being asked to do, if you look at this independent source exception, what you're being asked to do is, first, cut these words, a sentence in half. Say one part is wholly independent of the other and then say he was really only doing the first half. And there are independent reasons as to why. You're looking into his mind on the basis of no evidence and saying, well, you must have been reporting because you were afraid for your crew or you must have been reporting because you must have known about this Coast Guard regulation.

Again, you will be out there stretching to make factual findings that simply aren't there in the record.

Again, Your Honor, I think it bears repeating.

1	If you look at Kastigar in the case of sense that do
2	deal with the independent sources exception. They're
3	all factually focussed. Not one of them looks at
4	independent duty or independent motivation. They are
5	all looking at independent in fact. Was an independent
6	investigation going on? Is there an independent source
7	somewhere? And, by independent, they're referring to a
8	different witness, a different deposition, a different
9	something.
10	You will not find anywhere a situation where
11	they try to read into a single statement two different
12	motivations and two different meetings and then
13	separate them out.
14	On the issue of inevitable discovery, the
15	state's asking you to make several leaps. And before I
16	talk about those, I'd like to I'm sorry.
17	THE COURT: I was thinking that, before you
18	got into that, it might be good to take a break here.
19	MR. FRIEDMAN: That would be fine, Your Honor.
20	THE COURT: We've been at it for some time.
21	MR. FRIEDMAN: Sure.
22	THE COURT: You're not near finished
23	MR. FRIEDMAN: I'm not close.
24	THE COURT:I don't think. Okay. Let's
25	take a break.

1	THE CLERK: Please rise. This court stands in
2	recess, subject to call.
3	(Off record - 9:54 a.m.)
4	(0231)
5	(On record - 10:14 a.m.)
6	THE COURT: You may be seated. I have until
7	noon for the arguments. Are you going to be out of it?
8	Okay, because we're going to recess at noon. I have
9	1:30 and 3:30 omnibus hearings I've got to prepare for
10	too. Okay.
11	MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, I wanted to start
12	the discussion of inevitable discovery by pointing out
13	that Nix is not a Fifth Amendment case as Mr. Linton
14	suggested.
15	THE COURT: It's a Sixth Amendment case.
16	MR. FRIEDMAN: Right.
17	If you're going to apply the inevitable
18	discovery doctrine in this case, you again have to make
19	some leaps of faith, however you want to characterize,
20	what the state is asking you to do.
21	The first thing you have to do is decide that
22	the state of Alaska would adopt the inevitable
23	discovery exception. As we pointed out in our brief,
24	it's never been adopted.
25	If we were here today arguing over an illegal

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search and whether inevitable discovery should apply, I would probably be pointing out to the court the instances in which the Alaska Supreme Court or Court of Appeals has deviated from the Burger or Rehnquist courts and the greater protection in our court has said applies, both in immunity areas and in privacy areas and a variety of things.

And Mr. Linton would be arguing the U.S.

Supreme Court authorities and it would be a close question as to whether the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals of Alaska would adopt inevitable discovery in a search context, Fourth Amendment context, or Sixth Amendment context.

But you have another hurdle, which is, no where, at least that we've been able to find, has the inevitable discovery doctrine been applied in the context of immunity.

(0330)

Now, we submitted -- well, first I should say, the reason for that, I think, is apparent from looking at the policies involved. Kastigar is such a strong prohibition against the use of testimony against a defendant who's been granted immunity that, I think it may not have occurred to any prosecutor, that they can sell this argument to a judge. That although we've

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granted you immunity and we've used what you've given us, we can now still go after you because we could have found all of this anyway.

I think, again, similar to the argument I made before, in almost every instance, once you have the answer to the problem, it's easy to show you would have gotten there anyway. How arguably it's easy to show.

At any event, the only case we were able to find that explicitly discusses immunity and inevitable discovery is the case we cited to the court over the weekend, the Hanley case out of Alabama. And significantly, if you take -- the Hanley case, apparently the defendant didn't object to the inevitable discovery doctrine applying there. He said simply, if you apply it, it still doesn't fit.

The court said the prosecution must demonstrate that the lawful means, which made discovery inevitable, were possessed by the police and were being actively pursued prior to the occurrence of the illegal conduct.

So that even, if you want to, assume Alaska would adopt inevitable discovery, further assume that it would apply in an immunity context, you still are left with a problem of, as it's been applied by the courts, it doesn't fit here, because what the courts

require is prior pursuit. That what was going on at the time you called, would have ultimately led to the discovery anyway. And clearly we don't have that here.

Nix, as you're undoubtedly aware, the search party's heading right towards the body. They would have reached it in a half an hour. Their instructions were so explicit. Search under culverts. That's where the body was. Barring some unforeseen cataclysmic occurrence, they would have inevitably found the body. (0413)

Here, what the state is asking you to do is indulge in a series of speculations and guesses to try to establish that inevitably everything that they got would have been found anyway.

You asked for some argument on the burden.

And I'm not sure that I can add anything to what we've provided you in the briefs already. We've got Kastigar saying it's a heavy burden. We have, I think it's Wade, yes Wade, interpreting Murphy v. Waterfront Commission, as requiring a clear and convincing standard.

Clearly there are federal cases that require only a preponderance of the evidence standard. There's a split of authority.

Again, as I say, I'm not sure I can provide

the court with anything more than we've given in the briefs. I'm not sure it makes a lot of difference, given the state's factual concessions in this case, given the actual facts as they've been presented in the hearing. And I'll explain why in a minute.

The first issue, if we enter this land of speculation, is when would the ship have been discovered? And just so there's no mistake, we agree inevitably the ship would have been discovered without his call. Would have been discovered some time that night or that early morning. Clearly the oil spill would have been discovered soon thereafter.

But that doesn't answer the question. If you're going to go down this road with the state, Your Honor, you're going to have to make specific findings as to what inevitably would have happened. Not what might have happened. Not what could have happened. But what inevitably would have happened. And whatever standard you apply, the state comes up short. (0538)

Really, three different theories you can use or that the state has presented you with to try to figure out when the ship would have inevitably have been discovered: one I'll call the Blandford theory; one is the Chevron California theory; and the third is

that people on the shore would have eventually noticed the ship. I won't talk about the people on the shore, just because, really, the Chevron California theory gets us where we want to be. And the state concedes that the people on the shore, their discovery, would have been some time later than the Chevron California.

I'd like to talk about the Blandford scenario first. Basically, that theory is that Mr. Blandford would have noticed something amiss and would have taken a series of actions which would have resulted in discovery of the Exxon Valdez and the predicament it was in sooner than the Chevron California theory.

It requires the court to make findings as to what Mr. Blandford would have done, would have done, which Mr. Blandford, himself, was unwilling to commit to. He told us there was not set procedures for what to do. He told us that at some point, about the time he received the call, he was beginning to wonder about the ship anyway. He said soon thereafter he probably would have tried to raise the ship on the radio. He said at some point, if he didn't receive a return call, he would have made repeated calls.

Now, he didn't say, and there's no evidence as to how long he would have kept trying to make repeated radio calls before doing something else. So, the court

will have to provide this. If you want to go down that road, you'd have to provide that factual material. You will have to say, well, I find, after he made seven and a half calls, he then would have done something else.

Or, after he tried for five minutes or ten minutes, he then would have done something else.

He didn't say that. There's no evidence in the record to support that sort of a finding. But, assuming you want to make that kind of finding, after ten minutes it would have been reasonable for him to do something else, doesn't mean Mr. Blandford would. But, if you want to say that, then the next question is, all right, what would he have done next?

Well, he said there were a variety of things of he could have done. He could have called other vessels in the area. He could have called the pilot boat at, I think it's Potato Point, one of those points, to go out and take a look. He could have called the Chevron California. And he could have looked on the radar. I think those are the four that he mentioned initially.

He never said what order he would have done those in. Which one he would have tried first. Which one he would have tried second. How long he would have

tried one or the other until he moved on to something else.

As to the radar issue, remember that the radar was set on a setting that wouldn't have shown the ship. And remember that Mr. Blandford said that he expected the ship would have been well passed Bligh Reef by the time he started wondering what was going on. So, it's safe to assume, on this land of speculation, that had he turned on the radar to look for the ship, he would have been looking well passed Bligh Reef for it. He never said, he was never asked and he never said that, had Captain Hazelwood not told him where the ship was, that he would have found it.

Now, we can speculate. We can say, well, it was a half inch blip on his screen and therefore he would have found it. But, again, we're speculating in a way that he was even unwilling to do. And there's no evidence that he would have found it not knowing where to look on his own.

(0700)

But there was this list of things he could have done. There was no testimony as to which he would have done, in what order, and so on. Assuming at some point he discovered something was wrong, he said that he would have contacted Commander McCall. But, once he

was alarmed, once he was worried, seriously worried, he would have called Commander McCall.

I do want to point out, just as an aside, that the records we showed him showed that, on occasions, as much as twenty minutes passed, a vessel was as much as twenty minutes late, without him having responded in some way, as he admitted to us. And, also, that on some occasions, vessels didn't even report in when they were supposed to and he couldn't tell us what action, if any, he had taken on those occasions.

But, again, giving him the benefit of the doubt that he would have done something and he would have discovered something was amiss, at some point in time that evening, he would have contacted Commander McCall. Well, what have he had said to Commander McCall? That, of course, depends on what he found. You're going to have to supply what he would have said to Commander McCall.

There's no testimony -- Commander McCall said, if somebody told me the ship was aground, they would have sent people out there. But he provided no testimony about what he would have done if he'd simply been told the Exxon Valdez is missing. I can't raise them on the radio. Or, the Exxon Valdez has not been spotted by the Chevron California and is not responded,

what should we do next? Commander McCall didn't say what he would do in that situation.

And so, again, the court is left to fill in the blanks for the state, if you want to go down that road.

The Blandford scenario is so speculative, that ever the state has not suggested that the court adopt it either in its briefs or in it proposed findings of fact. If the state is unwilling to go that far out, the court should be unwilling to do that far out.

But assume you do, for a minute. Assume you do. And you find that, if you take an extreme example, the investigators would have arrived only a half hour later than when they did arrive. So, we've got them there roughly a little after four o'clock. There is testimony at the hearing that Captain Hazelwood was at various places on the ship at various times that night. To make sense, at times he was in his stateroom. At times he was in the stateroom where they were conducting interviews. At times he was on the bridge. At times he was walking around.

There's no showing as to, had they come aboard at 4:05, let's say, where Captain Hazelwood would have been. That's significant for this reason. We know

that at 3:30 standing next to him on the bridge someone thought they smelled alcohol on his breath. At 4:05, if he were in the engine room, if he were out on the wing, the outside of the vessel, if he were in another location, could they have smelled alcohol on his breath? We don't know. But it is safe, and again, we are in this sort of land of speculation, but, if we're there, we're there because the state wants us there. And, if we there, it's the state that has to answer these sorts of questions.

Just like in Nix, inevitably the prosecution could show, we would have wound up at that culvert where the body was and we would have looked. The state has to show you that, inevitably, we would have wound up in a position with Captain Hazelwood where someone could have smelled alcohol on his breath. And they can't do that. And you'll have to supply that, if you want to adopt the Blandford scenario.

If you adopt the Chevron California scenario, which is the one the state is urging, that is not an unreasonable assumption. That by the time the ship was going by, Chevron California, went by Bligh Island within three miles of the Exxon Valdez, somebody would have figured something is wrong. The position would have been located, because the Chevron California could

have seen it and would have radioed and they would have known something.

Now, the testimony on this is somewhat fuzzy, unlike much of the other testimony. The captain of the Chevron California said, if I had maintained my same speed, I would have arrived abeam Bligh Island at 2:50. He said that assumed that he didn't slow down for ice. But there were ice reports in the area.

Lieutenant Commander Falkenstein told us that he estimated the Chevron California would be abeam Bligh Island at 3:30. So we've got a forty minute different there as to discovery time. I think Lieutenant Commander Falkenstein was basing his estimate on the ship slowing for ice. No evidence one way or the other as to whether they actually would have slowed for ice.

At any rate, it would have taken a minimum, as the state says in its proposed findings, a minimum of three hours and seventeen minutes once there's a report to the Coast Guard for the investigators to get out to the ship.

Now, that's a minimum time, in terms of what you can do, because there's been no evidence that, what would it be, roughly two, three hours later, the same response would have been effective. There's no reason

to assume it would be different, but there's no reason to assume it would be the same either. One of these men may have gone on duty somewhere else, so on.

(0974)

But I think the court can adopt that. Can say, all right, three hours and seventeen minutes from the time the Chevron California was going by; puts investigators on the ship at either 6:07 or 6:47, depending upon which side of the spectrum you want to come down on. It really doesn't matter a whole lot, because the end result is the same.

The state admits that the smell of alcohol on Hazelwood's breath was not inevitably going to be discovered. And that's a key concession that really decides this case for the court even if you have gone this far down the road with the state.

Dan Lawn said he thought he smelled something like alcohol on Hazelwood's breath between, I think he said, 5:30 and 7:00 o'clock. If the officers get on board 6:00 o'clock or 6:47, there's no evidence the smell would have still been there. We know by 8:30 it was gone, because Trooper Fox, who was specifically looking for smell or smelling for a smell of alcohol, didn't smell it. So the state's concession that the inevitability of the smell of alcohol isn't there is

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well taken.

What are the implications of that for this inevitable discovery doctrine? We have to imagine, recreate, what would have happened had the officers gone on board and not smelled alcohol. Well, that leads, based on what we know, to some serious problems for the state's argument.

First, we know that, when Trooper Fox was first called about the spill/grounding, that all he did was roll over and go back to bed. This was not something he was going to investigate. At least not that night. We know the only time the investigators called him out there was when they decided they needed to do a breath test.

I need to back up for a second. They didn't go out there with a breath test or a urinalysis or a blood test kit. They didn't go out there with the intent to test for alcohol. What prompted them to test for alcohol at that time was the smell of alcohol on Hazelwood's breath. The testimony is uncontracted on that point. And fairly convincing.

They get out there and this is a surprising fact. And they respond by trying to get Trooper Fox out there. When Fox got out there, he was given all

the information about the potential of alcohol being involved. And remember what he said? And this was quite a while ago. But what he said was, when he got back to shore, he started pursuing alcohol leads. Gave some of those leads to the Coast Guard that night, hoping they would further pursue. And then he got on the phone with his superiors and he was trying to convince them that the state should do its own investigation of the accident.

Now, that's not, in hindsight, maybe that's self evident. But at the time it wasn't. The Coast Guard had jurisdiction. The Coast Guard had its team of investigators out there. It was a large vessel casualty. Not the sort of thing the troopers ordinarily investigate. And Fox is having a hard time, as he said, getting people to take him seriously. He's saying, look, this is bigger than anyone of you really understands. And he's trying to tell them that alcohol's been involved.

Now, that's what actually happened. And it took him several days to convince his superiors to send other troopers down there.

Now, assume Delozier is out there and he doesn't smell alcohol and he starts his Coast Guard investigation. Who was on the bridge? Who wasn't on

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the bridge? Does that violate Coast Guard regulations and Coast Guard orders? Does it not violate those orders?

It's a Coast Guard investigation. There are no state trooper issues floating around. Fox hasn't even gone out there. There's no showing at all in the evidence that the troopers would have even investigated this case had Fox not been out there that morning and been aware of the alcohol issues.

Now, if there's no trooper investigation, everything falls. And there's been no showing there would have been a trooper investigation in the absence of the smell of alcohol. The indictment is dismissed because use was made of trooper gained materials. Use was made of alcohol related information.

Now, I need to address two general statements; one made by McGhee and one made by Falkenstein. McGhee says, well, we would have looked into the issue of alcohol anyway. That would be part of our investigation. Well, that assumes, and there's no evidence to support it, that the troopers would have investigated. Likewise, Falkenstein says, any marine casualty investigation would have involved an alcohol investigation.

Well, first of all, that's not necessarily

supported by the evidence. We know that, when the Coast Guard people first went out, they brought no equipment to investigate alcohol. And we know that when Fox, even knowing it was an alcohol case, when he went out there, he didn't bring any equipment to investigate alcohol, in terms of blood tests.

(1270)

We know that, in the ensuing investigations, no questions were asked relating to alcohol use by Cousins, the third mate who was on the bridge at the time, or Kagan, the helmsman.

That's why, by the way, Your Honor, we submitted Exhibit F.

Exhibit F are the interviews conducted by the troopers. And if you look, they're asking questions about Hazelwood. They're not asking questions about Cousins or Kagan.

What that does is, that casts doubt on their assertions that they would have, absent the smell of alcohol, still investigated the alcohol issue. Because the fact is, they didn't seriously investigate it as to Cousins or Kagan. They took blood tests of Cousins and Kagan only after they thought they smelled it on Hazelwood's breath and they decided they were going to test everyone. But the subsequent days, as they're

trying to follow up leads and pursue the issue before the blood test results are back, they're asking only about Hazelwood because he's the only one they smelled alcohol on.

But, assume that they would have, in some manner, investigated alcohol. Either the Coast Guard or the troopers would have, in some manner, investigated alcohol.

That still does answer the crucial questions, which are: When would they have started investigating alcohol, if they hadn't smelled it on his breath? Some time after when then did. What would they have done to investigate alcohol? We know there's a direct link from the smell of alcohol to Fox to Caples to Murphy to bartender people and so on. We know what they did in response to the smell.

What would they have done if they were just doing a routine, cover all bases sort of investigation? Who would they have talked to? What would they have asked? And what answers would they have gotten several days later?

A case I wanted to cite to the court which I haven't done before is U.S. vs. Ramirez Sandoval, which is at 872 F2d 1392, it's a Ninth Circuit 1989 case.

And at page 1400, and this is an inevitable discovery case, Your Honor, under a, basically, search and seizure issue, but the court is wrestling with the same issue I'm bringing up now.

The court says, it's not disputed the officers had the right to ask these illegal aliens to come out of the car. And it's undisputed they had the right to ask them questions, such as what their immigration status was. But there's no showing as to what specific questions would have been, in fact, asked. In other words, if the right would have been exercised. No showing as to what the answers would have been. And, therefore, no showing that discovery was inevitable.

And that's the situation we have here. Even if you want to accept McGhee and Falkenstein's assertion that some sort of alcohol investigation would have been done, there's no showing that inevitably that investigation, the routine, perfunctory, careful investigation that would just be done by any careful investigator would have led to the same information, the same evidence that the specific investigation, prompted by specific leads, relating to specific people.

In other words, it caused it to focus on Hazelwood, caused it to focus on alcohol on his breath.

Fox was there, therefore, he had access to the local people and knew what to plug the Coast Guard into in terms of location knowledge and local people. No showing that any of that would have happened.

And, again, if you want to go down that road, you're going to have to supply those facts. You're going to have to say, well, I find that McGhee is a careful investigator, therefore, he would have asked questions that would have brought out these same facts. And there's no evidence in the record to support that.

Without the smell of alcohol, Your Honor, the entire state's case falls, even under their inevitable discovery theory.

(1525)

A similar point can be made about the crew members statements from another angle, assuming you excise or eliminate the issue of alcohol from the crew members' statements.

What actually happened in this case, was that the Coast Guard came aboard. Went up to the bridge and started interviewing the captain. The question is, what would have happened had he exercised his Fifth Amendment rights? Not filed his report with the Coast Guard. Said, we're not going to call the Coast Guard. We're going to take care of this ourselves. And the

Coast Guard comes aboard and he doesn't talk to them.

No showing has been made that any crew member would have, in fact, talked to investigators under that scenario.

Again, contrast this with Nix. Where the searchers are heading towards the body. They're a half hour away. They're searching in the precise types of locations. Discovery is inevitable, short of something happening.

There's been no testimony from any crew members or any investigators that the crew members would have talked. They would have spoken to the investigators had their captain remained silent, not reporting.

In short, Your Honor, not only is the state asking you to make some leaps of faith with regard to what the law should be in this area, but they're asking you to fill in substantial factual gaps to support their inevitable discovery theory.

Unlike Nix, where the prosecutor could show all the specific facts leading from point A to point B, all they've provided the court with are some general conclusory statements, which don't answer the specific step by step analysis that's required, even under the Supreme Court's view of it, the U.S. Supreme Court's

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view.

Your Honor, I just briefly want to talk about the Chinese wall issue. As I noted in the beginning, the state investigated this case for three weeks before implementing any kind of prophylactic measures. You won't find another case in the books where that's been done.

We have a case where the people, who are supposedly untainted, read newspaper articles about the case. Heard radio reports about the case. Actually heard the immunized testimony on the car radio, in the case of Brent Cole. Knew of the alcohol test. Knew that it was positive. That's the clean side.

You won't find another case upholding, what shall we call it, upholding the use or exposure of the clean prosecution to such extensive tainted information. You won't find another case where, even if you look at -- obviously, there's a split. Some cases say you can't make any evidentiary or non-evidentiary use. Other cases say non-evidentiary use is okay.

(1700)

Well, even if you only look at the nonevidentiary use is okay cases, you won't find another one where such extensive exposure and such extensive

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use has been made, where you have the prosecutors who are drafting the indictment language, who are making charging decisions, who are giving the names to the clean team as to who to call at Grand Jury, they're all exposed to the tainted information and they're calling the shots. You won't find a case like that.

That argument, that problem, doesn't fit neatly into any of the categories we've been talking about. We cannot show that, as a result of Larry Weeks knowing a specific piece of information, that he was specifically led to another piece of information. But it doesn't take much imagination to say that the whole course of the prosecution may have been determined by what they knew.

They knew what was out there. I forget which witness it was. One of the prosecutors, I think it was Mr. Guaneli, maybe it was Mr. Cole, said, I think it was Mr. Cole, he was talking about how the alcohol case, he thought, was pretty weak, based upon what he was going to be allowed to use. But he wasn't going to dismiss it, although, presumably, he had the authority to dismiss it. He wasn't going to dismiss it. They were going to wait and see what happens. In other words, what you're going to allow them to see or use.

And so, it's this game that they're playing,

where they know the answer and they know what's out there, but they're saying, well, we really don't know and it's not affecting our decision. But the evidence is that it is affecting their decision and it's affected it every step of the way; from the charging language to the decision to give immunity to Cousins. To not indict Cousins. To keep going with the DWI case, even though Brent Cole thinks it's weak.

The knowledge of the tainted information has permeated all of the decision making process. It's an incredible record of that. And I have trouble believe the courts that are most strongly against us on non-evidentiary use would approve of such use.

And, if you look at some of those case, like Bird, you can see these footnotes where they say, well, we think the better practice is to make sure they don't have any exposure to any of this stuff. And then you'd save us a lot of work and a lot worry, because clearly all the courts are uncomfortable with any of this kind of use.

Yes. Some of them have said, on the specific facts presented to them, one prosecutor sees a transcript of immunized testimony and then doesn't use it any more; says he's not using it. And they say, okay, under those circumstances, because we can compare

what you would have done, and they're all fact specific, in other words. No case has there been approval of such extensive non-evidentiary use as is presented in this case.

But you see they were stuck and they had to use that information as much as they did, because their whole solution, their whole concept doesn't make sense.

This gets back to the point that I was talking about in the beginning, Your Honor, where, if you apply the Kastigar principles, it all goes. And they've got to come up with a solution. And it's kind of a Ruth Goldberg Chinese wall. They're not really.

Remember what Kastigar's concerned with is what leads to what. We're not going to allow the immunized testimony to lead to other information. And if it leads to other information, we're going to throw it out. They can't live with that Kastigar concept. (1927)

So, they're going to slap a line across it and say everything before 6:07 is out; everything after 6:07 is in. It ignores Kastigar. It ignores common sense. We know that one fact leads to another leads to another. And there's nothing magical about 6:07 in terms of causation.

And what they're asking the court to approve,

and I think they've admitted as much, we can use it all. We can get it all up to 6:07. And we can get the fruits of what everything in here led us to. We'll let our prosecutors have all of this and all the evidence that supports these things. We just won't tell them how we got there and, therefore, Kastigar will be okay.

But Kastigar says that's not okay. That if you went right to things by what took place up here, you're out of luck.

(2018)

Your Honor, you asked me at one of our colloquies early in this case, whether, under the facts of this case, it was impossible to prosecute Mr. Hazelwood. I've had some time to think about that. And I guess the best answer I can come up for the court is this.

That, first of all, there's nothing wrong with that result and that's done all the time all over the country every day. You wind up with a result where immunity results in somebody not being able to be prosecuted. The whole reason we give immunity is to tell someone, you're going to be protected; therefore, we want your information.

Maybe it wasn't impossible to prosecute Mr. Hazelwood. The state knew, according to their

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testimony, by the 27th or 28th that they had an immunity problem. But maybe, maybe there was a way to immediately appoint separate investigators, separate prosecutors, and set them to work. Giving them no information and maybe that would have satisfied the Kastigar demands. In any case, it would have come a lot closer.

But, in fact, what happened was, three weeks of investigation, three weeks of using his immunized testimony, basically, compiling their entire case and then constructing the wall. And, under those facts, yes, it is impossible for them to do. Because, after three weeks, there's not a person in the state of Alaska who didn't hear or read about the immunized testimony, about the blood tests, and so on. After three weeks it's a charade. It's not an untainted team.

It is, as I mentioned to the court once before, it's Larry Weeks standing above the Chinese wall and Mr. Linton standing above the Chinese wall and pulling the strings on both sides. Deciding who's going to see what and what moves are going to be made. And that's not a Chinese wall, as that terms is being used in all the other cases.

And if it's impossible to prosecute Mr.

Hazelwood, it's certainly not the court's fault. Your job is to apply the law as Congress wrote it. And maybe it's not the state's fault. Although one could argue that they sure could have moved a lot faster to try to honor and correct the immunity.

Their extraordinary sensitivity, as Mr. Linton calls it, to these immunity rights is motivated more by the fact that, it took them so long to discover the problem and come up with a solution, than it is out of any sensitivity to those rights.

(2138)

If they were sensitive to those rights, they would have looked into them before they charged him with a crime. There was no rush. There was no need to charge him immediately, other than whatever public pressure they were feeling.

But, if it's impossible to prosecute him, that's a policy decision which has been made by Congress and is simply being implemented by this court. And that sort of policy decision is enforced by courts all the time. Your job is not to weigh the wisdom of that policy. Not to come up and carve out excepts to that policy because you think or Mr. Linton thinks there's a better way to write the statute. You have to apply the statute as written.

1	And, if you apply the statute, as written, and
2	immunity, as interpreted by Kastigar, to the facts of
3	this case, then, as this case was investigated, it is
4	impossible to prosecute Captain Hazelwood and still
5	honor his immunity rights.
6	We'd ask that the indictment and the
7	information be dismissed for that reason. Thank you.
8	THE COURT: Mr. Linton.
9	MR. LINTON: Your Honor, I don't think there's
10	any specific item would go to in rebuttal. I suggest
11	we use what time to go on to other motions, if we can
12	get one done between now and 11:00; now and 12:00.
13	THE COURT: I think I can use the time more
14	productively to start working on a decision on this
15	between 11:00 and noon. I'd like to do that. Maybe I
16	can do something tomorrow morning on this.
17	I have another case which is suppose to start
18	in trial tomorrow morning, but I'm going to just put
19	that off until we finish all the hearings on this and I
20	
21	can give you a decision on this.
22	I'll try to tomorrow morning have something
23	for you. I make no promises, but I'll do the best I
24	can.
25	If there's nothing further, we will stand in

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recess until 8:30...

MR. MADSON: Yes, a question, Your Honor. I assume from...

THE COURT: ...until 8:30 a.m. tomorrow morning. Excuse me.

MR. MADSON: I'm sorry, Your Honor. I didn't mean to interrupt.

From the court's comments, I assume the court is going to hear all the motions, even though you may reach a decision on this one prior to the argument on the others?

THE COURT: A lot depends on what I do on this one, doesn't it?

MR. MADSON: Well, it certainly would, Your Honor. But, I guess, the point I would like to make, is that it certainly would be nice to have rulings on everything, because I would think it's inevitable, if I dare use that word, that this case would be appealed by one party or the other.

It would be nice to have all the issues framed and argued and decision made on them, so we wouldn't have to do it piece meal, I guess, is what I'm saying. But, of course, it's your decision and your call. I'm only suggesting that it'd save, perhaps, a lot of time and trouble down the road.

THE COURT: Thanks for pointing that out.

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      We'll stand in recess.
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                THE CLERK: Please rise. This court stands in
3
      recess, subject to call.
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                (Off record - 11:01 a.m.)
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