

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 08/23/98

KATHLEEN ROBIN ESTEP, Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical, white, female, date of birth May 6, 1945, place of birth Washington, DC, Social Security Account Number [REDACTED], home address [REDACTED], home telephone number [REDACTED], work address MONTROSE PROFESSIONAL PARK, 6218 Montrose Road, Rockville, Maryland, 20852, work telephone number [REDACTED] was interviewed at the Office of the Independent Counsel (OIC) 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. The interview was conducted after a waiver of the patient/therapist privilege was executed by MONICA LEWINSKY, ESTEP's patient at one time. ESTEP was provided a copy of the waiver signed by LEWINSKY.

Present for the interview were Associate Independent Counsel (AIC) MIKE EMMICK and AIC IMMERGUT. Present representing ESTEP was MAC EHRLICH, her attorney. ESTEP, being apprised of the official identities of the interviewers and the nature of the interview, provided the following information:

ESTEP advised that she has a Master's degree in Social Work and has conducted 3,000 hours of supervised therapy and passed a licensing exam to be considered Licensed Certified.

ESTEP first met MONICA LEWINSKY in November of 1996, while ESTEP was working at the GREEN MEDICAL CENTER in Tyson's Corner, Virginia. LEWINSKY was a patient of Dr. MICHAEL GREEN, who had a weight loss clinic at that location. GREEN referred LEWINSKY to ESTEP because it appeared LEWINSKY was undergoing a lot of depression and anxiety.

ESTEP provided the OIC with a copy of her file on LEWINSKY and referred to the file during the course of the interview.

LEWINSKY's first appointment with ESTEP was on November 9, 1996. At their first meeting, LEWINSKY said there was something she would not tell ESTEP. LEWINSKY said she would tell ESTEP everything but that one thing. ESTEP found that intriguing.

During this first meeting, LEWINSKY advised she was

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depressed because she had terminated a pregnancy. LEWINSKY went into details of her relationship with someone other than the President, who was the father of the child and with whom LEWINSKY had a short relationship.

ESTEP's analysis after this first meeting was that LEWINSKY was depressed and was suffering from low self-esteem. ESTEP thought LEWINSKY was very self aware, was not delusional and was fairly stable. [REDACTED]

At their second meeting, on November 16, 1996, LEWINSKY told ESTEP she felt she could trust ESTEP and disclosed her relationship with President WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON. LEWINSKY spoke about CLINTON for nearly the full one to one and one half hours.

LEWINSKY felt she was not in control of the relationship. LEWINSKY mentioned her early contact with CLINTON and how she immediately felt a bond with him. LEWINSKY could not concentrate on work and would wait for CLINTON to come by her office. LEWINSKY told her mother and her aunt about the relationship. ESTEP recalls LEWINSKY saying her mother and aunt told her that LEWINSKY was one of many women CLINTON is involved with and they questioned his sincerity.

LEWINSKY asked ESTEP to take very few notes during this session because LEWINSKY did not want much written about her affair with CLINTON. As a result, ESTEP's notes are not very complete. ESTEP recalls LEWINSKY mentioning her relationship with CLINTON starting at a pizza party. LEWINSKY mentioned going to the restroom and CLINTON leading her into the Oval Office and to a little room off of the Oval Office where they engaged in sexual activity.

LEWINSKY said they kissed, she performed oral sex on CLINTON and that he fondled her breasts. ESTEP assumes CLINTON ejaculated, though she is not certain LEWINSKY was specific about that. LEWINSKY went into a lot of detail about what lead up to her sexual encounters with CLINTON, but she did not go into the details of what he did during the sexual activity.

LEWINSKY mentioned that, after their first encounter, CLINTON continued to come to her office to see her. LEWINSKY also saw CLINTON at various functions. LEWINSKY mentioned one function where LEWINSKY waited for CLINTON at a rope line and he gave her a very "sexual" hug. LEWINSKY said that CLINTON said he

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was worried that people would notice their relationship, so she was transferred to the Pentagon. LEWINSKY thought she was protecting CLINTON by working at the Pentagon. LEWINSKY felt CLINTON initiated their encounters, but LEWINSKY was a willing participant.

ESTEP thinks LEWINSKY mentioned one time when CLINTON called LEWINSKY. ESTEP advised the phone call was during a blizzard and HILLARY CLINTON was out of town. ESTEP thinks LEWINSKY said that CLINTON called in the middle of the night. ESTEP thinks LEWINSKY went to the White House in the middle of the night that night. LEWINSKY did not mention phone sex during her consultation with ESTEP.

ESTEP said LEWINSKY mentioned that, on one occasion, CLINTON was brought to LEWINSKY's apartment by the United States Secret Service at approximately 2 a.m. ESTEP advised that this is the only thing she can recall about that. ESTEP recalls thinking LEWINSKY may have made this up because the scenario of the President doing that seemed so incredible. Other than this one instance, ESTEP felt LEWINSKY was credible and well-grounded.

During her meetings with LEWINSKY, ESTEP focused on the issue of whether LEWINSKY was fantasizing or exaggerating. ESTEP concluded LEWINSKY had her feet in reality and was credible because she told her stories in sequence, they were very detailed and when ESTEP would go back to ask follow-up questions, LEWINSKY provided the same answer she had previously provided.

ESTEP advised that because LEWINSKY was providing so much information in just their second meeting, she did not ask LEWINSKY follow-up questions. ESTEP advised that it normally takes more time to build rapport with a patient, so she did not ask many questions of LEWINSKY. ESTEP was, instead, empathetic to LEWINSKY.

LEWINSKY was very anxious. ESTEP believes LEWINSKY's anxiety can be attributed to: her failed relationships; her fear of relationships not lasting, especially her relationship with CLINTON; and her relationship with her father.

At their November 23, 1996 session, LEWINSKY mentioned seeing GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS at a STARBUCK's coffee shop the previous Sunday. LEWINSKY said that she was friends with STEPHANOPOULOS's assistant LAURA. LEWINSKY said that STEPHANOPOULOS recognized her as working for KEN BACON. LEWINSKY said she asked STEPHANOPOULOS if his boss was the type of person

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who would lead anyone on. STEPHANOPOULOS said he did not think so. LEWINSKY then said that STEPHANOPOULOS said that CLINTON was a very powerful, complex man. LEWINSKY then asked STEPHANOPOULOS what he would do if he found out CLINTON was stringing someone along. STEPHANOPOULOS said he would not take it seriously.

ESTEP is not positive and cannot tell by her notes, but she thinks LEWINSKY said she told STEPHANOPOULOS some of the details of her relationship with CLINTON. ESTEP's notes reflect that LEWINSKY "would never have told him-no details." ESTEP interpreted these notes to mean that LEWINSKY said that she never would have gone into the details if CLINTON had called her regularly. ESTEP recalls thinking to herself at the time that LEWINSKY should not be revealing the relationship to anyone and that LEWINSKY might make the situation worse by being a "blabber mouth."

[REDACTED]

ESTEP advised that in their November 23rd session, ESTEP had LEWINSKY talk about her family life. ESTEP advised that she is trained to take a patient back to a "safer" place when they disclose too much information too soon, as LEWINSKY had in the November 16th session.

LEWINSKY's relationship with CLINTON did not seem one-sided to LEWINSKY. LEWINSKY was not at all delusional and she was very introspective and insightful. LEWINSKY never mentioned being called a "stalker" and she never mentioned a White House steward.

ESTEP said her three sessions with LEWINSKY were not enough to make a sound diagnosis on LEWINSKY. ESTEP did say that LEWINSKY had a lot of the indicators which might lead to a diagnosis of clinical depression. According to ESTEP, a diagnosis of clinical depression has no bearing on one's truthfulness or whether one fantasizes. ESTEP advised that a diagnosis of clinical depression does not indicate someone is delusional.

ESTEP moved her practice to its current location in December of 1996 and had no further sessions with LEWINSKY. ESTEP called LEWINSKY and provided her names of other therapists in the Northern Virginia area, but ESTEP is unsure if LEWINSKY

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went to any of them.

