

C A N A D A

PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC

COMITÉ D'ENQUÊTE DU CONSEIL
CANADIEN DE LA MAGISTRATURE

No: CCM16-0179

sous la présidence de: L'HON. J. ERNEST DRAPEAU
assisté de: L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre
et de: L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre
et de: Me BERNARD SYNNOTT, membre
et de: Me PAULE VEILLEUX, membre

DANS L'AFFAIRE CONCERNANT LE:

JUGE MICHEL GIROUARD

ENQUÊTE EN VERTU DES ARTICLES 63.1
ET 63.3 DE LA «LOI SUR LES JUGES»
AUDIENCE DU 9 MAI 2017

COMPARUTIONS:

Me EMMANUELLE ROLLAND,
Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL,
Me ÉLIE TREMBLAY,
avocats du Comité.

Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY,
Me LOUIS MASSON,
Me BÉNÉDICTE DUPUIS,
avocats du juge Michel Girouard.

SFA 8742

Le 9 mai 2017.

INDEX

PAGE

LIST OF EXHIBITS	3
LIST OF OBJECTIONS	4
REPRESENTATIONS	5
L.C.	
examined by Me Gravel	8

HEARING CONTINUED MAY 10th, 2017

LIST OF EXHIBITS

	PAGE
E-10: letter sent by L.C., dated July 25, 2016	11

LIST OF OBJECTIONS

	PAGE
#1 (to the filing of E-10)	10
#2	12
#3	20

1 In the year two thousand seventeen (2017), on this
2 ninth (9th) day of May,

3

4 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT (L'HON. J. ERNEST DRAPEAU):

5 So we will identify you for now by your
6 initials, L.C.

7 L.C.:

8 M'hm.

9 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

10 And before you begin testifying, I just want
11 to explain a bit what this is. We are a committee
12 of inquiry which was constituted by the Canadian
13 Judicial Council. The Committee is composed of
14 Maitre Bernard Synnott who's a lawyer from
15 Montreal, senior lawyer.

16 L.C.:

17 M'hm.

18 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

19 To my right is the Chief Justice of the
20 Trial Division of your home province, Manitoba.
21 And to my far left is Maitre Paule Veilleux; she's
22 a lawyer from Quebec.

23 L.C.:

24 M'hm.

25

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 And to my immediate left is the Associate
3 Chief Justice of the Trial Division of Manitoba,
4 Family Division.

5 L.C.:

6 Okay.

7 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

8 And this is not a criminal trial. This is
9 not a civil trial. It's a committee of inquiry. My
10 name is Ernest Drapeau, by the way. I'm Chief
11 Justice of New Brunswick.

12 L.C.:

13 M'hm.

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 I don't know Juge Girouard at all. As a
16 matter of fact, I know very few people in this
17 room. We consider ourselves independent, and we
18 have been constituted to find the truth. And I
19 want you to testify and to feel at ease testifying
20 before us.

21 L.C.:

22 M'hm.

23 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

24 Is that okay?

25

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

REPRESENTATIONS

1 L.C.:

2 M'hm.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 All right. Maitre Gravel?

5

6 -----

7

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 In the year two thousand seventeen (2017), on this
2 ninth (9th) day of May, PERSONALLY CAME AND APPEARED:

3

4 L.C.;

5

6 WHO, after having made a Solemn Affirmation, doth
7 depose and say as follows:

8

9 EXAMINATION BY Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL,
10 attorney for the Committee:

11 Q- Good afternoon.

12 A- Good afternoon.

13 Q- Do you mind if she sits?

14 A- Oh, am I not allowed to sit?

15 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

16 Q- No, that's quite fine.

17 A- Okay. Sorry.

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 Q- I show you a document you sent to the Canadian
20 Judiciary Council last July.

21 A- Okay.

22 Q- Do you recognize that document?

23 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

24 Q- Take your time.

25

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 Q- Yes.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 Q- I'm assuming it is the document that you sent, but
5 just make sure that it is and it will be
6 (inaudible).

7 A- Yes, it looks to be from me. I'm just reviewing
8 it...

9 Q- What's the date of that document, Maitre
10 Gravel?

11 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

12 July twenty-five (25), two thousand and
13 sixteen (2016).

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 All right.

16 A- Yes, this was the document that I had sent.

17 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

18 Q- You can take your time and read it all if you
19 want.

20 A- Okay. Is it necessary?

21 Q- No, it's not necessary.

22 A- Okay. Because... can I keep it as a reference?

23 Q- Yes, of course.

24 A- Okay. Fantastic.

25

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 Do you have... do you wish to have that
3 document entered into evidence, Maitre Gravel?

4 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

5 Please.

6 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY,
7 attorney for Judge Michel Girouard:

8 Moi, je pense que je dois... I have to
9 object. The document is the complaint... is at the
10 origin of the complaint that you wrote... that the
11 Committee wrote, and I... this document includes a
12 lot of things on many things. It is not evidence.
13 The only evidence which is admissible is what she
14 says under oath and the document can be used maybe
15 to refresh memory, and also for cross-examination,
16 but the document itself cannot constitute
17 evidence.

18 Objection #1

19 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

20 Merci, maître Tremblay.

21 Maitre Gravel?

22 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

23 I disagree. The document is pertinent. This
24 document is from this woman. She swears on it
25 and...

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 Well, this is a committee of inquiry. We are
3 not a criminal trial. We are not a civil trial. We
4 are... our mission is to find the truth, so the
5 technical rules of evidence are of little concern
6 to us. So do you have copies for the members of
7 the Committee?

8 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

9 We've sent copies.

10 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

11 Yes.

12 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

13 They're already in your book.

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 All right. Okay. So what... we would mark
16 this E-10? E-10. May nine (9), two thousand and
17 seventeen (2017), and I have signed it. All right.

18 Maitre Gravel, please continue with the
19 witness.

20 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

21 Q- So, Madam C...

22 A- M'hm.

23 Q- ... do you remember why you sent that letter to
24 the Canadian Judiciary Council?

25 A- Well, I sent it because I wasn't pleased to see

1 the fact that I felt things were being swept under
2 the carpet in the sense that, through the
3 hearings, nothing was resolved as far as the
4 questions pertaining to Monsieur Girouard's use of
5 drugs, and I was feeling a little frustrated
6 because it was not the only case that I saw or
7 personally experienced myself, and so I felt that
8 a voice was required to be heard, because my
9 understanding was part of the reason why the case
10 didn't end in what I would consider a positive
11 result is the fact that they didn't have any
12 witnesses without a criminal record to testify.

13 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

14 Monsieur le Juge...

15 A- So I felt it was my...

16 Q- Objection, Monsieur le Juge.

17 Objection #2

18 A- ... service...

19 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

20 Q- Sorry.

21 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

22 Objection.

23 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

24 Your objection is to what? She's explaining
25 why she sent that email in. She's just stating for

1 the Committee's benefit what prompted her, a
2 citizen, to send a memo in to the Canadian
3 Judicial Council. So why... what is the problem
4 with that?

5 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

6 It's all hearsay. It's not evidence of
7 anything and her feelings are not evidence.

8 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

9 But Mr. Tremblay, it's not hearsay if it's
10 being presented to explain behaviour and the
11 behaviour in this case is why she was prompted,
12 and you'll have a chance to cross-examine her, but
13 why she was prompted and felt compelled to send
14 the complaint in. So it's not... technically not
15 hearsay. It's meant to explain behaviour as Chief
16 Justice Drapeau suggested.

17 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

18 But it does not prove at all that her
19 feelings are founded on facts.

20 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

21 No one is suggesting it is.

22 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

23 The objection is overruled.

24 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

25 All right.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 Thank you.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 And if you want a brief explanation, it is
5 without any merit.

6 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

7 Without what?

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Maitre Gravel?

10 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

11 Without any merit.

12 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

13 Oh, okay.

14 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

15 Q- So, Madam C...

16 A- M'hm.

17 Q- ... please go ahead.

18 A- I forget where I left off.

19 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

20 Q- You were being asked why you sent the letter in
21 and you explained that you were frustrated by the
22 fact that no appropriate action...

23 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

24 Q- Not criminal...

25

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 Q- ... had been taken regarding what you perceived to
3 be Judge Girouard's consumption of drugs.

4 A- That's correct. And I felt that, 1) having had a
5 personal relationship with him before, 2) being a
6 upstanding citizen and, 3) feeling that it was
7 necessary that I come forward to do what I would
8 consider is a service, because I feel that
9 especially here in Quebec, the corruption is over
10 the top. I mean, coming from Manitoba, I've never
11 seen so much as I have here, and I also was
12 personally... had an experience with a lawyer in
13 the estate of my father who had stolen money and I
14 had to go through a whole process with that. So
15 taking all those factors into consideration, I
16 just felt it was important to stand up and be
17 truthful.

18 Q- Maitre Gravel?

19 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

20 Q- So can you briefly explain where you come from,
21 what you're doing as a living...

22 A- M'hm.

23 Q- ... to the Committee?

24 A- Okay. Well, basically, I come from Saint-Norbert
25 and... Saint-Norbert in Manitoba and I lived there

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 for most of my life. I travelled for sales during
2 my career while I was in Manitoba. So I've worked
3 all the Canadian provinces. And then, I got a job
4 offer to move here to Montreal in nineteen ninety-
5 one (1991). So I moved to Montreal in June... on
6 June tenth (10th), nineteen ninety-one (1991) and
7 I was working for a company in the optical
8 division, and now, I am currently employed as a
9 manufacturer's agent for about twenty-seven (27)
10 different international companies, and I sell
11 to... I sell, I handle all the contracts, all the
12 NAFTA agreements and so forth for companies that
13 buy from these different distributors in different
14 categories. So I sell to NAPA. I sell to Costco,
15 Rona, BMR, you know, all the big-box stores,
16 Walmart, Canadian Tire, and I represent some very
17 long-standing international companies, and that's
18 what I do now. And then, I also do a part...
19 another side-job right now, and so I'm working
20 about eighty (80) hours a week. So if I look
21 tired, you'll know why.

22 Q- But did you have a connection with McGill?

23 A- Yes, I worked at McGill when my children were
24 younger, because I couldn't travel as extensively.
25 I took on contracts and I worked for the

1 Department of Psychiatry at McGill, and I worked
2 there. I also was involved with the grants for
3 research and I worked a lot with Dean Fuchs who
4 was the Dean of Medicine at McGill. So I did a
5 contract position there for... I think it was
6 about a year and a half (1 1/2), close to two (2)
7 years if I recall correctly, and I've still kept
8 ties there with many people.

9 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

10 Q- Thank you.

11 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

12 Q- So, Madam C., do you recognize Justice Girouard in
13 this room?

14 A- Yes, he's right there.

15 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

16 Le dossier reflétera que le témoin a pointé
17 du doigt l'Honorable Michel Girouard.

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 Q- Could you tell the committee how you came to know
20 Justice Girouard?

21 A- I started... I met someone here in Montreal who
22 seemed to be a very good person, and he happened
23 to be long-standing best friends with Michel
24 Girouard, and I met Michel Girouard and his... I
25 don't know if he ever got married, but his

1 partner, at his home, in... I'm trying to recall
2 now. It would have either been the spring or the
3 fall of nineteen ninety-two (1992), and I say this
4 because I met my... the father of my children in
5 May of nineteen ninety-two (1992) and I recall we
6 were outside at a party at Michel Girouard's
7 house, and it was... it was cool out. So I'm
8 assuming it wasn't the middle of summer. So I know
9 it was either the spring or the fall, but I can't
10 remember exactly when.

11 Q- And what was your friend's name?

12 A- My friend's name was Alain Champagne and he was at
13 the time a... well, working for himself and
14 basically what he did was he... he had one company
15 that was trading publicly and he was managing that
16 with another fellow, a geologist, and basically he
17 was taking claims and, you know, looking for
18 opportunities for IPOs and so forth, and looking
19 for shells to hold on to, because they'd resell
20 them out, and... his business was very complex for
21 me at the time, because I really didn't understand
22 it. I hadn't had any... any experience with
23 stocks, IPOs, any of that, but later on I then got
24 certified and actually raised money capital for
25 IPOs, so I'm a bit more familiar with them, but I

1 wasn't at that time.

2 Q- So you met Mr. Champagne, just to summarize, in
3 May ninety-two (92), right?

4 A- Well, actually, truthfully, I met him...

5 Q- Okay.

6 A- ... in March of ninety-two (92), but it took me
7 until May long weekend to agree to go out with
8 him, because I wasn't really sure about him at the
9 time. So technically, it was the May long weekend
10 where I actually went out and we had, you know, a
11 conversation.

12 Q- So, to your knowledge, what was the connection
13 between Mr. Champagne and then Mr. Girouard?

14 A- Well, I know that, from what Alain had told me,
15 that he had bought a house when he was eighteen
16 (18), and...

17 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

18 Est-ce que... excusez-moi, Monsieur le Juge.

19 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

20 Q- One moment, L.C. People have entered the hearing
21 room.

22 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

23 No witnesses.

24 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

25 No witnesses? Okay.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 No.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 Vous n'avez pas été appelé comme témoin dans
5 cette affaire?

6 UNE VOIX NON IDENTIFIÉE:

7 Non.

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Très bien.

10 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

11 Alors, je voudrais quand même soulever une
12 objection. C'est que «I was told by my husband
13 that», c'est...

14 Objection #3

15 A- Not my husband.

16 Q- ... c'est du oui-dire.

17 A- Never married. Not my husband.

18 Q- Or my friend, Mr. Champagne. «I was told by
19 Mr. Champagne that...», it is the typical... the
20 classical example of hearsay. Now, I'm just saying
21 that; you may have another view.

22 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

23 I appreciate what you're saying, Mr.

24 Tremblay, but we are a committee of inquiry. We

25 are pursuing the truth and the Committee has given

1 the matter some thought and we're prepared to
2 allow hearsay evidence, unless there's an issue
3 over reliability.

4 Q- So wen you say that someone told you, that's
5 called hearsay. Normally...

6 A- No, I understand.

7 Q- Normally, in a Court, it would be excluded,
8 but we are taking a liberal approach. We're trying
9 to get at the truth, so if you have to refer to
10 something that was said to you by your partner at
11 the time, sometimes it's innocent enough, but they
12 may object occasionally, but we want you to have a
13 chance to tell your story...

14 A- M'hm.

15 Q- ... fluidly, without being interrupted.

16 A- Well, I cannot not discuss the partner at the time
17 and his involvement, because... I mean, I can't
18 leave him out, because he's in question the reason
19 why I met him, so you know...

20 Q- Yes. Well, we're going to let you tell your story,
21 and I've been a lawyer for forty (40) years, and I
22 can separate what's reliable and what isn't. So I
23 want you to have the opportunity to tell your
24 story in a fair and uninhibited way.

25 A- M'hm.

1 Q- I want you to be at ease to tell the story. We
2 want to know what happened, the truth.

3 A- Okay.

4 Q- Maitre Gravel.

5 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

6 Q- So you can...

7 A- So...

8 Q- Yes, go ahead.

9 A- ... my partner at the time explained to me about
10 his friendship with Michel and that him and...

11 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

12 Q- When you say «Michel», you mean Girouard?

13 A- Yes, Monsieur Girouard, excuse me. He had told me
14 that they... he had bought this house when he was
15 eighteen (18), and at some point, I don't know at
16 what age, but fairly young, he had told me that
17 they were roommates and that Monsieur Girouard
18 rented a room from him in the house and, you know,
19 apparently, they had lots of parties and had a
20 good life, and this is how they began their
21 friendship. I mean, they were probably friends
22 before, I cannot say whether or not, yes or no,
23 but the whole gist of it is they lived together;
24 they were friends. They used to do deals together
25 for stocks, and this was basically their

1 relationship. And that's how I met him and that's
2 how I know of him through the person that I was
3 seeing at the time, Alain Champagne.

4 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

5 Q- So tell us, Madam C., about the first time you met
6 then Mr. Girouard.

7 A- The first time I met them was, like I've said, at
8 this party that they were having, and...

9 Q- Where was that?

10 A- It was at his home, in Val-d'Or, and there was
11 people outside. There was a bonfire. There was
12 people inside. There was many people there. It was
13 a bit difficult for me to follow along with all
14 the conversation, because at the time my French
15 was basically zero (0). I mean, I didn't... and
16 especially the Québécois French was very hard for
17 me to follow, when people were talking very
18 quickly. You know, there was expressions that I
19 wasn't familiar with, and that was it.

20 I recall meeting another mutual friend of
21 theirs who was a chiropractor in the town of Val-
22 d'Or. He was very nice, and I recall being
23 introduced to him and Alain telling me that they
24 all, you know, did stock and stuff together,
25 trying to give me a bit of history on his friends

1 and so forth. And... and basically people were
2 partying and indulging and having a good time, and
3 that's about the most that I can remember of the
4 evening.

5 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

6 Q- What year was that?

7 A- That would have been, as I mentioned earlier, it
8 would have either been like late spring of
9 nineteen ninety-two (1992) or early fall of
10 nineteen ninety-two (1992).

11 Q- In nineteen ninety-two (1992).

12 A- Yes.

13 Q- Thank you.

14 A- Yes, because I had just been here...

15 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

16 Q- So have you met...

17 A- ... for about a year.

18 Q- ... Mr. Girouard's wife at the time?

19 A- Yes, on several occasions, and I met her that
20 night also. They were dating at that time. They
21 didn't have children. They were living together
22 from what I can recall.

23 Q- And could you describe the house, the place?

24 A- It was by the lake. I believe the colour was a
25 grey, grey-blueish colour, if I remember right. I

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 think it had wood cladding on it. It had... it was
2 sort of built... I remember, if you went around to
3 the back, there was like a big rock. So it was
4 sort of built into this sloppy landscape, and I
5 know the main floor was higher, you know, like you
6 felt like you were on a second floor, but it was
7 really the main floor. So I would think that the
8 main or the lower level, which I would consider
9 the basement, I would say it was probably... I
10 would say it was two (2) stories from what I
11 recall. I don't recall it having three (3)
12 stories.

13 Q- Anything else?

14 A- There was a pool, an outdoor pool, nice location,
15 waterfront property. That's about all I remember
16 inside, a big kitchen, you know, bathrooms, that
17 type of things.

18 Q- Do you remember Mr. Girouard's car for instance?

19 A- I... I never saw his car, but I remember Alain
20 always joking about Michel driving this red «Vet»
21 on these terrible roads that his house happened to
22 be on, because they were gravel and not... you
23 know, just sort of graded and...

24 Q- So the road to go to his house was not paved?

25 A- No, not at all. No, it was rough. It was

1 definitely a rough street at the time. And... but
2 like I said, I never recalled seeing him in his
3 car, because every time I really saw him, it was
4 either in the restaurant, in his house, at, you
5 know, some social gathering. I never... you know,
6 never did a car ride with him or anything to that
7 effect, nor did he ever come to our place where we
8 were living after we lived together, so...

9 Q- How many times do you think you've seen Mr.
10 Girouard... then Mr. Girouard in your life?

11 A- Oh, I would say easily over a dozen times, at
12 restaurants. Several times... several times at the
13 prison that Alain was at, because Alain was
14 convicted for importation of cocaine, nothing that
15 I knew about at the time, and also I saw him
16 probably three (3) or four (4) times in Val-d'Or.
17 I remember we went to a restaurant, I remember
18 being in his house a couple of times, and I
19 remember... I remember... I remember us meeting
20 him, but I cannot be specific as to the location,
21 again, if it was a restaurant or someone's house.
22 I think it was probably a restaurant, because I
23 didn't go to too many places in Val-d'Or, except
24 for his family, and Monsieur Girouard's house, s
25 so... or the restaurant. So... and I didn't go

1 often, because it's not really a favourite place
2 of time. There's not much to do there, so...

3 Q- Talking about Val-d'Or?

4 A- Yes. Yes. So... a lot of times, Alain went on his
5 own and I did not accompany him.

6 Q- In your letter...

7 A- M'hm.

8 Q- ... you're saying that, finally, your relationship
9 with Mr. Champagne ended because of drug abuse and
10 lies essentially.

11 A- Oh, totally, yes. Very much so.

12 Q- Can you tell the Committee... give more details to
13 the Committee about that, and the relation that it
14 could have with then Mr. Girouard?

15 A- I'm sorry, could you just repeat that last part? I
16 didn't hear.

17 Q- You didn't... can you explain to the Committee

18 A- M'hm.

19 Q- ... the details of that, the fact that Mr.
20 Girouard was in drugs...

21 A- M'hm.

22 Q- ... and the connection it would have or it could
23 have with Mr. Girouard.

24 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

25 You started with «Alain».

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 A- Well, basically, when I met Alain...

2 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

3 Q- If I may, Ms. L.C., for the record, there's going
4 to be some confusion, because Maitre Gravel used
5 the name Girouard to refer to Mr. Champagne.

6 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

7 Oh, sorry.

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Could you ask that question again, please?

10 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

11 Yes.

12 Q- Could you give details to the Committee about how
13 you found out that your then partner, Mr.
14 Champagne, was in drugs and the connection it had
15 in any way or it would have had with Mr. Girouard.

16 A- Basically, when I met Mr. Champagne, I believed
17 him to be a professional person of good standing.
18 You know, he wasn't a person who was... he didn't
19 seem to have any type of addiction problems of any
20 sort, meaning food, alcohol, drugs, nothing that I
21 saw. He was a fairly fit person and he was a
22 person who was very... his passion was really his
23 work. He seemed to be what I call a real person,
24 not a person that has to, you know, be flashy,
25 materialistic, that type of thing. And, you know,

1 he seemed to be fairly highly intelligent, so I...
2 this is what he displayed to me. And I had no
3 reason to question otherwise, and because he owned
4 his own company or worked for himself, I mean, he
5 would go away and travel and, you know, say, «I've
6 got to go out of town for business.» And I just
7 never thought anything of it, because I was busy
8 myself. I completely understood what it was like
9 to run like your own business and so everything
10 went fine for some time.

11 I never saw anything that led me to be
12 suspicious. I had met several of his friends. They
13 were all professionals. They all seemed very nice.
14 Nobody ever mentioned to me anything about him or
15 that I should be aware that he's not everything he
16 seems to be. And basically, I would say the first
17 time that I experienced a situation where Alain
18 was doing cocaine was, in fact, at Michel
19 Girouard's party the night that I met him. I
20 didn't fully understand it at first, because I had
21 never been exposed to people who did cocaine. I
22 mean, nobody that I know that I hung out with or
23 grew up with, I'd never seen that until I moved to
24 Montreal.

25 So, at first, I was not the quickest to

1 notice these... the very clear signs of people who
2 use, and especially those who use a lot, the
3 symptoms are more severe. And then, I started to
4 see that it was a sort of thing between them,
5 because we'd go for dinner, and because Alain
6 knew, you know, because I really... had a very
7 highly emotional conversation about the situation
8 with him and this behaviour which I didn't approve
9 of, he then started to do it, but he would hide
10 it, but he wasn't successful at hiding it, because
11 I mean, you know, it doesn't take a genius to
12 figure out when everybody piles into one (1) room
13 to get there and they don't invite you, and then
14 they come back and their behaviour is different.
15 And so, I started to see these things, and then
16 there was one (1) specific episode where...

17 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

18 Q- Can I ask you to go back to this mention of that
19 party at Mr. Girouard's place?

20 A- M'hm.

21 Q- When was that?

22 A- That was either the... in nineteen ninety-two
23 (1992) in either the...

24 Q- Spring or fall.

25 A- ... spring or fall, yes.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Q- Okay.

2 A- And I did not witness per se. I was told by Alain,
3 because I was asking him questions regarding his
4 behaviour and he didn't... I don't think he really
5 understood whether it would be something I would
6 be upset about or not, so he felt freely to
7 explain to me of his evening of indulging and why
8 he was acting the way he was, basically. So this
9 is... this was sort of the beginning.

10 Q- How was he acting?

11 A- Well, when you're under the influence of cocaine,
12 you are very speedy. You're very speedy. And when
13 you know somebody, you know, fairly well, you can
14 see the difference. Also, you'll notice that the
15 pupils are dilated under, you know, regular
16 lighting, like inside of a house. And you'll also
17 notice sniffing or a runny nose, that type of
18 thing if they're doing from what now I understand
19 either a low-grade cocaine or if they're doing a
20 lot of it on a regular basis, I've noticed that
21 that seems to be an issue also. So...

22 Q- Did you notice those symptoms on Alain?

23 A- I definitely noticed it with him, but... and I
24 sort of figured it out, because when I had moved
25 to Montreal, even though I had a full-time job, I

1 didn't know anyone here. So after about six (6)
2 months of living here, I was getting very bored. I
3 was only twenty-eight (28), and I decided to take
4 a bartending course, and I thought, «I'll go
5 bartend downtown. It'll give me something to do on
6 the weekend. I can enjoy music, and... but I'm
7 behind a bar and I'm protected», you know? So
8 that's why I liked that particular idea of that
9 job. And that's where, in fact, I met Mr.
10 Champagne which I was... not in the normal
11 position of dating clients or even people that had
12 just come in or whatever. So that's why I didn't
13 date him right away.

14 But I worked with a girl. I shared a bar, a
15 very long bar, and again, as I said, I wasn't
16 familiar with this type of behaviour and by the
17 end of the night, I mean, she was hanging off the
18 ceiling, and I was just like... I found her
19 behaviour very bizarre, and screaming and she had
20 the runny nose and everything. And so it was there
21 that I saw a lot of this exposure of cocaine and
22 it was the first time I'd ever been exposed to it.
23 So I worked in that industry for... I don't even
24 think it was quite a year. I got fed up quite
25 quickly. I saw a lot of things I didn't like and

1 didn't approve of and just... you know, I didn't
2 need it for the money. It was more just for some
3 social... socialness, and I left.

4 So it wasn't difficult to start noticing
5 some of the symptoms again, because I'd been
6 seeing it every weekend through clients, through
7 the people I worked with, even lawyers that showed
8 up at my bar. I explained one time I had a
9 customer who came to my bar, and threw me a bag of
10 white stuff to clear his bill, because I had a
11 running tab for him with his credit card and I
12 asked him, «Do you want to pay cash? Do you want
13 me to run your tab on your credit card? And he
14 came out with this bag and he threw it at me. He
15 said, «Take what you want.» And I looked at it,
16 and I said, «What the hell am I supposed to do
17 with this?» And he said, «Well, clear my tab.» And
18 I threw it back at him and I said, «I will.» And I
19 charged his Visa.

20 Q- So you had some experience as a bartender with
21 cocaine and its effect on customers.

22 A- Exactly.

23 Q- So...

24 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

25 Q- Can I just ask one point of clarification...

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 Yes.

3 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

4 Q- ... Madam C.? At what point - I may have missed it
5 - did Mr. Champagne disclose to you that on the
6 day of the party, in May of nineteen ninety-two
7 (1992), he was, at some point, with others -
8 everybody as you put it - doing cocaine? Because I
9 understood you say that part of that portion of
10 his life was secret. So, obviously, this was
11 something he said to you retrospectively, is that
12 right?

13 A- Well, he... you know, one thing when you do
14 cocaine is you tend to talk a lot, you know?
15 You'll say things that you might not normally say.
16 And basically, he had told me this and then he had
17 explained to me, because I wasn't very happy about
18 this situation.

19 Q- When did he tell you that? That's what I'm asking.

20 A- He told me that that night when we were going
21 home.

22 Q- On the first...

23 A- Yes, because...

24 Q- This is the first night...

25 A- ... there are other effects that some people get

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 when they do cocaine, and it was quite evident
2 that he was very sexually charged, if I may say
3 so. It's part of... part of the thing with
4 cocaine. So... so it was later in the evening
5 basically, when we had left the party when I
6 understood what happened. And...

7 Q- This is your first month of... the relationship
8 with him, if I understood?

9 A- Well, I can't say first month, because I can't
10 honestly recall if it was... if it was like the
11 end of May. I'm really thinking it was probably
12 October, because I only dated him... I only went
13 on my first date with him the May long weekend. So
14 then, we would have been falling into the month of
15 June. I was still bartending on the weekends, so
16 I'm more inclined to think it was in the fall than
17 it was the spring, but I cannot...

18 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

19 Q- Where he would have just...

20 A- ... be a hundred percent (100%) sure.

21 Q- This is where... in October, this is when he would
22 have disclosed to you that he had consumed
23 cocaine.

24 A- Yes.

25 Q- Okay.

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 You had a question, Chief Justice, just
3 before.

4 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

5 I'm trying to remember what it was.

6 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

7 No? Okay.

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Q- What I was trying to understand, and my colleague
10 has cleared it up to my satisfaction, this party
11 would have occurred in October... probably in
12 October, and that's when he disclosed to you that
13 he had consumed cocaine at that party.

14 A- M'hm.

15 Q- Now, what else did he tell you?

16 A- Well, he told me that he went with Michel and they
17 went and did some coke and it wasn't a big deal
18 and, you know, we kind of got in an argument about
19 it, because I told him that's not my thing, and he
20 said, «Well, look, you know me. You know, I don't
21 do this all the time.» And, of course, you know,
22 he was trying to blow it off, and I told him that
23 that wasn't my gig and that if... you know, if
24 that was his thing, that I didn't really want any
25 part of it. And so from that point on, he made

1 sure that... well, he thought he made sure that I
2 wasn't aware of what was going on, but - you know
3 - as I said, I'm not an idiot, and it was pretty
4 clear to me what was going on, and that was at the
5 point when things just started getting worse and
6 worse for me, and I started discovering more
7 things about Mr. Champagne...

8 Q- So let's say that we're in October of...

9 A- Yes.

10 Q- ... nineteen ninety-two (1992).

11 A- M'hm.

12 Q- Can we go forward from there?

13 A- Yes. I remember we went to Val-d'Or at Christmas
14 time and we...

15 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

16 Q- The same year?

17 A- Yes, the same year, we went there, and he
18 introduced me to a friend of his who was a
19 geologist and wanted to go for dinner and drinks,
20 and basically, we got in a big fight, because
21 apparently the geologist liked to do this stuff
22 too and... and everybody was doing it, and I was
23 not happy, and basically... Mr. Girouard was not
24 there at that particular event, but I just started
25 to see the situation. And then I saw... you know,

1 I know where it was purchased in Val-d'Or, because
2 we went into this strip club and I remember him
3 saying something about the guy who owned it, that
4 his family owned Canadian Tire or something to
5 that effect, and this guy was, you know, the guy
6 to go to for whatever... you know, whether you
7 wanted to buy cocaine or pot or whatever. And he
8 was just talking in general like that. He wasn't
9 talking to sort of tell me, «Oh, here, this is
10 where I go to buy stuff when I'm in town.» And it
11 was his... I guess it was his friend that had
12 picked it up, because Alain was kind of keeping me
13 busy, but it was...

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 Q- The friend being the geologist?

16 A- Yes.

17 Q- Yes.

18 A- And it was later that I realized why we stopped
19 there first, because after, you know, the drinking
20 and so forth, and this geologist had brought a
21 girl with him, and then they were all going into
22 the bathroom. Well, three (3) people, two (2) guys
23 and a girl, are not going in the bathroom to help
24 each other out. So it started to become clear to
25 me what was going on. And...

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 Q- Tell me...

3 A- And this was the process...

4 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

5 Q- But Juge Girouard was not there then.

6 A- No.

7 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

8 Q- No.

9 A- No, he was not there then.

10 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

11 Q- Thank you.

12 A- That was another trip, but I got to see how many
13 people were... seemed to be doing this type of
14 lifestyle. So I was not having a lot of confidence
15 in him or his friends, even though they were all
16 professionals, you know? I was actually pretty
17 surprised about is, so...

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 Q- Talking about lifestyle, what was, to your
20 perception, the lifestyle of Mr. Girouard at that
21 time?

22 A- Well, I mean, I... you know, I didn't know him
23 extremely well, except for small talk, visits,
24 dinners with him, his wife, things Alain would say
25 to me, you know, about their friendship or

1 whatever, the people they knew, their history,
2 and...

3 Q- Did he appear rich, poor?

4 A- Well, you know, to be honest with you, he wasn't
5 my type of normal person that I would hang out
6 with. I would think, if I may be so honest, I
7 thought that he was a person... a person that I
8 saw as... you know, sometimes when people lack
9 confidence, they're even overconfident; I don't
10 know how I can explain that. That is the way that
11 he came across to me, that he felt that he had
12 something to prove, you know? Him and his wife
13 definitely liked the finer things. They enjoyed
14 the finer lifestyle whereas, you know, I felt...
15 you know, Alain and I were more like regular
16 people, you know? We were not... we weren't the
17 type to go out and we didn't have to take, you
18 know, X amount of vacations per year. We didn't
19 have to drive a fancy car. We didn't need the big
20 house. We didn't... you know?

21 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

22 Q- Can I just ask how often...

23 A- It wasn't our lifestyle.

24 Q- How often would you have seen Mr. Girouard and his
25 wife during this period of time that you were

1 together with your...

2 A- H'm... well, I mean, it's sort of difficult to

3 count. I know that, in two thousand (2000), they

4 had a fall out. I think it was in the year two

5 thousand (2000), and Mr. Girouard sent a bailiff

6 to our house to try to seize all our belongings,

7 because he had some... some situation. So

8 basically, between nineteen ninety-two (1992) and

9 two thousand (2000), I would say I saw him

10 probably... I mean, I want to be fair and honest,

11 so just give me a second so I can try to remember.

12 H'm... I would say at least twenty (20) times.

13 That's dinners here in Montreal, in Val-d'Or,

14 because Monsieur Girouard used to come into town

15 for Court. Sometimes, he would bring his partner,

16 because they would go to, I believe, Quebec City

17 also. I think her family was from Trois-Rivières

18 or Quebec City; I can't recall. And I remember she

19 liked to go shopping here in Quebec City, and so,

20 you know, they would call us up.

21 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

22 Q- What...

23 A- But as I became unpopular, I was not included, but

24 I know that he would go on his own. So... because

25 I always felt the after-effects after that

1 evening, you know?

2 Q- Tell us a little more about the times when then
3 Mr. Girouard was coming to see your partner and
4 you in Montreal.

5 A- Well, he wasn't per se coming to see me; I was
6 just invited along by Alain. So... and often, it
7 was dinners, and it was always Michel who picked
8 with his wife, because they were particular about
9 where they wanted to dine or go to, and... and
10 basically, we would go meet them there. So we
11 would meet... I remember once we picked them up at
12 their hotel room. I remember the three (3) of them
13 going into the bathroom, and I was very upset. I
14 remember we had quite a big fight after that. I
15 hadn't seen Michel for a while after that.

16 Q- Where was that?

17 A- I don't recall what hotel; it was downtown, and he
18 was there with his wife.

19 Q- And what happened?

20 A- Well, we were going for dinner, and basically they
21 all went to go do a line, I guess, and...

22 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

23 Q- So you're saying that Champagne, Maitre Girouard,
24 and Maitre Girouard's partner...

25 A- Exactly.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Q- ... would leave you and they would go into a
2 washroom, close the door, the three (3) of them
3 being in there for a period of time, and then
4 emerging?

5 A- Exactly. So...

6 Q- And did you notice any change in their comportment
7 as they came out?

8 A- Later, yes...

9 Q- M'hm.

10 A- ... and then we'd go to the restaurant and then
11 everybody would disappear and they'd be like
12 handing stuff under the table, and... I remember
13 that particular night I was extremely upset, and
14 we had a huge fight, and...

15 Q- You mean you and Champagne?

16 A- Yes, me and my partner had a tremendous fight,
17 because for me it was an issue, because when he
18 would start to do that, he wasn't obviously an
19 everyday user, but he'd go on these binges, and he
20 would disappear for three (3) days, and then he
21 would show up at eight o'clock (8:00) in the
22 morning, and look like, you know, something from
23 another planet and he would be as high as a kite.
24 I mean, I lived this life for a while, you know,
25 with children. I mean, I raised my children alone

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 and...

2 Q- Was he... he was the father of your children?

3 A- He's the father of both of my children. I... you
4 know, unfortunately, none of his friends were
5 honest with me. They all had their secret little
6 things going on, and none of them were honest
7 about telling me that Mr. Champagne was living
8 with other women, was doing all kinds of other
9 things that I was not aware of. And finally, the
10 geologist that he was working with on one of the
11 companies that he had finally told me the truth,
12 but at that point, I was five (5) months pregnant,
13 so...

14 Q- With your first child?

15 A- With my first child. So...

16 Q- And you had a second one with him?

17 A- Yes. At that point, I decided... I knew that it
18 wasn't a relationship I was going to stay in. I
19 knew I had to bite the bullet so to speak and...
20 because I really had nowhere to go. He had me very
21 stuck at this point. I didn't have any friends in
22 town. I felt very lost and I was extremely
23 embarrassed about how I got myself in this
24 situation, because I went out with many wonderful
25 people in my time of dating, and I'd never been so

1 fooled in my life, you know? And I thought I was
2 pretty... fairly intelligent about these things.
3 So it was a very difficult time, and I decided
4 that I knew that I wanted to have two (2)
5 children, and I knew that I wanted them from the
6 same father, because I knew that just based on
7 what I was starting to see with the behaviour of
8 Mr. Champagne, that if I had one (1) child with
9 him, and I had a child with a wonderful man later
10 down the road, I was very concerned about the
11 thought that one (1) would be treated very well,
12 and the other would be without a father. So I
13 figured either they're better to both be treated
14 the same or not.

15 Q- Are your children adult now?

16 A- They are both in university. I've done a fantastic
17 job, and I do not let them get away with anything.

18 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

19 Q- This incident that occurred in a hotel room, I
20 know it's difficult from nineteen ninety-two
21 (1992) to two thousand (2000), but at what point
22 on that spectrum of eight (8) years would this
23 incident have taken place where...

24 A- I would say it would probably be towards the
25 latter. We were spending a lot more time with

1 him... well, I was included. I mean, Alain saw him
2 apart from my seeing him, but it was towards the
3 latter, because they were doing a lot of stock
4 stuff and there was different things going on. And
5 then, of course, Alain got himself in all kinds of
6 trouble, and... and Monsieur Girouard was trying
7 to give him advice even though he wasn't his
8 lawyer, and not good advice at that, so I remember
9 that time quite well.

10 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

11 Q- So that incident would have been close to two
12 thousand (2000), do you think? Closer to two
13 thousand (2000)?

14 A- You know, yes, it wouldn't have been... it would
15 have been... no, wait a minute. This part would
16 have been around nineteen ninety-five - nineteen
17 ninety-six (1995-1996), because my daughter was
18 born in nineteen ninety-six (1996) and I recall my
19 partner was in jail at the time. So it would have
20 been... it would have been like probably ninety-
21 four (94), ninety-five (95) and ninety-six (96)
22 and going forward.

23 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

24 Q- I will let Maitre Gravel take over where he wants
25 to be, but I just have one (1) last question for

1 you.

2 A- Yes.

3 Q- Because these incidents seemed to give rise to a
4 great deal of... concern and I guess hostility on
5 the part of you and perhaps your partner at the
6 time, did you ever confront your partner in the
7 presence of Mr. Girouard?

8 A- Never. I would never do that.

9 Q- So you don't know, from your experience and
10 contact with Mr. Girouard, in the ten (10) times
11 that you might have seen him during that period of
12 time, how if at all he would have known about your
13 reaction to what it was that you suspected he and
14 your husband were doing?

15 A- I think that I figured it out, because I wasn't
16 invited any more when he would come to town and
17 they went to dinner. It was pretty obvious.

18 Q- But you yourself never talked to Mr. Girouard
19 about this? This was never a subject that was
20 ever...

21 A- No, I didn't discuss any of this with him, because
22 he was not my partner. I was more interested in
23 discussing the behaviour of my partner and his
24 behaviour, and... and, you know, when... how can I
25 say this? I was sort of brought up to, you know...

1 to... I'm not the type of person who's going to
2 start a big argument in a fancy restaurant, you
3 know? I'm not going to put my laundry out there
4 and start... you know, I don't behave that way,
5 it's not my character. So... but I'll tell you I
6 definitely was screaming later behind closed
7 doors. So... no, he was not privy to me personally
8 saying it, but I'm pretty sure Alain was telling
9 him, because... you know, all of a sudden,
10 everything was like trying to be hidden, but they
11 weren't very good about it. So that was the
12 situation there.

13 Q- Maitre Gravel?

14 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

15 Q- On page 2 of your letter, you refer to an event
16 that...

17 A- Oh yes.

18 Q- ... happened in Val-d'Or. Could you testify on
19 that?

20 A- After my children were born, I would fly my mother
21 out to Montreal to come and spend a few months to
22 stay with us, because Alain was never there, and I
23 was often alone, and I had the children and it
24 gave her an opportunity to get a break from the
25 Manitoba weather and... winter weathers. So she

1 would often come up. She came up in the winter.

2 She also came up in the summer.

3 On this particular trip, she came up, and we
4 went to Val-d'Or. She had never met my partner's
5 father. She had met his mother, but she'd never
6 met his father, but we were doing the whole tour,
7 you know? We... you know, we went out with his
8 mother. We went for dinner at his father's place.
9 And then, we all went one (1) afternoon, I believe
10 it was a Saturday - it could have been a Sunday -
11 we went to the house of Mr. Girouard and his
12 partner, and at that point, they had already had
13 their children, and I had had my children. And
14 they were all still fairly young. So this would
15 have been... my oldest daughter is born in
16 nineteen ninety-six (1996), in January nineteen
17 ninety-six (1996), and she was about four (4)
18 years old and it was summer time... around summer
19 time. So it was about four (4) years after
20 nineteen ninety-six (1996).

21 So basically, we were visiting...

22 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

23 Q- I'm amazed listening to you, because my wife dates
24 everything by the age of her children.

25 A- Well, sometimes...

1 Q- I get that.

2 A- Yes, so... and my children are exactly two (2)
3 years apart. They're born the same week of the
4 same month, so I can really remember certain
5 things just based... and you know, it was a very
6 traumatic lifestyle during those times, so it
7 wasn't good times, so it's quite hard to forget
8 about those situations, but... anyway, my mother
9 was there, and we went to Mr. Girouard's house
10 and...

11 Q- Could you tell us what year this incident
12 occurred?

13 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

14 Two thousand (2000).

15 A- Yes.

16 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

17 Q- Did you say?

18 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

19 Two thousand (2000).

20 A- So it would have been... yes, it could have been
21 nineteen ninety-nine (1999), two thousand (2000).
22 That would make sense. It would have to fit in
23 before the time they had... he sent the guy to sue
24 us or the bailiff to come, which I don't have the
25 exact date. You might have it so we could possibly

1 narrow it down even better. But I know she was...
2 my daughter was very close to four (4), if not
3 four (4). And... and his were younger. My
4 children, my oldest...

5 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

6 Q- «His» meaning Girouard's children.

7 A- Yes, Mr. Girouard's children were a little younger
8 than mine were. My oldest was the oldest of the
9 gang. And basically, we were at the house, and we
10 were visiting. We were having coffee or tea, I
11 can't remember what. We weren't having alcohol
12 beverages; that, I recall. And I remember... I
13 remember Monsieur Girouard very like... really
14 smoothly saying to Alain, «Oh, you know, I have
15 this thing, you know, I want to show you», or
16 «Come here.» He got him out of the room, you know,
17 without involving any of us to follow. And then,
18 his wife went off shortly after. And I was talking
19 to my mom and it was taking a long time, you know?
20 And I was like, «Where's the kids?» Like, you
21 know, I was getting worried because of the lake
22 and... I didn't know if they were with them. I
23 didn't know where anybody went. So I went looking
24 for my kids and his kids, we were all together,
25 and I found them in the garage, and I was very

1 upset because there was about... one (1) huge box
2 of nails that was broken all over the floor and
3 they were running around in their bare feet, and I
4 was upset because I didn't want them stepping on
5 them. So I was trying to get them out of the
6 garage and we got back, and we were in the
7 kitchen.

8 Q- Who was in the garage when you found the children
9 in the garage?

10 A- Just me and the children.

11 Q- Okay.

12 A- So I never found them. So they weren't in that
13 area. And so... and so then, when they came back,
14 I started to say, «Did you know you have all these
15 nails on your garage floor and your kids were in
16 there, and they...» You know, I guess they... you
17 know, introduced my kids to the garage, because I
18 think they had some little tricycles or something
19 also in there.

20 So... anyway. So I wanted to make sure they
21 got their shoes and so forth. And... but when I
22 returned, they were still not back yet. And then,
23 they came back...

24 Q- «They» meaning... I'm sorry, but...

25 A- Meaning Alain Champagne, Monsieur Girouard and his

1 partner at the time.

2 Q- Okay.

3 A- Or... his partner. And I remember his partner
4 was... because I was sitting down, and so was my
5 mother, and they came up and they were standing,
6 or at least she was standing with him, and Alain
7 went to sit near my mother. And they were talking,
8 so, you know, I was looking up, but I could see
9 right up their noses, and inside their noses, it
10 was all white, and that's when I lost it. I just
11 was so upset. I basically... and I didn't want my
12 mom to know. I mean, I was horrified.

13 Q- You understood that they had snorted something.

14 A- Oh yes, they definitely. And then, I was... you
15 know, I was livid, but I was holding it in,
16 because my mom was there, and I didn't want to
17 start, you know... I mean, my mom didn't know
18 anything about this. I was shocked. I was shocked.
19 I mean, my mother is there, my children are there,
20 the kids are there, and this was going on in the
21 middle of the afternoon, and I was not happy.

22 And so I remember I was stewing and not
23 saying anything for a short period of time. And
24 then, it became very evident to me, I'd say within
25 thirty (30) minutes of seeing the after-effects

1 that I was, in fact, right and my partner was also
2 involved, because I could see. It was the middle
3 of the day. There was no lights on. He was not...
4 you know, didn't have a bright light shining in
5 his eye, but his pupils were dilated, because he
6 has very blue eyes, so it's very obvious, even
7 from across the table, to see the dilation.

8 Q- Can you say that about your partner and can you
9 say that about Maitre Girouard?

10 A- All three (3) of them. All three (3) of them, and
11 the behaviour... everything was there. So we left,
12 and...

13 Q- When you say «everything was there,» the pupils
14 were dilated...

15 A- All the symptoms.

16 Q- ... you had observed a powder... white powder in
17 the nostrils...

18 A- Inside the nostrils.

19 Q- Inside the nostrils?

20 A- It's not outside.

21 Q- Okay.

22 A- It wouldn't have been... like my mom didn't notice
23 anything.

24 Q- Okay.

25 A- But I only happened to see it because they were

1 standing right beside me, and I looked up and I
2 could see. I could see right up their nasal
3 passage. So that's when I knew...

4 Q- And after that, what did you... what did you
5 observe about Judge or Mr. Girouard's behaviour
6 that would have suggested that he had consumed
7 cocaine?

8 A- Well, he gets quite full of himself, like Mr.
9 Champagne gets, and they get very talkative. His
10 wife is very... gets very talkative, because she's
11 a quiet, soft spoken person, and she sort of comes
12 out of her... herself, you know? That's what I
13 noticed about her behaviour. And so... we left,
14 and I didn't say a word. They didn't know what I
15 saw or that I knew. I didn't say anything...

16 Q- That's you and Mr. Champagne and your children?

17 A- And my mother left.

18 Q- Okay. Your mother, yes.

19 A- And we went back to his mother's house, and it was
20 only when I had some privacy alone with him that I
21 made it extremely clear to him that I was done
22 with that. I was just so done with being lied to,
23 made a fool of all the time. I told him how low
24 class I thought he was. I mean, I really was very
25 upset. And I told him that I no longer, you know,

1 wanted to associate with them, because I was
2 extremely disappointed. I mean, I was quite
3 shocked at the situation. And so, from that point
4 on, I didn't see too much of him until Alain
5 Champagne managed to get himself in all kinds of
6 trouble with the law. And then, that's when Michel
7 sort of came back, and then that was a whole other
8 ball game in that situation.

9 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

10 Q- Just that we put ourselves...

11 A- M'hm.

12 Q- ... square in time, I show you here... you were
13 saying about... you were talking about legal
14 proceedings.

15 A- M'hm.

16 Q- ... taken by Mr. Girouard at the time against your
17 partner. I show you legal proceedings taken by Mr.
18 Girouard against Mr. Champagne dated March...
19 nineteenth (19th) of March nineteen ninety-nine
20 (1999).

21 A- Okay.

22 Q- This is... you have these exhibits already,
23 Maitre...

24 Me BERNARD SYNNOTT, membre:

25 Maybe before we go further, I have a

1 question.

2 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

3 Certainly.

4 Me BERNARD SYNNOTT, membre:

5 Q- Just a question. You say you come back to the
6 house and you're very upset and you're shocked.
7 And then, you wait that you be alone with your
8 husband to discuss that. How does he react? What
9 does he say?

10 A- He was always very nonchalant and, you know, a
11 very special person. To this day, I honestly
12 cannot tell you I've met anyone... he's very
13 different. Very different. Very... you cannot read
14 him. You cannot... you know, at a certain point, I
15 had to be honest with my mother, because my life
16 was pure hell, and... you know, I needed a
17 confidant and so I started to tell her the type of
18 things he was doing, his behaviour...

19 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

20 Q- Let me stop you there.

21 A- Yes.

22 Q- Mr. Synnott asked you, what did he say when you
23 confronted him with your exasperation, your
24 frustration?

25 A- Well, he basically told me to screw off, and he

1 was going to do what he wanted to do, and, you
2 know, I was... I was uptight, I was... you know, I
3 wasn't fun. «I don't know why you're making a big
4 deal of it.» I mean, this was kind of the, you
5 know... And then... and then, he'd just walk away,
6 and that was it. And...

7 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

8 Q- These weren't denials by him.

9 A- Oh God, no. He never denied anything. I mean...
10 because he knew. He knew I knew. I mean, he would
11 deny things that he thought that I might be
12 uncertain, like if it was, you know, another woman
13 or whatever. He would deny to the end, unless he
14 knew I knew from someone else or I had proof. So,
15 on the cocaine situation, he never denied it. In
16 fact, I even managed to get him to go to a therapy
17 centre on René-Lévesque, one (1) time, you know?
18 Because I told him, «You've got a problem. There's
19 an issue here.» You know? Because he'd say, «Oh, I
20 just do it once in a while, and that.» And I said,
21 «No, because, you know, you go... you do that»,
22 and then he would disappear and go on a type of
23 binge. So, you know, it really affected all our
24 lives, and not in a positive way.

25 Q- Follow-up questions (inaudible)?

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 Maitre Gravel, do you wish to indicate to
3 us, you say it's already in evidence?

4 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

5 Yes.

6 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

7 Okay. And this is the bailiff's action?

8 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

9 Yes.

10 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

11 And you're telling us that this is in the
12 March nineteen ninety-nine (1999) period. So is
13 this what she's referring to, the bailiff action?

14 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

15 I will show her the proceedings.

16 A- I've never seen them, so...

17 Q- I show you legal proceedings taken by Mr. Girouard
18 against...

19 A- I never even knew why. I only found out that they
20 were fighting when the bailiff showed up and was
21 about to seize my kids' bed and I had... a little
22 bit of a tantrum. But...

23 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

24 Q- So, but for the purposes of situating the incident
25 you talked about, this proceeding would have been

1 after that, am I right?

2 A- Ah, okay. What were we talking about again?

3 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

4 After the meeting at the house?

5 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

6 Right.

7 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

8 Yes.

9 A- Yes.

10 Q- Because Madam C. said that that happened a
11 little after.

12 A- Yes.

13 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

14 But it's dated March.

15 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

16 Yes.

17 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

18 Do we know when they attended... when the
19 bailiff attended to seize the kids' bed?

20 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

21 Well, yes. You have the date...

22 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

23 Oh, is it?

24 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

25 ... in the documents.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

2 And what is it?

3 A- Here, I give it to you, because it's all in
4 French, so...

5 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

6 March ninety-nine (99), I think.

7 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

8 C'est quelle pièce?

9 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

10 So these...

11 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

12 Pièce E quoi?

13 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

14 The motion is issued on March nineteen (19),
15 and the...

16 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

17 Okay.

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 The affidavit is signed also on April...
20 sixth (6th) of April nineteen ninety-nine (1999).

21 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

22 Yes.

23 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

24 Q- So, Ms. C., you're saying that the instance where
25 you observed white powder in Judge Girouard's

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 nostrils...

2 A- Was before that.

3 Q- Was before that.

4 A- Yes.

5 Q- Can you tell us... can you situate it more firmly?

6 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

7 Sorry, Chief Justice, the bailiff came to
8 the house on March twenty-fourth (24th), nineteen
9 ninety-nine (1999).

10 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

11 Okay.

12 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

13 Okay.

14 A- Yes. H'm...

15 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

16 Q- The kids have gone to the garage and...

17 A- Yes.

18 Q- ... and they're bare foot, so...

19 A- Yes, but it's inside and it's heated, right?

20 Q- Oh. Oh.

21 A- So... but it was... quite honestly, I haven't

22 looked at the pictures that were taken in some

23 time. I'm just trying to remember if...

24 Q- Just give us a ballpark.

25 A- ... there were flowers...

1 Q- Would it have been in the fall of ninety-eight
2 (98)? Summer?

3 A- Probably the fall, early fall, because... I'm just
4 trying to remember... you know, because like I
5 said, she'd always stay about three (3) months,
6 and I'm trying to remember the picture of my
7 mother...

8 Q- «She» meaning your mother?

9 A- Yes. I'm trying to remember the pictures and, you
10 know, that sort of thing. And... I would have... I
11 would say, yes, it definitely would have been the
12 fall, not the summer, because she would have
13 wanted to go into the winter here than there,
14 because if you live in Manitoba, you know how
15 nasty it is over there.

16 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

17 Q- You testified before, just to... that we situate
18 ourselves in time, you testified before that your
19 partner was... went to jail...

20 A- M'hm.

21 Q- ... sometime during that period.

22 A- M'hm.

23 Q- I show you a judgment... well, first, I'll show
24 you...

25 A- Well, actually, he was being... I remember I was

1 living in my own apartment and he had his
2 apartment, and... because we were supposed to be
3 getting married. This is another funny thing he
4 pulled on me, but anyways, that didn't happen. And
5 he was stalling and... basically, I was five (5)
6 months pregnant and I was waiting for my lease to
7 be up, and then I was supposed to move in with
8 him. So he had his office at his apartment...

9 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

10 Q- First child or second child?

11 A- First child.

12 Q- Okay.

13 A- So this would have been in the summer of nineteen
14 ninety-five (1995). Is that O.J. time or...? I
15 think so. I'm trying to remember. I place
16 everything by certain things.

17 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

18 Q- I show you newspaper extracts that are talking
19 about the story of Mr. Champagne at the time with
20 cocaine importation.

21 A- Yes.

22 Q- Okay? They're in French. You have them...

23 A- Okay. Well, I won't be able to read them.

24 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

25 Well, why don't you tell the witness the

1 dates of the events?

2 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

3 Yes.

4 A- Okay.

5 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

6 That will help her.

7 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

8 Q- Can you read them or...?

9 A- For instance, there is...

10 Q- No, I'm talking... can you... are you able to read
11 French?

12 A- I can read some, but not all. So I would like to
13 be...

14 Q- Yes.

15 A- ... clear. It depends on... I know French in my
16 business terms, but...

17 Q- So the dates... so you have three (3) articles.

18 One (1) is dated February twenty-sixth (26th),
19 nineteen ninety-four (1994). The title is

20 «Souliers truqués: les policiers ont travaillé
21 comme des pieds». April thirty (30), nineteen

22 ninety-four (1994), which is... the title is, «Il
23 importait de la coke dans des semelles de

24 souliers». And February ten (10), nineteen ninety-
25 five (1995), «La SQ démantèle un réseau de

1 trafiquants de drogue affilié à un cartel
2 colombien». So...

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 Q- So when was Mr. Champagne arrested for this
5 importation of cocaine?

6 A- All... I just want to say all that I can
7 remember... I didn't know anything about this. I
8 knew that he had... he had introduced me to a
9 friend of his that had been living overseas that
10 came from Val-d'Or that went by the name of Pete
11 and this is the guy who in question later, finding
12 out, he got involved with and this guy wanted to
13 use one of his registered companies. And all I
14 recall is Alain saying to me... because he dabbled
15 in all kinds of things. So it wasn't shocking to
16 me that he told me, «Oh, this friend of mine, he's
17 bringing these shoes, and, you know, he says,
18 «We're going to put somebody at the flea market
19 and we're going to just sell these shoes, because
20 he's got such a good price for them.» He never
21 told me what was in the shoes, you know.

22 And I remember when he was caught, I was
23 still in my apartment and he phoned me, and he
24 told me, and he was practically in tears and he
25 told me, «I'm in trouble.» And that's when the

1 conversation started to unravel about what kind of
2 trouble. He was thinking of running away, and I
3 talked him out of that, and told him he was nuts
4 and that, you know, he needed to face what
5 happened and to get a lawyer and to go see...

6 Q- That's okay. That's okay.

7 A- So...

8 Q- When did you put an end to your relationship with
9 him?

10 A- Officially, the end of the relationship, and the
11 reason it went on for so long as it did was
12 because he only lived with us about two (2) months
13 out of the year, and that was split up, so I could
14 tolerate that situation. And... but I did
15 everything for my children, obviously. But it was
16 in my daughter's grade 6 graduation. So I don't
17 know, what age are you when you're in grade 6?

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 Q- Twelve (12).

20 A- Yes, when she was twelve (12), so she was born in
21 nineteen ninety-four (1994)... so... if you figure
22 out the math, that's when I basically threw him
23 out, because...

24 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

25 Q- So even after he was arrested for cocaine

1 importation, you were still frequenting him? You
2 were still in a...

3 A- Well, I didn't have much choice. I was just having
4 a baby. I mean, he was in jail when I gave birth.
5 So it wasn't like I was going to be able to run
6 out and go get a job and get an apartment...

7 Q- No no, I wasn't being critical, I...

8 A- No no, but I'm just explaining, you know, the
9 situation. I know it's a bit peculiar but, you
10 know, it was kind of survival mode for me at that
11 point. So there really was... there was no love or
12 passion or... it was just gotta do what I've got
13 to do until I get to a certain point, and then I
14 don't need to be with this person.

15 Q- So were there any other instances where you can
16 testify to Mr. Girouard consuming cocaine or
17 acquiring cocaine beyond the incidents that you've
18 testified to?

19 A- Well, there was situations when Alain was involved
20 in this... in this... these charges where Alain
21 had hired a lawyer, Jacques Lafontaine, to
22 represent him, but Michel was really getting in
23 there and trying to give us advice, and I remember
24 seeing him... I mean, he would show up at the jail
25 saying to the guards that he was his lawyer, so he

1 could get in and they could talk and scheme and do
2 whatever it was they were doing, because they were
3 definitely scheming about how to deal with the
4 situation, and... and Mr. Girouard was very aware
5 of what was going on, because one of the guys that
6 was involved happened to be the ex-boyfriend of
7 his partner, so... in this whole conspiracy of all
8 these people that were involved.

9 And I noticed at that time when he was
10 talking with Alain, he was extremely high. He was
11 almost like... he was like... he was like... you
12 know, like someone thinking they're super powerful
13 entity of some sort? Like he was sort of out of
14 his mind a bit, you know what I mean? Like I
15 really noticed a difference.

16 Q- Your reading of him was that he was on drugs.

17 A- Oh yes. Oh yes, because he...

18 Q- And when would that have been?

19 A- That would have been... it's a bit confusing to
20 me, because I mean he was... he went in jail; he
21 got out on bail. He went back to jail. So the
22 timing is a bit confusing for me, and I can't... I
23 remember he was there when I brought her, when she
24 was a newborn. So that would have been January
25 nineteen ninety-four (1994), but this went on for

1 a few years, and I remember Mr. Girouard, and we
2 went... that was the... I had dinner with my... or
3 the meeting with my mom at his house, and I really
4 didn't see him until this all came back up again.

5 And then, we went out for dinner. He
6 insisted... Alain insisted I go out for dinner. I
7 think he was out on bail at the time, and we were
8 having dinner with Michel Girouard. I honestly
9 can't recall if his wife was there or not. I think
10 she was, but I can't be certain, but he was with
11 all these other lawyers that he had gone to school
12 with and graduated. And basically, he was
13 proposing to Alain that they should pay off the
14 prosecutors' husband he went to school with and
15 knew very well, because he thought he could get
16 this case, you know, thrown... and it was crazy.
17 And I was telling Alain, like, «Are you nuts?
18 Like, what are you thinking?» You know? He's... I
19 was very upset about this and telling him...

20 Q- How did Mr. Girouard appear to be at that time?

21 Did he appear on drugs?

22 A- He was... I would say... I would say yes. At this
23 period, in all the time that I knew him, I would
24 say he was obviously at a peaking point of this
25 usage, because it was the same kind of crazy

1 behaviour I saw that woman I had shared the bar
2 with when I bartended.

3 Q- Can you pinpoint for us, Maitre Gravel,
4 generally the timeframe here? I may have missed
5 it, but what timeframe are we talking about? The
6 mid nineteen nineties (1990s)?

7 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

8 Yes. Because...

9 A- She was born in ninety-four (94)...

10 Q- ... if you look at the decision of the Court
11 of Appeal...

12 L'HON. GLENN D. JOYAL, membre:

13 It's nineteen ninety-three (1993), isn't it?

14 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

15 Nineteen ninety-five (1995).

16 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

17 Ninety-five (95).

18 Me BERNARD SYNNOTT, membre:

19 The accusations are in nineteen ninety-three
20 (1993).

21 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

22 Yes.

23 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

24 Yes.

25

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 So nineteen ninety-five (1995) is the time
3 the Court of Appeal ordered a new trial, which
4 means that it would be... Mr. Champagne probably
5 would be on bail.

6 A- I think, actually, he got denied. Then, he got
7 out. Then he went back and I think he got out
8 again. I mean, it was just ridiculous, but...

9 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

10 Q- Where is Mr. Champagne now?

11 A- He lives on Sherbrooke, in a condo on Sherbrooke,
12 downtown.

13 Q- Montreal?

14 A- Yes.

15 Q- Okay.

16 L'HON. MARIANNE RIVOALEN, membre:

17 Q- Just a point of clarification...

18 A- Yes, not a problem.

19 Q- ... about your children and... your first born was
20 January nineteen ninety-four (1994).

21 A- Nineteen ninety-four (1994), yes. January fifth
22 (5th), nineteen ninety-four (1994).

23 Q- Okay. And the second, you said, was two (2) years
24 later, almost to the...

25 A- January ninth (9th), nineteen ninety-six (1996).

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Q- Ninety-six (96), okay.

2 A- Yes.

3 Q- Okay.

4 A- Yes, and she was planned. The first one was a
5 surprise.

6 Q- Okay.

7 A- The second one was planned, and I gave birth to
8 her in Winnipeg, because I had left Alain. I was
9 eight (8) months pregnant...

10 Q- By then, you had already... you'd left him.

11 A- And that was the time of... because I left just
12 before the big PQ situation there when everybody
13 left town. I remember I left... I left the day
14 before. I remember very clearly, and then I
15 returned about ten (10) months later, and...

16 Q- Okay.

17 A- ... and I've been here ever since.

18 Q- Okay.

19 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

20 Q- On page 2 of your document... of your letter,
21 you're talking about someone named Mr. Cloutier.

22 A- Yes.

23 Q- The second paragraph.

24 A- Mr. Cloutier is a lifetime friend. He... his
25 family is from Saint-Norbert also, a big French

1 family. My father knew his family very well. I
2 mean, it was kind of that sort of situation. My
3 father was acquainted with many people, because he
4 had a... he was involved in a lot of things: the
5 Saint-Boniface College, Manitoba Hydro,
6 Assiniboine Credit Union. I mean... and so he was
7 a very social person and he was well respected,
8 and he was very friendly with all the people from
9 Saint-Norbert. Most of them all, you know, grew up
10 for generations and stayed there.

11 So Mr. Cloutier and I have known each other
12 since I can remember and went to school together
13 and were best friends, and he dated a girlfriend
14 of mine, and we always remained close, and he
15 became an RCMP officer. And when he... or a police
16 officer. I know he went for his testing in
17 Winnipeg, and then afterwards he moved to
18 Montreal.

19 So him and I were still in contact, and I
20 knew he was doing undercover work, and at one
21 point, he had gotten married and I remember he
22 came... I hadn't moved here yet, so it was pre
23 nineteen ninety-one (1991), and he came to visit
24 me at my apartment. I was having a little get-
25 together. It was around Christmas time. He was

1 visiting his parents, and he was alone. His wife
2 had stayed in...

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 Q- When was this?

5 A- It would have been just before... like nineteen
6 ninety-one (1991), prior. I don't know... two (2)
7 years, a year? I really can't remember.

8 Q- So sometime before nineteen ninety...

9 A- Probably one (1) to two (2) years, because I'm
10 remembering the apartment, and I remember I was
11 there for three (3) years, and I left in nineteen
12 ninety-one (1991). So it was in that time... late
13 eighties (80s). And so Robert came to visit me.
14 You know, it was just a little gathering of
15 friends and he came to visit and, you know, we
16 visited a bit, and then I didn't see him again for
17 a while but, you know, we talked by phone and so
18 forth.

19 His brother used to be best friends with my
20 brother, so it's like we all knew each other. We
21 were all friends with each other's siblings,
22 friends and families and so forth. And so, then,
23 afterwards, Mr. Cloutier got divorced and moved to
24 Ottawa and transferred with the RCMP unit.

25 And so after I had split up with Mr.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Champagne, I did see Mr. Cloutier a fair amount,
2 because my aunt was the mother superior for Les
3 Soeurs de Visitation du Québec and she was
4 headquartered in Ottawa. They owned a big
5 monastery. It was des soeurs croisées (sic)? You
6 know, like monks, but nuns. And so she was... she
7 had cancer and she was dying. So we would be going
8 quite often to visit her, because I was very close
9 with her. And she was at the Grey Nuns Hospital
10 there. And so I would... you know, we'd go visit
11 Robert. We had a fire outside, and hung out with
12 him.

13 And then the next trip, I don't recall if
14 it's in the same year, but it was in the summer -
15 it was hot - and he had been invited somewhere,
16 and he came to stop by to spend the Sunday with
17 us, before he left to go back to Ottawa. And we
18 were just sitting outside, having a drink and
19 talking, and we just started talking about him
20 living in Mascouche, and his days as an undercover
21 officer, and he was telling me, you know, stories
22 he could tell me, and then he just... and he knew
23 nothing...

24 Q- Can we stop here?

25 It's a quarter to four (3:45).

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 M'hm.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 How long do you plan on going? And the
5 reason I lift a hand, I think in fairness to the
6 witness, we've been quite liberal with hearsay,
7 because part of the narrative and all that, but I
8 would like you, Maitre Gravel, to think about
9 whether or not getting into hearsay with officer
10 Cloutier is really part of the narrative, and if
11 we're not really going too far. I want you to
12 think about that. And I don't think that...

13 Q- I think you're going to be stuck in Quebec City
14 this evening.

15 A- No, I have to go back home, and I'll have to
16 come... get up early again and come back, yes.

17 Q- Okay.

18 A- So I was really hoping we could wrap this up,
19 because I have a couple of big issues for my job.

20 Q- Well, they have one (1) question or two (2) to ask
21 you, these gentlemen.

22 A- M'hm.

23 Q- So we're not going to be able to finish today for
24 sure no matter what.

25 A- Okay. But if we start tomorrow...

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Q- Is there a time that would be good...

2 A- ... would we be able to, like, start and I
3 wouldn't be sitting for five (5) hours, and...
4 because I have things I've got to get done for my
5 job that are like million dollar contracts.

6 Q- Okay.

7 A- Like I can't...

8 Q- I appreciate that. Is there a time? Is it better
9 for you to start at nine thirty (9:30)?

10 A- Morning? Yes. If we could start and I can leave as
11 soon as I can, it would be fantastic.

12 Q- Okay. You might leave, but you might have to come
13 back some other time.

14 A- What do you mean? Another time?

15 Q- Yes, to continue your testimony.

16 A- Okay... we can't wrap the rest of that up
17 tomorrow?

18 Q- Well, we can do quite a bit tomorrow. I suspect
19 Maitre Gravel has got... doesn't have very long to
20 go, or do you?

21 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

22 No.

23 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

24 Can you finish today?

25

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 Yes.

3 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

4 Okay. Please continue then.

5 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

6 Thank you.

7 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

8 Q- I don't want to give you false hopes. It doesn't
9 mean you won't have to come back, but it might be
10 this week later on.

11 Please go.

12 A- Okay.

13 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

14 Thank you.

15 A- But for sure tomorrow...

16 Q- Yes.

17 A- ... is that it?

18 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

19 Q- We'll see. We'll see. Don't tie me down.

20 A- Okay. You drive a hard bargain. Okay. So...

21 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

22 Q- I just want you to explain to the Committee who's
23 Robert Cloutier.

24 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

25 Okay.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 A- A lifelong friend.

2 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

3 Q- Okay.

4 A- A lifelong friend who then ended up telling me a
5 story that totally shocked me that came...

6 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

7 That's... that was your warning, My Lord.

8 A- Oh, okay. I'm not supposed to discuss that part?

9 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

10 Q- Well, it's something that...

11 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

12 Mr. Cloutier is anyway...

13 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

14 Q- ... it's something that maybe Mr. Cloutier can
15 tell us...

16 A- Himself.

17 Q- Okay, yes.

18 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

19 Q- Yes.

20 A- Yes.

21 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

22 Q- Okay.

23 A- I have no problem with that, but that's my history
24 with him... with Robert.

25 Q- Okay.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

2 Well, if you don't mind, I would ask for
3 maybe ten (10), fifteen (15) minutes.

4 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

5 Certainly.

6 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

7 I would...

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Certainly. Certainly.

10 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

11 And then, we could finish.

12 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

13 Yes.

14 Q- Ms. C., I have a direction to give you.

15 A- M'hm.

16 Q- You're not to discuss your testimony...

17 A- M'hm.

18 Q- ... what you might have said, what you would have
19 liked to have said, with anyone.

20 A- M'hm.

21 Q- It's... mum's the word.

22 A- That's not a problem.

23 Q- Okay?

24 A- I'm totally capable.

25 Q- We'll see you in fifteen (15) minutes.

1 A- Yes.

2

3 RECESS

4

5 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

6 Q- Would you please return to the witness box?

7 A- Okay.

8 Q- Maitre Gravel?

9 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

10 Q- Madam C., you said that Mr. Girouard and Mr.

11 Champagne were best friends and you also said that

12 they had business relationships. What kind of

13 business are we talking about?

14 A- Well, basically, Alain would get involved in

15 opportunities where there was the chance to raise

16 capital by selling IPOs and they would, you know,

17 trade information on different deals they knew

18 going around, amongst their friends who liked to

19 trade and so forth, and so these are part of the

20 dealings that they were involved in as... you

21 know, as far as I know, but I don't know the full

22 extent of everything.

23 Q- In what kind of industry?

24 A- Oh, it could be in anything. I mean, it was in...

25 I mean, he dabbled in everything, whether it was

1 medical, whether it was... mining, minerals, you
2 know, mining/minerals, lithium, that type of
3 situation. You know, at some point, he was running
4 around Africa for a couple of years, because, you
5 know, he caught wind of something going on down
6 there where the Americans had... had paid these
7 corrupt presidents sort of hush money and the
8 money was covered in a type of an ink and, you
9 know, and there was all these people trying to
10 discover it, and then there was stuff in Asia. So
11 he had people in different areas doing stuff, and
12 then he would fly out and work on that. So he
13 would raise capital for these things.

14 Q- And...

15 A- So it was like pure speculation on some of
16 these... on some of these deals. I mean, I
17 certainly wouldn't have put money into it.

18 Q- And when Mr. Girouard was coming to Montreal, for
19 instance, what was the purpose?

20 A- Well, most of the time that I knew of, when he
21 came to town, it was either for Court, or I think
22 when he had Court he also would maybe... I know on
23 one (1) occasion tied in some family visit time
24 with his partner's family. But other than that, I
25 was not privy as to his... what he was doing,

1 because as I said, at a certain point, I just
2 really didn't participate in having a relationship
3 with him, and I really didn't have a relationship
4 with my partner and didn't care what he was doing,
5 because I didn't believe anything he said anymore,
6 you know? So...

7 Q- You said that you saw Mr. Girouard more often
8 while your partner was in jail. This is what I
9 understood.

10 A- Yes, he all of a sudden popped back into the
11 picture and was really trying to steer him to make
12 some choices that I was quite furious about,
13 because I thought he was out of his mind, to tell
14 you quite honestly, and anyway, I think... I don't
15 know... I don't know if there was really a
16 potential for the things that he was suggesting or
17 he was just on a sort of a... sort of a... you
18 know, when you do cocaine and you're using it, my
19 understanding and my experience of what I've seen
20 is that people have a false sense of reality, you
21 know? They have a sense... they're all full of
22 like, «We can make it happen. We can do this,» but
23 yet, you know, it doesn't make any sense, you know
24 what I mean?

25 So I felt that... I felt there was some of

1 that going on, because what he was proposing was
2 really obnoxious, and I told Alain...

3 Q- Did you visit...

4 A- ... he'd get more in trouble, and I didn't agree
5 with the situation.

6 Q- Did you visit your husband or your partner in jail
7 with Mr. Girouard?

8 A- Well, I was there and he'd show up, yes. I mean,
9 we didn't go together, but I remember many
10 instances when he was there, and then Alain would
11 tell me what... what Monsieur Girouard was telling
12 him what he should do, and... you know? And...

13 Q- But was Mr. Girouard Mr. Champagne's lawyer?

14 A- No, he wasn't, it was Jacques Lafontaine, but I
15 know he was getting into the prison telling them
16 that he was the lawyer, because he was having
17 these private conversations and going into
18 whatever room you go to to consult with your
19 lawyer. So he was getting in that way. I know he
20 did several visits to Saint-Jérôme. He was posted
21 as several different places, but where I recall
22 seeing him the most was at Saint-Jérôme.

23 Q- You're writing in your letter talking about Mr.
24 Girouard...

25 A- M'hm.

1 Q- «This man was, without a doubt,
2 addicted and was using cocaine
3 daily, and his wife was enjoying
4 the drug as much as him from what
5 I witnessed. Anyone who knows them
6 well knows this information.»

7 A- Yes, I stand behind that.

8 Q- Please tell the Committee why and how you support
9 that.

10 A- Well, because I know other people in Val-d'Or, and
11 there are a lot of people that don't care for him,
12 and they like to talk and I have overheard. So
13 whether it's gossip or innuendo, I cannot say.

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 I'd rather not...

16 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

17 No.

18 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

19 I'd rather not go there.

20 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

21 Q- Your personal experience.

22 A- Well, my personal experience, from what I viewed
23 and saw, it wasn't just a situation of someone
24 doing it twice a year to go, you know, at a party
25 or something, you know? It was... it was

1 consistent use.

2 Q- So give us details.

3 A- Well, what do you mean details? I've discussed...

4 Q- How do you support that?

5 A- Well, I support that in pretty much every time I
6 saw him, he was using. So in all the times that I
7 saw him, and in the times that I knew Alain would
8 meet him, Alain would return and he would be high
9 on cocaine. So, I mean, it was... it was evident
10 to me that the two (2) of them used together, so I
11 don't see Alain going out for an evening using
12 only by himself. I couldn't imagine that would be
13 much... much fun for him, so...

14 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

15 Q- But you've told us of, I think, four (4) incidents
16 that you observed where Mr. Girouard manifested
17 signs of cocaine consumption. You testified that
18 you actually saw an instance where he had powder
19 up his nose. So the statement that... where you
20 claim that he was using on a daily basis, this is
21 more in the nature of an inference, an opinion
22 that you formed based on his behaviour, because
23 you didn't observe him...

24 A- Daily.

25 Q- ... daily.

1 A- You're absolutely right, but... but it wasn't a
2 weekend recreational thing, because I saw him
3 using during the week as well on these occasions,
4 so...

5 Q- Okay.

6 A- ... that given, and... you know, as I said, I
7 can't say anything in regards to hearsay, so I'll
8 just leave it at that, but that's what I
9 witnessed.

10 Q- It's four thirty (4:30). I wouldn't want to
11 ask you to start cross-examination at four thirty
12 (4:30). So I see Maitre Dupuis agreeing with the
13 Chief Justice of New Brunswick. It's the habit of
14 young lawyers. They're so happy when the Chief
15 Justice is saying something with which they can
16 agree that they normally signal their approval.
17 Maitre Tremblay will tell you it's a habit that
18 you need to get rid of.

19 Maitre Tremblay, Madam C., would it be more
20 convenient for you if we said that we would start
21 tomorrow morning at ten (10:00)? Would that be...

22 A- That's fine. I mean, I can get up and be here for
23 nine thirty (9:30), it's not a problem. Now that I
24 know that there's flooding issues and where it's
25 at, I can leave much earlier, so...

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Q- So you're good at nine thirty (9:30)?

2 A- Yes, I can start at nine thirty (9:30).

3 Q- All right. Thank you very much. Same caution that
4 I gave you earlier about not discussing your
5 testimony with anyone, even your closest friend or
6 family, mum's the word until you come back, until
7 you've been cross-examined.

8 A- M'hm.

9 Q- Alors, we will continue tomorrow in English for
10 your testimony, but...

11 A- Thank you. I appreciate it.

12 Q- ... the proceedings are, but for Madam, the
13 proceedings are in French.

14 Alors, demain matin à neuf heures trente
15 (9 h 30), contre-interrogatoire?

16 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

17 Oui.

18 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

19 Merci, maître Tremblay.

20 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

21 Est-ce que maître... est-ce qu'on peut
22 confirmer que ça va être la fin de votre preuve,
23 maître?

24 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

25 Non.

CCM16-0179
May 9th, 2017

L.C.
COMMITTEE
EXAMINATION (Me GRAVEL)

1 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

2 Ça ne sera pas la fin de votre preuve? Donc,
3 il reste d'autres témoins?

4 Me MARC-ANDRÉ GRAVEL:

5 Il reste monsieur Cloutier.

6 Me GÉRALD R. TREMBLAY:

7 Ah. O.K.

8 MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT:

9 Alors, l'audience est levée et l'audience
10 reprendra demain matin à neuf heures trente
11 (9 h 30). Safe travel.

12 A- Thank you.

13

14 AND FURTHER DEPONENT SAITH NOT

15

16 -----