- 1. Q. Good afternoon. Please state your full name for the record.
- 2. A. Kyle Ray Forrester.
- 3. Q.  $\underline{\mathbf{Sir}}^1$ , what city do you live in?
- 4. A. I currently live in Missoula, Montana, but I was born and **raised**<sup>2</sup> overseas.
- 5. Q. <u>Exactly</u><sup>3</sup> how long have you lived in Missoula, then?
- 6. A. About five years. <u>Basically</u><sup>4</sup>, I came to the U.S. when I was <u>twenty-seven</u><sup>5</sup> and wound up in Montana working as a <u>ranch hand</u><sup>6</sup>.
- 7. Q. Are you <u>familiar</u><sup>7</sup> with the Clark Fork River near Montana Highway <u>200</u><sup>8</sup>?
- 8. A. Yes, <u>extremely</u> familiar. I spend a lot of time there because it reminds me of the river near my <u>childhood</u> home.
- 9. Q. How much time **would you say**<sup>11</sup> you spend on the river each year?
- 10. A. I couldn't tell you an exact <u>average</u><sup>12</sup>, but I go there any <u>chance</u><sup>13</sup> I can get.

  My <u>wife</u><sup>14</sup> tells everyone that if I'm not at home or at work, you'll find me on the river.
- 11. Q. What type of activities or <u>hobbies</u><sup>15</sup> do you spend time doing on the river?
- 12. A. I've got a motorboat and a <u>raft</u><sup>16</sup> that I <u>alternately</u><sup>17</sup> take out on the water for fly-fishing, depending on the <u>season</u><sup>18</sup>.
- 13. Q. I want to <u>direct your attention</u><sup>19</sup> to a time you were on the water on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 around <u>dawn</u><sup>20</sup>. Do you <u>recall</u><sup>21</sup> that?
- 14. A. I sure do. I <u>woke<sup>22</sup></u> up early that morning because I planned to <u>spend<sup>23</sup></u> the day fishing at my favorite <u>spot<sup>24</sup></u> on the river.
- 15. Q. And what **sticks out**<sup>25</sup> about that **particular**<sup>26</sup> date and time for you?

- 16. A. <u>Well<sup>27</sup></u>, as I arrived at my spot, I noticed that there was already a <u>black<sup>28</sup></u>

  Toyota Highlander parked on the <u>embankment<sup>29</sup></u>, almost in the water.
- 17. Q. Let me stop you there and <u>rewind</u><sup>30</sup> to how you started your <u>morning</u><sup>31</sup> on that particular day. What time did you leave your house?
- 18. A. I left my house that morning around <u>5:00 a.m.</u><sup>32</sup>
- 19. Q Did you make any <u>stops</u><sup>33</sup> along the way to the river before arriving to your <u>preferred</u><sup>34</sup> fishing spot?
- 20. A I stopped at the Clark Mini-Mart to <u>fill</u><sup>35</sup> my car up with gas and <u>grab</u><sup>36</sup> a sandwich to throw in my <u>cooler</u><sup>37</sup> for later that day. Then I headed <u>north</u><sup>38</sup> to the river.
- 21. Q. And then you started to tell us what you <u>witnessed</u><sup>39</sup> once you <u>arrived</u><sup>40</sup>.

  Describe to us, with as much <u>detail</u><sup>41</sup> as you can, what you saw.
- 22. A. There was this car sitting there within a <u>couple</u><sup>42</sup> of feet of the water, almost <u>in</u><sup>43</sup> the water, and the **hatchback**<sup>44</sup> of the car was open. And no one was **around**<sup>45</sup>.
- 23. Q. Did the car appear to be in <u>decent</u><sup>46</sup> shape or was it <u>damaged</u><sup>47</sup> in some manner? Was there anything <u>unusual</u><sup>48</sup> near the car?
- 24. A. When I walked around to the <u>passenger side</u><sup>49</sup>, I could see that the window was <u>shattered</u><sup>50</sup> and glass was <u>strewn</u><sup>51</sup> about. That's when <u>I noticed</u><sup>52</sup> the body beside the car.
- 25. Q. I <u>realize</u><sup>53</sup> this may be difficult, but I need you to describe for the court what you saw with the <u>body</u><sup>54</sup>. I need you to be as detailed as possible about how you found the body and what <u>state</u><sup>55</sup> it was in.

- 26. A. The body was lying there, on his back, with his feet <u>facing</u><sup>56</sup> the water. His shirt was <u>pulled up</u><sup>57</sup> around his chest and he well, he looked <u>awful</u><sup>58</sup>. He was purple-looking and, honestly, my first reaction was to **vomit**<sup>59</sup>.
- 27. Q. Okay. What were your next <u>actions</u><sup>60</sup>? Please <u>walk us through</u><sup>61</sup> what you did after your <u>initial</u><sup>62</sup> reaction to seeing the body there by the river.
- 28. A. I grabbed my cell from the <u>console</u><sup>63</sup> of my car and tried to call 911, but there's no <u>service</u><sup>64</sup> in that part of the <u>woods</u><sup>65</sup>. So, I drove <u>three-quarters</u><sup>66</sup> of a mile to find a signal and then I called the <u>police</u><sup>67</sup>.
- 29. Q. Can you tell us what is <u>across</u><sup>68</sup> the river from the <u>location</u><sup>69</sup> where you found the body?
- 30. A. There's a little <u>island</u><sup>70</sup>, roughly a <u>stone's throw</u><sup>71</sup> away from the riverbank, where teenagers sometimes go to drink beer and have <u>bonfires</u><sup>72</sup> on the weekends.
- 31. Q. Are there <u>several</u><sup>73</sup> fishing spots in that area, and if so, how close do you <u>estimate</u><sup>74</sup> the nearest one is to where you found the body?
- 32. A. There are a <u>few</u><sup>75</sup> spots around there, including mine. The nearest one is right beside where the body was, maybe <u>75 to 100</u><sup>76</sup> feet down river.
- 33. Q. At any point during the morning of <u>September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021</u><sup>77</sup> did you see the <u>defendant</u><sup>78</sup>, Marcus Wexler?
- 34. A. No. I mean, not that I know of. There weren't many people at the

  Clark Mini-Mart<sup>79</sup>, since I was there before sunrise<sup>80</sup>, and I didn't see anyone
  on the river the entire<sup>81</sup> time I was there.

- 35. Q. Sir, I am handing you what I have <u>marked</u><sup>82</sup> for identification purposes as State's <u>Exhibit</u><sup>83</sup> 2. Will you look at that for me? Take your time. What is State's Exhibit 2 that I handed<sup>84</sup> you?
- 36. A. It's a **statement**<sup>85</sup> of exactly what I just got through telling you, about what happened that morning I found the body.
- 37. Q. <u>To the best of your knowledge</u><sup>86</sup>, is that a <u>true and accurate</u><sup>87</sup> copy of the statement <u>you gave</u><sup>88</sup> to the police, once they arrived to the scene that day?
- 38. A. Yes, it is.
- 39. Q. I move to <u>admit<sup>89</sup> State</u>'s Exhibit 2, <u>Your Honor</u><sup>90</sup>. No further questions.