

1 Good afternoon. Boy, it has been a
2 long couple of weeks, hasn't it? You've
3 heard a lot of testimony over the last
4 several days, some of it very
5 uncomfortable, which is to be expected in
6 this sort of case. But you've heard
7 everything from Ms. Timmins and her group.

8 When I was a young kid, I spent a
9 lot of time with my grandparents because
10 they only lived liked two blocks away. I
11 couldn't fathom living that close to my
12 own parents. But my grandmother loved to
13 listen to the radio. She wasn't much of a
14 TV person. I think it's because she was
15 blind in one eye and couldn't see out of
16 the other, so it was easier just to
17 listen. And she loved Paul Harvey.

18 Now, some of you, I think, are
19 probably old enough to remember Paul
20 Harvey. He would always start out with
21 telling a story, something controversial,
22 something that really made you go, oh, my
23 goodness. And he'd talk about it for a
24 little bit, and then he would say, "Now
25 for the rest of the story."

1 We've heard from a lot of law
2 enforcement agents. We've heard from some
3 very unhappy MWA students and a couple of
4 disgruntled employees. But over the next
5 day, day and a half--I am certainly not
6 going to go several days--but for the next
7 day or day and a half, we're going to hear
8 from people who worked in the facility,
9 not who were fired but who were there to
10 the end, who worked with these students.

11 We're going to hear from Layani
12 Trane, who was there from the beginning of
13 MWA because she's married to the
14 Defendant.

15 And finally, you're going to hear
16 from the one person you're probably most
17 interested in, my client, Ben Trane. He's
18 going to tell you about how the school
19 developed, what his goals were, what his
20 mission was in working with these troubled
21 teens. He will tell you how the school
22 evolved over time, whether it be how the
23 hierarchy of the school changed as the
24 student body grew and the faculty grew, to
25 how they utilized certain things within

1 the program, like the OSS rooms; how they
2 were always seeking to improve the school
3 to meet the needs of the students.

4 These were troubled kids. We've
5 heard that from the ones that have
6 testified. He will talk to you about
7 those and what he was trying to do to make
8 them good, productive members of society,
9 to get them home to their families where
10 they could begin to communicate and do
11 well both socially and academically.

12 He will tell you about Kxxxxxx
13 [REDACTED]. He will tell you what did not
14 happen with Kxxxxxx [REDACTED], because Mr.
15 Trane will tell you that none of it
16 happened. None of the incidents that she
17 described happened. He didn't do it.

18 You will also hear him testify
19 that--you know, we've heard lots of
20 testimony about going to Victoria's Secret
21 and having surveys done of a sexual nature
22 and a body image exercise. He's going to
23 tell you that, yeah, he did those things.
24 They're probably not the brightest things
25 he's ever done, but he did those things.

1 But he's also going to tell you why
2 he did them, not for some nefarious
3 purpose, for some sexual arousal or
4 interest. He was trying to help the
5 students, whether that be the girls who
6 were tired of wearing the requisite white
7 bra and panties that they have there as
8 lower levels, and they finally had
9 accomplished the goal of rising to those
10 upper levels, they got those upper level
11 privileges. He was trying to meet their
12 needs and make them happy.

13 He will tell you that the sexual
14 survey had a legitimate purpose, and it
15 wasn't the only kind of survey they did.
16 He was trying to gain information to learn
17 how he could make the program better,
18 because students in 2014 probably were a
19 lot different than in 2003 when the school
20 started.

21 He also will testify that he was
22 the parent facilitator, that most of his
23 role was working with the parents, not so
24 much the students, and that he was using
25 the information from these surveys to help

1 educate parents on how to parent their
2 kids, because obviously there was a
3 conundrum at home that led them to Midwest
4 Academy. He was trying to help everyone
5 achieve the goal of reunifying that
6 family.

7 He will tell you about the body
8 image exercise. It wasn't a class. It
9 wasn't therapy. It was an exercise. He
10 will tell you why he decided to do that
11 with the female students, because it
12 actually started with a female student who
13 was having issues on that very issue.

14 Ladies and gentlemen, you have done
15 a wonderful job. I'm not sure I could
16 have stayed as awake and attentive as you
17 have done so far. But I want you to do
18 that with me for the next couple of days,
19 because we all talked in jury selection
20 about hearing all of the evidence.

21 Well, now for the next day, day and
22 a half, I want you to hear the rest of the
23 story.

24 THE COURT: Ms. Schaefer, the
25 defense may call its first witness.