

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION

MICHAEL TAYLOR,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	Case No.
vs.)	05-4173-CV-S-FJG
)	
LARRY CRAWFORD, et al.,)	
)	JUNE 12, 2006
Defendant.)	MORNING SESSION

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TRANSCRIPT OF BENCH TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE FERNANDO J. GAITAN, JR.
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

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1 MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006

2 THE COURT: Good morning. All right. Ready to

3 begin?

4 MR. HELLMAN: Yes, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: How about some introductions first.

6 MR. HELLMAN: Absolutely. I am Matthew Hellman

7 for plaintiff Taylor.

8 MR. SIMON: John William Simon for plaintiff.

9 MR. ZAMAN: Shahid Zaman for plaintiff.

10 MR. BERGER: Eric Berger for plaintiff.

11 THE COURT: Ms. Anders I know. All right.

12 Let's begin.

13 As I previously indicated, no opening statements
14 would be necessary. Your pretrial briefs were very
15 informative and I think we ought to use our time wisely and
16 proceed.

17 MR. HELLMAN: In that spirit then, Your Honor,
18 plaintiff would just like to note for the record that
19 although plaintiff had said in its pretrial brief that we
20 would have seven witnesses available for the hearing today
21 to testify, three expert witnesses and four of the party
22 defendants, John Does One, Two, Three and Five. Despite
23 our best efforts we have been unable to secure the presence
24 of the Doe defendants. We have, because we don't know
25 their names and have not tried to obtain their names, we

3

1 asked if we could serve their counsel, Mr. Pritchett, and
2 pass on service to them. Counsel refused. And although we
3 tried to effect service, service was refused.

4 Similarly, we attempted service on Director
5 Crawford who is their employer and we thought that would be
6 an appropriate person in this circumstance. Service was
7 also refused there.

8 So we have been unable to secure their attendance
9 and we believe it's inappropriate that these party
10 defendants are not here. Opposing counsel is free to quash
11 the subpoena, but -- or move to do so. But short of that,
12 we believe service would be appropriate on them. We ask
13 the court to rule as such.

14 THE COURT: Response?

15 MR. PRITCHETT: As I think was admitted, there
16 was no service. Even if there had been service on either
17 myself or on Mr. Crawford, it still would have been
18 inappropriate and invalid service because service of
19 subpoenas must be made on individuals.

20 Additionally, in terms of whether or not the
21 subpoena should be quashed even if it had been served, we
22 have noted several times during the course of this
23 litigation the importance of maintaining the
24 confidentiality, the privacy of the John Does, and we
25 believe that interest outweighs any need for the testimony

4

1 of those individuals, especially given the written
2 interrogatory responses from all of the Does, as well as
3 the deposition of Dr. John Doe One.

4 THE COURT: Okay. I agree with the latter.
5 Let's proceed.

6 MR. HELLMAN: And one final point, Your Honor.
7 We understand that one of the defendants is in the
8 courtroom today and we would invoke the rule against
9 witnesses and ask that he not be present when our witnesses
10 testify.

11 THE COURT: Who would that be?

12 MR. PRITCHETT: Mr. Crawford is a defendant in
13 this case and I think as a defendant Mr. Crawford is
14 entitled to be present during the testimony.

15 THE COURT: Is that who you are speaking of?

16 MR. HELLMAN: Yes, I am.

17 THE COURT: Objection is overruled.

18 MR. PRITCHETT: I will note for full disclosure,
19 since the idea has been brought up, Terry Moore, director
20 of the Division of Adult Institutions, who is not a
21 defendant, is in the courtroom and if the rule as to
22 witnesses is invoked we would ask that the expert
23 witnesses, other than the ones testifying, be excluded as
24 well.

25 MR. HELLMAN: It's my understanding that the

5

1 rule of exclusion does not apply to expert witnesses who
2 are always able to hear all testimony whether expert or
3 otherwise, but it does apply as a matter of course to a
4 testifying defendant.

5 THE COURT: I think it's at the discretion of the
6 court and it's the court's discretion that any witness that
7 will be testifying will be excluded. Defendant's
8 representative is entitled to be here and otherwise any
9 other -- if you're invoking the rule, that's the way the
10 rule is going to be applied. Is that your request?

11 MR. HELLMAN: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Are you
12 saying that the defendant's witnesses may stay, but our
13 experts may not?

14 THE COURT: No, I said the defendant's
15 representative, Mr. Crawford, who is a party in the case,
16 he's entitled to be in this proceeding. All other
17 witnesses will be excluded.

18 MR. HELLMAN: Expert or otherwise?

19 THE COURT: That's what I said.

20 MR. HELLMAN: We would think normally experts

21 would be allowed --

22 THE COURT: I have already ruled on that. You're
23 wasting time. Let's move.

24 MR. HELLMAN: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: If you're an expert and you're going

6

1 to be testifying, it's time to step out of the courtroom,
2 and any other witnesses.

3 MS. ANDERS: As a preliminary matter, Your Honor,
4 before we call our first witness, plaintiff would like to
5 admit a bunch of exhibits just up front, if that would
6 be --

7 THE COURT: Is this by stipulation?

8 MS. ANDERS: I understand the defendants have
9 stipulated to the authenticity, or will stipulate to the
10 authenticity of the interrogatory responses of the Doe
11 defendants and the document of the execution records
12 received in discovery.

13 MR. PRITCHETT: That's correct, Your Honor,
14 that we have agreed to stipulate to the authenticity of
15 interrogatory responses and of the execution records that
16 have been supplied by the State. I was reserving consent
17 and stipulation to the merits, the relevance of them. I
18 think I will withdraw that, but I would like to see
19 specifically what they are before I would do that.

20 The interrogatory answers, I know what those
21 are. And the execution records from the last six, is it
22 everything?

23 MS. ANDERS: It is everything that you supplied

24 us.

25 MR. PRITCHETT: Okay. If we supplied it as part

7

1 of our discovery, we will stipulate to that.

2 Is there anything else other than those
3 documents?

4 MS. ANDERS: There's also the answer of John Doe
5 One in response to the court's interrogatories.

6 MR. PRITCHETT: We would stipulate to that.

7 MS. ANDERS: And the deposition transcript, the
8 deposition of John Doe One. This is the unredacted
9 version.

10 MR. PRITCHETT: We'll stipulate to the admission
11 and use of the deposition of John Doe One. There is
12 identifying information. There is a redacted version as
13 well. We, of course, think the court would be able to use
14 it for any purpose it wants. We would not like the
15 nonredacted version to be part of the public record. We
16 would like it to be under seal.

17 THE COURT: Is that agreed by agreement?

18 MS. ANDERS: That would be fine, Your Honor.
19 There are a couple of quotations in the transcript on which
20 we don't agree, we weren't able to agree on.

21 THE COURT: You don't agree that they're
22 identifying testimony, is that what you're saying?

23 MS. ANDERS: There is one portion which we do not
24 agree subject to a protective order. I don't think you've
25 ruled on that, but everything else can be agreed to.

8

1 THE COURT: All right. With regard to the part
2 that's in dispute we'll take up subsequent to this hearing
3 in terms of whether it's subject to disclosure or not.

4 MS. ANDERS: So we should admit the
5 unredacted --

6 THE COURT: Subject to -- and, you know, it would
7 be nice to have all the exhibits stipulated to and we
8 wouldn't have to waste the time this morning doing that.
9 Maybe the way to do that is assume it's stipulated to
10 unless some objection is raised to the contrary. Okay?

11 MS. ANDERS: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 MR. PRITCHETT: May I ask if there is a set of
13 the exhibits that are marked so it will be easier for us to
14 follow?

15 MS. ANDERS: Yes, we have a set that we're going
16 to have admitted as exhibits.

17 MR. PRITCHETT: As we go along? Okay.

18 MS. ANDERS: And, Your Honor, would you like to
19 place the unredacted version of the John Doe One transcript
20 in your binder?

21 THE COURT: That's fine. I was part of the
22 deposition so I really don't require one I don't think.
23 At this time anyway. And I think we have a copy, not the
24 redacted copy, but --

25 MS. ANDERS: And the last thing we would like to

9

1 admit is the transcript of the Crawford deposition.

2 MR. PRITCHETT: Although the witness is here to

3 testify, we'll consent to the deposition itself.

4 MS. ANDERS: At this point, Your Honor, plaintiff
5 would like to call Dr. Mark Heath to the stand.

6 MARK HEATH, called as a witness on behalf of the
7 Plaintiff, being first duly sworn, testified:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. ANDERS:

9 Q Dr. Heath, would you state your name, and spell it for
10 the record, please.

11 A My name is Mark Heath. The first name is M-a-r-k.
12 And the last name is H-e-a-t-h.

13 Q And what is your occupation?

14 A I'm an anesthesiologist.

15 Q Where do you practice?

16 A In New York City at Columbia University.

17 Q How long have you worked as anesthesiologist?

18 A Since I finished my training. For about 15 years.

19 Q Are you board-certified?

20 A I am, yes.

21 Q And do you induce general anesthesia as part of your
22 practice in the operating room at Columbia?

23 A Yes, routinely.

24 MS. ANDERS: At this point I'd like to offer
25 Dr. Heath's CV. For the record, I'm showing it to defense

10

1 counsel. This has been previously marked as Plaintiff's
2 Exhibit No. 24.

3 May I approach the witness, Your Honor?

4 THE COURT: You may. It will be received,
5 assuming there's no objection.

6 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

7 Q (By Ms. Anders) Is that your CV, Dr. Heath?

8 A Yes, it is.

9 Q Does it accurately reflect your training and
10 qualifications?

11 A It does.

12 Q Have you previously participated in cases involving
13 lethal injection?

14 A I have, yes.

15 Q About how many have you participated in?

16 A About 30 cases.

17 Q And as part of your -- in connection with your
18 participation in these cases, what research have you done?

19 A I have reviewed the protocols and procedures from
20 every state that conducts lethal injection and the federal
21 government. I have attended hearings where participants in
22 lethal injection procedures have testified. I have read
23 depositions that they have provided. I have reviewed
24 hundreds of autopsy reports from lethal injection
25 procedures. Many toxicology reports. I have inspected the

11

1 facilities that -- the chambers, the work rooms where
2 lethal injection is conducted from. I have corresponded
3 with the individuals who initially created the first lethal
4 injection protocols.

5 Q And so as part of that research, you have reviewed in
6 detail other states' lethal injection protocol?

7 A I have, yes.

8 Q And are you familiar basically with other states'

9 practices with respect to safety?

10 A I am, yes.

11 MS. ANDERS: Your Honor, we'd like to offer
12 Dr. Heath as an expert in anesthesiology and medicine and
13 lethal injection procedures.

14 MR. HAWKE: No objection, Your Honor.

15 Q (By Ms. Anders) When did you begin participating in
16 lethal injection litigation?

17 A I think it was in 2002.

18 Q At that time did you have a position on the death
19 penalty?

20 A I did not at that time, no.

21 Q Do you have a position on the death penalty now?

22 A I do, yes.

23 Q And what is that?

24 A I think it's very problematic to try to arrive at the
25 decision as to whether or not to execute a person based on

12

1 an adversarial process.

2 Q Do you think that lethal injection can be performed
3 humanely?

4 A Yes, it can.

5 Q Could you explain your view on that?

6 A Well, many household pets, cats and dogs, are given
7 lethal injection as part of what we call euthanasia or
8 putting an animal to sleep and that's done by qualified
9 veterinarians using appropriate drugs. It's done routinely
10 thousands of times a day in our country. And I am very
11 confident that the fashion in which it's being performed is

12 a humane process.

13 Q Why did you agree to testify in this case?

14 A One of the big problems is that the methods that are
15 being used for lethal injection in Missouri and some other
16 states conflicts with how it's being done for animals, with
17 the humane method that is being used for animals, is being
18 done in a completely different method that poses enormous
19 and unacceptable risks.

20 Q And have you reviewed the documents produced in
21 discovery by the defendants in this case?

22 A I have, yes.

23 Q Specifically, have you reviewed interrogatory
24 responses by the John Doe defendants and defendant
25 Crawford?

13

1 A I have, yes.

2 Q Have you reviewed the deposition testimony of John Doe
3 One?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And did you attend an inspection of the execution
6 facility at Bonne Terre, Missouri?

7 A I did.

8 Q At the inspection did you have the opportunity to
9 observe the equipment as it was set up -- as it would be
10 set up for an execution, and did you also have the
11 opportunity to speak to people there about the equipment?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q I'm going to be asking you questions about some of the
14 documents produced by the defendants so I'd just like to

15 hand you a couple of the exhibits that have already been
16 admitted.

17 This is a verified record that I'm showing
18 opposing counsel of John Doe One's answers to
19 interrogatories, all three sets, that's Plaintiff's
20 Exhibit 1, 6, and 11, as well as the redacted transcript
21 of the John Doe deposition.

22 May I approach, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Anders, when you turn your
24 back to the microphone I couldn't hear a word that you
25 said. Which exhibits are you offering?

14

1 MS. ANDERS: I would like to hand the witness
2 Plaintiff's Exhibits 1, 6, 11 and 12.

3 THE COURT: Okay. You may approach the witness.

4 MS. ANDERS: Thank you.

5 Q (By Ms. Anders) So, Dr. Heath, based on your review
6 of Director Crawford's interrogatory answers, could you
7 briefly state your general understanding of the components
8 of the execution process in Missouri?

9 A Yes. There are four main stages to it. The first
10 stage is the achieving of the intravenous access. The
11 second stage is the administration of general anesthesia,
12 and that's important because the third and fourth stages
13 would be extremely painful if that second stage, the
14 general anesthesia stage, was not properly performed. And
15 then the third stage is the administration of a paralyzing
16 drug that ensures that the procedure appears serene and
17 peaceful. And then the fourth stage is the administration

18 of the actual drug that kills the prisoner, stops the
19 heart.

20 Q And based on your review of the documents, is the
21 manner of performing each of these component parts written
22 down or formalized anywhere?

23 A It's -- no, it's not written down in any documents or
24 procedures or policy manuals, if that's what you mean.

25 Q Based on what John Doe One has testified to, have

15

1 these components varied in previous executions?

2 A Yes, there has been variation of each of these four
3 stages or components of the execution.

4 Q Could you just explain briefly how the stages have
5 varied?

6 A Well, that first stage, which is the achieving of the
7 intravenous access, in some occasions it's performed with a
8 femoral vein access. In some occasions it's performed in
9 what I believe is a subclavian access, under the collarbone
10 that's also been described as being in the neck. And then
11 there's also been at least one occasion where it was
12 performed through what's called a peripheral IV, which is
13 an IV in the hand or arm or the foot. So that's variations
14 in that first stage.

15 Then in the second stage, which is the provision
16 of the general anesthesia to reach the level of
17 unconsciousness, there has been significant variations
18 apparently in the doses of the thiopental, the drug that
19 provides the anesthesia. The third stage is the delivery
20 of the paralyzing drug, and there appear to have been

21 dosing variations in that drug. And the same applies for
22 the fourth stage, the potassium that stops the heart, there
23 have been variations for how much of that has been
24 administered.

25 Q And based on your review of other states' practices

16

1 with respect to executions, is it standard in other states
2 to provide written guidelines or instructions to be
3 followed by the execution team?

4 A I wouldn't even call them guidelines. States have
5 what are called protocols. It's a set of instructions that
6 detail the drugs, the doses, the flush solutions, and a
7 myriad of other features of the execution procedure. It's
8 a complicated procedure, and those protocols set it forth
9 in very clear sequential instructions exactly what the
10 personnel need to do. And that's a standard in other
11 states.

12 Q And based on your review of other states' procedures,
13 do you think that maintaining a written protocol is a
14 positive step towards ensuring that an execution is humane?

15 A I think it is extremely important. It's important
16 to remember that in most cases the personnel who are
17 performing the execution, to our knowledge, are not
18 individuals who are familiar with the provision of general
19 anesthesia or even the injection of medical drugs or
20 setting up IVs, so it's very important that they are given
21 very clear and clean, understandable instruction that they
22 can follow to ensure that the procedure unfolds as it's
23 supposed to.

24 Q And to your knowledge, does any other state besides
25 Missouri not maintain a written protocol?

17

1 A Everywhere else, to my knowledge, has a written
2 protocol.

3 Q Why do you think it is important to have a written
4 protocol?

5 A Again, if there's no written protocol, then the
6 interests of the State or the Department of Corrections,
7 which are to ensure that the prisoner dies humanely, and
8 the interest of the prisoner, which at the very least is to
9 ensure that what happens to him is humane, are not defended
10 against ad hoc changes or vagaries or misunderstandings or
11 absent-mindedness or other problems that can occur when a
12 complex endeavor is undertaken by a group of people.

13 Protocols are also important because it's very
14 important to rehearse these procedures, and the only way
15 you can rehearse something is if you have the steps written
16 down. Just like rehearsing a play, you need to have a
17 script to rehearse off of. And if you don't have the
18 written procedures there's no way of reliably making sure
19 all of these are followed in the rehearsals as well as when
20 you actually perform it.

21 Q And based on your review of the evidence in this case,
22 do you have an opinion as to who determines what happens in
23 the execution?

24 A In Missouri?

25 Q Yes.

18

1 A John Doe One is the person who appears to be
2 functionally in charge of everything that happens, of
3 designing it and of how things are carried out.

4 Q And John Doe One is the doctor who participates in the
5 execution in Missouri?

6 A That's right, yes.

7 Q And what is your understanding as to which parts of
8 the execution procedure John Doe One has control over?

9 A My understanding is that he was involved at the very
10 beginning of Missouri's modern execution history. He even
11 talks about being involved in the cyanide decision, using
12 cyanide, and then when they decided not to use a machine
13 that they had been using, he was called in to take over the
14 whole process.

15 As he says, there's nobody else involved in the
16 process who has a medical background. And there are no
17 other states where physicians are taking the role that he's
18 taking so there is nobody else for him to talk to other
19 than him, as he describes it.

20 So what the drugs are, the actions of the drugs,
21 how the IV tubing is configured, how the IV access is
22 achieved, how many syringes there are, how much fluid is in
23 each syringe, how much drug is in each syringe, exactly
24 what the execution injectors do, I think he's basically set
25 up everything about this in terms of the nonsecurity

1 issues.

2 Q And to your knowledge, is there any other state in

3 which sole discretion of the medical aspects of the
4 procedure is seated in a single person without any guiding
5 protocol?

6 A The way it bureaucratically appears to work in most
7 states is the commissioner of corrections or some
8 administrative type person is ultimately responsible for
9 everything that happens in the prison including everything
10 that happens in the executions, but from a functional point
11 of view, there's always a group of individuals who actually
12 are in charge of the mechanics of the lethal injection
13 procedure itself. So this is a unique situation where
14 there is one individual and everything appears to have been
15 vested in him. Everybody, including the administrators, do
16 what he says. And often he doesn't even tell them what
17 he's going to do or what changes he's made. And that's, to
18 my knowledge, unique.

19 Q So just to clarify, the discretion about the medical
20 aspects of the procedures is vested in John Doe One, to
21 your understanding?

22 A Yes. That's how he describes it.

23 Q And have you reviewed John Doe One's answers to
24 interrogatories and his deposition testimony?

25 A I have, yes.

20

1 Q And based on your medical knowledge and experience,
2 have you reached any conclusions with respect to John Doe
3 One's medical judgment and his competence with respect to
4 certain issues?

5 A With respect to --

6 Q Certain issues. Have you reached any conclusions?

7 A Well, certainly with respect to issues about the
8 induction and maintenance of general anesthesia, he's made
9 numerous important factual statements that are completely
10 wrong and make it clear that he's not a person who's
11 trained or credentialed or proficient in administering or
12 understanding general anesthesia and the drugs that we use.

13 He also has described a difficulty with numbers,
14 which is very problematic for a person who is going to be
15 supervising or drawing up drugs and the various
16 quantitative aspects of that. And in the addition to
17 flat-out factual errors, important factual errors, I also
18 have concerns about judgments that he's made, medical
19 judgments.

20 Q What do you base your opinion on?

21 A On reading his depositions, or testimony and
22 interrogatories.

23 Q Okay. So first, I'd like to talk with you about John
24 Doe One's determination and his recordkeeping with respect
25 to the doses of thiopental given at an execution. Have you

21

1 reviewed John Doe One's testimony with respect to his
2 determination of how much thiopental to give at the most
3 recent executions?

4 A Yes, I have.

5 Q The previous five executions. And based on Doe One's
6 deposition testimony, can you tell me how much thiopental
7 Doe One prepared in each of the last five executions?

8 A I can give you my -- a guess, but it's very unclear

9 exactly what happened because he's -- he has a poor memory
10 about what has transpired and has had to correct himself on
11 several occasions going back and forth about what was
12 given. And also he has, as he says, a numerical dyslexia,
13 so it's difficult for him to be certain about numbers.

14 As best as I can tell, somewhere between --
15 somewhere five grams or below may have been given. In many
16 it's possible that it was two and a half grams, but it's
17 very difficult to see what happened.

18 MS. ANDERS: Your Honor, may the record reflect
19 that I am showing defense counsel what has been marked as
20 Plaintiff's Exhibit 25.

21 THE COURT: The record will reflect that.

22 MS. ANDERS: Thank you. And may I approach the
23 witness, Your Honor?

24 THE COURT: You may. And you don't need to ask
25 each time. Just go do what you need to do.

22

1 Q (By Ms. Anders) Have you seen this before?

2 A Yes, I have.

3 Q Is that the chemical log in which the -- how each drug
4 is used is recorded?

5 A Yes, it is.

6 Q Okay. I'd like to draw your attention to a portion of
7 the testimony of John Doe One, just looking at page 14,
8 I'll read it to you so you don't need to follow along if
9 you don't want to. He states, "I was unable to mix this.
10 We show that we gave the five grams because we have no
11 provision for showing that we disposed of three and gave

12 two, or disposed of two and gave three, because this has
13 not been set up that way. We either show we used it all or
14 disposed of it all."

15 Based on that testimony, what is your conclusion
16 with respect to the accuracy of the chemical log that I
17 just handed you?

18 A Well, the chemical log has a column for the amount
19 that's injected, and the physician's testimony says that of
20 the amount they drew up, of the amount that was available,
21 some was given, some was not given, but there is no record
22 of exactly how much was -- falls into each category. So
23 there is a log here that says numbers, but according to the
24 physician's testimony, they may or may not be accurate.

25 Q And is it possible to tell from the chemical log how

23

1 many thiopental bottles were checked out?

2 A Yes, it is.

3 Q And looking at the chemical log, has that number
4 varied over the past five executions?

5 A Well, in some cases it says that ten bottles were
6 checked out. In some cases -- one case it says ten bottles
7 were checked out, but then that number is changed to an
8 eight. In other cases -- in another case it says six. In
9 another case it says five. So there's variation of
10 probably between five and ten bottles.

11 Q And based on that fact and the doctor's testimony, do
12 you think that both the intended dose and the actual dose
13 of thiopental have varied in the past several executions?

14 A Well, clearly the intended dose has, in all

15 likelihood, varied. If they checked out ten bottles on
16 some occasions and five bottles in other occasions, that
17 appears to be an intent to give different amounts.

18 As far as the actual amount that's delivered, we
19 have no way of knowing how much active thiopental drug was
20 actually delivered into the prisoner's circulation.

21 Q And based on your review of the discovery responses,
22 who oversees the process of recording the drugs that are
23 given in the chemical log?

24 A The physician.

25 Q John Doe One?

24

1 A John Doe One.

2 Q And to your knowledge, is the actual dose given at the
3 execution recorded anywhere?

4 A No, it's not.

5 Q In your practice inducing general anesthesia, do you
6 record the dose of anesthetic that you give?

7 A Yes. It's very important to record the precise amount
8 of drugs that are administered.

9 Q So that's standard practice to record doses?

10 A Yes. That's essential standard practice.

11 Q And do you train residents?

12 A I do, yes.

13 Q Do you teach residents about the importance of
14 recording actual doses given?

15 A It's one of the first things they learn how to do is
16 to complete an accurate chart or record of what was done
17 during a procedure.

18 Q If a resident consistently fails to record doses, what
19 would be the consequences?

20 A If they consistently failed, after being admonished
21 and told they needed to do this properly, they wouldn't be
22 allowed to continue through the residency.

23 Q Does John Doe One's apparent unconcern with recording
24 precise actual doses raise concerns in your mind?

25 A Yes. It's very sloppy and it reflects a lack of

25

1 understanding of the importance of the quantity of drugs
2 that are being given.

3 Q In an execution setting, does the actual dose of
4 thiopental that was given matter?

5 A It matters enormously. As I described before, in the
6 four phases of the execution or the lethal injection
7 procedure, that second phase is the only phase that
8 provides anesthesia. So if the amount of thiopental given
9 is inadequate, then the anesthesia will be inadequate and
10 the procedure will be agonizing.

11 Q Based on your review of materials produced in
12 discovery, is it possible to conclude that an inmate was
13 sufficiently anesthetized in any particular execution?

14 A No. Based on the material that's been provided, one
15 can't conclude either way whether these prisoners were or
16 were not properly anesthetized.

17 Q And is part of that because you don't know how much
18 thiopental was actually given?

19 A Part of that is because we don't know how much
20 thiopental was successfully delivered into their

21 circulation and it's partly because the paralyzing drug is
22 given, so regardless of whether or not the execution in
23 fact is humane, it will appear to be peaceful and tranquil.

24 Q Thank you.

25 Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about

26

1 John Doe One's -- your opinions as to Joe Doe One's
2 training with respect to general anesthesia. Do you have a
3 conclusion as to whether Joe Doe One is qualified to
4 oversee the induction of general anesthesia?

5 A No, he's not. If he were applying for a job as an
6 anesthesiologist in any hospital in this country, there is
7 no possibility that he would be hired as such. He's not
8 qualified to do this in any manner.

9 Q So just to clarify, you do have a conclusion?

10 A Sorry. I do have a conclusion, yes, and that is it.

11 Q I'm sorry. Would you restate?

12 A My conclusion is that he is not in any way qualified
13 to perform or supervise the administration and the
14 induction, the maintenance of general anesthesia.

15 Q Does he have any training in general anesthesia?

16 A Apparently not.

17 Q Why is it necessary to have training in general
18 anesthesia in order to determine doses of anesthetic and
19 induce general anesthesia?

20 A Anesthesiology is a very complex task. It takes four
21 years of medical school and then four years of
22 post-graduate training to have acquired the knowledge base
23 and skill set and judgment to carry it out in a safe and an

24 effective way.

25 Q And based on your review of John Doe One's testimony,

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1 did he make any statements that raise concerns in your mind
2 regarding his understanding of general anesthesia in
3 general and thiopental specifically?

4 A Yes, he made numerous such statements and makes it
5 clear that he has not undergone that training. He doesn't
6 understand what this drug is and how it works.

7 Q I'd like to draw your attention to a statement that
8 John Doe One made in his deposition. This is page 27 of
9 the transcript, and I am reading now. He responds to a
10 question about thiopental, he says, quote, "The problem
11 with all these drugs is if you give the dose and you do not
12 get the effect you need, you cannot simply add more drug to
13 get the dose. You must repeat the entire dose." Do you
14 agree with that statement?

15 A That's completely false. It flies in the face of our
16 practice, what anesthesiologists do.

17 Q Why is that?

18 A When we give a dose of drug, we're anticipating a
19 certain effect, but we're aware of variability between
20 individuals and how they respond to drugs so if we don't
21 achieve that effect, we gauge by how much we missed that
22 intended or desired effect and we do sort of an on-the-fly
23 calculation that's part art and part science as to how much
24 additional drug would be required to remedy the situation,
25 and that amount of additional drug might be less than what

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1 we gave before or it might be more than what we gave before
2 or it could, by coincidence, be the same amount. But his
3 assertion that you have to go ahead and give the same
4 amount again is ridiculous.

5 Q So do you consider this a significant factual error?

6 A Yes. It's consistent with him not understanding what
7 anesthesiologists do, which isn't surprising. He hasn't
8 been trained as an anesthesiologist.

9 Q I'd like to draw your attention to another statement
10 from the deposition transcript. Page 26, line 17. And
11 again in discussing thiopental the doctor said, and I
12 quote, "The drug was chosen because it doesn't cause
13 cardiac vascular depression so it means you can give a lot
14 of it and your heart will still beat fine." First, could
15 you define cardiac vascular depression for us?

16 A What he is talking about is some drugs can cause
17 effects on the ability of the heart muscle to contract or
18 squeeze and that means that the heartbeat or the pulse is
19 weaker. The heart can't eject as much blood with each
20 heartbeat. We also talk about vascular depressants, the
21 drugs that lower blood pressure. Blood vessels have
22 muscles that can constrict to tighten up or narrow the
23 blood vessels and raise the blood pressure, and some drugs,
24 some anesthetic drugs, as a side effect cause those muscles
25 to relax and then that lowers the blood pressure. So a

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1 drug that causes cardiac vascular depression is one that
2 depresses the pumping function of the heart and also the

3 blood pressure.

4 Q And do you agree with John Doe One's statement that
5 thiopental does not cause cardiac vascular depression?

6 A He's got it 100 percent backwards. Thiopental is
7 notorious for causing cardiac vascular depression,
8 especially in patients who have had trauma. John Doe One
9 talks about anesthetizing people in trauma situations,
10 which is a scary proposition if he thinks that thiopental
11 does not cause cardiac vascular depression. There were
12 many, many military deaths that occurred back in World
13 War II and the Korean War when thiopental was given to
14 trauma victims before people understood this effect.

15 Q So would you expect that an anesthesiologist would
16 make this type of factual mistake?

17 A No, it's not conceivable.

18 Q Okay. I'd like to draw your attention to another
19 statement from the deposition transcript. This is on page
20 95, line 4. Again in response to a question about
21 thiopental, John Doe One stated, I quote, "You want a rapid
22 onset of the drug, and these drugs are rapid onset drugs.
23 If you give them slowly they just don't work." Do you
24 agree with the statement that it's necessary to inject
25 thiopental very quickly?

30

1 A That statement is false.

2 Q And why is that?

3 A I just know factually I have injected -- used
4 thiopental many, many times to induce general anesthesia.
5 I do not inject it as quickly as I can. I inject it at a

6 measured rate and it, nevertheless, achieves the desired
7 effect, the effect that I'm looking for.

8 He also talks about the drug being metabolized
9 while it's traveling up the arm, and that's just not true.
10 That's not how thiopental works.

11 Q Do you consider this a significant error?

12 A Yes. It just shows that he doesn't know what he's
13 talking about when it comes to the use of thiopental.

14 Q And again, would you expect anesthesiologists to make
15 this type of factual error?

16 A No.

17 Q Is it necessary to understand the pharmacology of
18 thiopental when determining the dose of thiopental to be
19 used for induction of general anesthesia?

20 A Yes, it is.

21 Q And why is that?

22 A Thiopental is a complicated drug and a lot of its
23 actions are counter-intuitive. It's a drug that we
24 consider to have -- it's a high-risk or low safety margin
25 drug, and it's important to understand how it works, how it

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1 travels around the body, where it exerts its effects, and
2 understand how different individuals -- how their responses
3 can vary.

4 Q And does John Doe One have any training in the
5 pharmacology of thiopental?

6 A No.

7 Q Based on his testimony and what we have spoken about
8 so far, do you think that he understands the pharmacology

9 of thiopental?

10 A No, it's clear that he doesn't.

11 MS. ANDERS: May the record reflect that I am
12 showing opposing counsel what has been marked as
13 Plaintiff's Exhibit 26.

14 MR. HAWKE: We have not been provided a copy of
15 that.

16 MS. ANDERS: I'm sorry.

17 Q (By Ms. Anders) Have you seen this before, what I
18 just gave you?

19 A I have, yes.

20 Q And what is it?

21 A This is a printout of what's called a package insert.
22 A lot of times when drugs come, they come in a box and
23 there's a folded-up piece of paper inserted in that box
24 that has a lot of technical information about the compound.

25 Q And would you and other anesthesiologists generally

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1 rely on this when preparing and administering thiopental?

2 A Yes. It's always available so if you have a question,
3 if you want to know something about a certain situation,
4 then it's available in the kit. Like an instruction
5 manual.

6 MS. ANDERS: I'd like to offer Plaintiff's
7 Exhibit 26 into evidence.

8 MR. HAWKE: No objection, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: It will be received.

10 Q (By Ms. Anders) If you'd look at page two for me,
11 Dr. Heath, under the heading Warnings, could you read the

12 sentence that starts with the words "This drug"?

13 A It says, "This drug should be administered only by
14 persons qualified in the use of intravenous anesthetic."

15 Q In your opinion, is John Doe One qualified in the use
16 of intravenous anesthetics?

17 A No, he's not.

18 Q Are your concerns about John Doe One's understanding
19 of intravenous anesthetics limited to thiopental?

20 A No. There are other intravenous anesthetics that he
21 clearly doesn't understand what they are or what they do.

22 Q Is Versed a commonly-used intravenous anesthetic?

23 A Yes. Versed is one of the most commonly used
24 anesthetic drugs in procedures.

25 Q In John Doe One's interrogatory answers he states

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1 that midazolam is the antidote to Versed, and that's the
2 answer to Interrogatory No. 37. Do you agree with that
3 statement?

4 A I'm sorry. He says midazolam is the antidote --

5 Q To Versed.

6 A To Versed. No, that's completely incorrect. He has
7 it 100 percent backwards.

8 Q And why is that?

9 A There is an antidote to Versed, but it's not
10 midazolam. Midazolam in fact is Versed, and it has
11 sedative properties. The antidote to Versed is something
12 that would wake you up, make you more awake if you've been
13 given Versed, so he's got it completely backwards.

14 Q Is that a factual error that you would expect

15 anesthesiologists to make?

16 A No. No anesthesiologist would make that error.

17 Q Does John Doe One's incorrect understanding of Versed
18 raise doubts in your mind as to his understanding of
19 intervenous anesthetics?

20 A Yes. If he's confusing midazolam and Versed and the
21 antidotes, he doesn't know what he's talking about.

22 Q I'd like to draw your attention to another portion of
23 the testimony of John Doe One's deposition. This is line
24 26 -- I'm sorry, page 26, and John Doe One states that he
25 is dyslexic. Does the doctor's dyslexia also raise

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1 concerns in your mind regarding his ability to adequately
2 determine doses of general anesthesia and to proceed with
3 induction of general anesthesia?

4 A Yes. He described difficulty completing a cable bill
5 I think because he was transposing numbers and even though
6 he had a couple of hours to work on it things weren't
7 working properly for him in terms of getting the numbers
8 right. And some people have that problem and those people
9 are unsuitable for anesthesiology or other medical
10 specialties that require a lot of calculations on the fly.

11 Q Would that affect his ability to be a surgeon
12 necessarily?

13 A No, he could well be very gifted with his hands and
14 with anatomy. That's a completely different kind of
15 activity than having to make precise and rapid calculations
16 about drug doses.

17 Q So in sum, do you think that John Doe One, based on

18 his training and testimony, is competent to determine doses
19 of and induce general anesthesia?

20 A No. He should not be entrusted with the provision,
21 the induction, the administration, or the maintenance of
22 general anesthesia.

23 Q Do you think that entrusting John Doe One with those
24 responsibilities creates a significant risk that an inmate
25 will be inadequately anesthetized and, therefore, may

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1 suffer severe pain during an execution?

2 A Yes, it does. Any time you entrust a complicated
3 activity like that to somebody who isn't qualified or
4 competent to do it, then that risk develops.

5 Q Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about John Doe
6 One's stated inability to mix five grams of thiopental, so
7 I'd like to direct your attention to John Doe One's answer
8 to the court's interrogatories, this is No. 5, where John
9 Doe One states that he was unable to administer the planned
10 five-gram dose of thiopental because of, quote, difficulty
11 dissolving powder in the solution that he was using.

12 In your experience, is the powder in the
13 thiopental bottle soluble in solution?

14 A Yes, it is. One of those properties of that powder
15 preparation is that we're able to dissolve it in solution.

16 Q And what does that mean?

17 A Like when you put sugar in iced tea, you take a
18 spoonful of the sugar and you put it in the tea and you mix
19 it around and that solid material, those crystals,
20 disappear and they are now in solution in the iced tea.

21 It's the same with the thiopental powder. The
22 powder is added into an aqueous or a water solution and one
23 mixes it until it disappears.

24 Q What are the reasons that the powder in the thiopental
25 bottle might not dissolve easily?

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1 A Well, one of the properties of thiopental is it does
2 dissolve quickly, just like the sugar that goes in the iced
3 tea. If you put a spoonful of what you think is sugar in
4 the iced tea and you mix it and there's still, no matter
5 how much you mix it, grains of stuff left over, then there
6 may be sand or something else in that sugar. It's not all
7 sugar.

8 The same with thiopental. One of its properties
9 is that you can put it in water and it will dissolve. So
10 if it doesn't dissolve, then you have to worry that maybe
11 the preparation is not pure thiopental, that it's degraded;
12 or if there's been a manufacturing error, an error in the
13 shipping or the handling of the thiopental or its storage;
14 or that the solution that you're putting it into isn't the
15 solution that you think it is. It isn't the right mixing
16 solution, something is wrong; or you have done a
17 calculation error. You're trying to put in a different
18 amount than you think you are. Something is wrong with
19 that picture. I don't know which of those things it is.

20 Q So you mentioned that the thiopental might be
21 defective or might not have all the properties of
22 thiopental. If that were the case, would the powder's
23 anesthetic properties also be affected?

24 A Yes. If it's not a thiopental, then that's not an
25 anesthetic anymore to provide anesthesia.

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1 Q And if it was defective, it couldn't be dissolved, it
2 could also not have the expected anesthetic properties?

3 A Right. If it can't be dissolved, then it's lacking
4 the properties of thiopental and it may not properly
5 induce or provide anesthesia.

6 Q If that were to occur, if thiopental were to be
7 defective and the prisoner ended up inadequately
8 anesthetized, wouldn't that be obvious during the
9 execution?

10 A Are you saying that if the thiopental wasn't working
11 properly, it wasn't thiopental, and the execution proceeded
12 using that bad compound, are you saying would that be
13 obvious to the witnesses?

14 Q Yes. I'm asking if you think that would be observable
15 or obvious.

16 A No, I think things would look very similar. The
17 first -- the drug would go in, the thiopental, but it
18 wouldn't be thiopental so the prisoner, nothing would
19 happen to him. And then the second drug would go in, which
20 is the pancuronium, which in this dose would cause a rapid
21 onset of paralysis so the prisoner would very rapidly
22 develop a relaxed look on his face and his eyes would
23 calmly close and he would look like he was peacefully
24 asleep when in fact he would be wide awake and unable to
25 draw a breath and was suffocating. And when the potassium

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1 was administered, normally that would make him scream and
2 struggle, but he would be unable to do that because the
3 pancuronium would still be paralyzing him. So it would
4 look pretty much the same I think.

5 Q I'd like to draw your attention to another statement
6 from John Doe One's deposition. This is on page 45. In
7 response to the question, "Did you ever consider the
8 possibility that the thiopental might be defective," he
9 answered, quote, "No. It's a compound. It's like salt or
10 sugar. It's a chemical. There is nothing -- it
11 deteriorates after it's been mixed, but there is nothing in
12 pentothal that can out-date as long as it's in powder."

13 So do you agree with the statement that because
14 pentothal is stable in powder form it couldn't possibly be
15 defective?

16 A That statement is incorrect. There can be problems
17 with the manufacture of thiopental so that it doesn't
18 dissolve properly, so that it's not working properly. And
19 so he's just wrong there.

20 Q To your knowledge, does the manufacturer of pentothal
21 recognize that batches of thiopental could be defective?

22 A The package insert discusses what to do when the
23 thiopental doesn't properly go into solution and it
24 says one should not use that solution. It should be
25 discarded.

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1 Q And looking at another statement in John Doe One's
2 deposition transcript, page 44, he states about the

3 thiopental, "Some medications have an inert compound in or
4 a secondary compound to prevent improper dose." First, is
5 there an inert compound in thiopental that limits its
6 solubility in water?

7 A Thiopental is mixed with a powder which is sort of
8 inert in the sense it doesn't cause anesthesia or any
9 medical effects. It's mixed with a salt powder called
10 sodium carbonate, but that does not hinder its solubility
11 in any way.

12 Q On what are you basing this opinion?

13 A On the package insert. And I also, when I saw John
14 Doe discussing especially the amount of changes he made in
15 the thiopental mix, I telephoned the company that
16 manufactures it to find out if in fact any such changes had
17 been made that I wasn't aware of and I talked with a
18 specialist at the manufacturing company who informed me
19 there had not been any such changes or additives.

20 Q You mentioned speaking with the manufacturer. When
21 you have a question about a drug, is it normal practice to
22 call up the manufacturer and speak with a specialist?

23 A Sure. They put the number on the package insert just
24 like an instruction manual for a computer or something.
25 You can call them up and get answers to your questions.

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1 Q And would you rely on those answers?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Do you think there should be any difference in the
4 solubility effect of the thiopental between the five-gram
5 vial and 500-milligram vial simply because of the different

6 amounts provided in the vials?

7 A No. The manufacturer should be making the exact same
8 powder and the package insert applies for all the different
9 sizes of vials, so the preparation should be identical
10 regardless of how much is put in the bottle by the company.

11 Q And what is your conclusion with respect to John Doe
12 One's theory as to why the thiopental was not soluble?

13 A It doesn't make any sense.

14 Q Have you reached any conclusions with respect to Doe
15 One's decision, during the first execution in which he
16 encountered the problem, to go ahead with the execution
17 using the lower dose?

18 A That wasn't the right decision to make.

19 Q And why do you think that?

20 A Well, the concern is if the compound isn't behaving as
21 it's supposed to, there may be some problem with the
22 compound. If anything, one would want to increase the dose
23 to ensure that one was getting the right amount in. So
24 reducing it is trying to make a correction, but it's in the
25 wrong direction.

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1 Q Have you reached any conclusions with respect to John
2 Doe One's failure to investigate the potential problem with
3 thiopental after the first execution in which this
4 occurred?

5 A Yes. It's very troubling.

6 Q And do you have any conclusion with respect to John
7 Doe One's exercise of medical judgment in not simply
8 preparing additional syringes of thiopental?

9 A That doesn't make any sense. He ought to have not
10 used the preparation at all. That's what he should have
11 done. That's what the manufacturer says. But given that
12 he decided to go ahead, which was the wrong decision, he
13 should have made up a lot more of it, not less of it.

14 Q And looking at his deposition testimony again, on page
15 29, he stated, quote, "I go to the execution chamber and
16 we're on a time frame. I have minutes to get the drugs
17 ready, minutes to ensure a perfect IV. There is no time to
18 call the drug company at midnight, the Director, or nursing
19 staff, to change. I am required to deal with what I'm
20 given and make it come out right and make it happen I guess
21 is the best way to say it."

22 In your experience, does time pressure exacerbate
23 the risks of improperly mixing thiopental, or any other
24 drug?

25 A Yes. When one is trying to undertake a complex

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1 endeavor, if there's a lot of time pressure, then one is
2 much more likely to make errors.

3 Q Does time pressure also exacerbate the difficulty of
4 calculating and keeping track of how much thiopental has
5 already been mixed?

6 A Yes, especially if I'm dyslexic.

7 Q In your practice, would you accept time constraints
8 that you felt were overly restrictive in preparing a dose
9 of anesthesia?

10 A Under exigent circumstances, if there is an emergency
11 and somebody needs general anesthesia immediately, then

12 everything would be very rushed and we would be working
13 under time pressure and we'd have to accept that because
14 the risks of delay would outweigh the benefits.

15 Q And in a nonemergency situation, would you accept time
16 constraints?

17 A No. In a nonemergency situation we arrive in time in
18 the morning to set things up and have things in an orderly
19 fashion to check and doublecheck everything to make sure
20 that we have our ducks in a row and that we have done
21 things properly.

22 Q From a medical perspective, is an execution an exigent
23 circumstance.

24 A No. My understanding is there is a many-hour window
25 in which it can legally occur, a many-day window. But

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1 certainly I don't think it has to occur at a certain
2 precise time. And even if it did, the physician could show
3 up an hour or two hours earlier, whatever it took, to allow
4 his team to set things up in a more orderly and considered
5 fashion.

6 Q And given John Doe One's difficulties in mixing the
7 thiopental, do you have concerns about whether the
8 thiopental prepared was effective?

9 A Yeah, I don't know whether the -- it was effective or
10 not.

11 Q Is it possible to be certain that inmates given
12 insoluble thiopental were properly anesthetized during
13 their executions?

14 A Not from the information we have available. Some

15 states perform toxicology. They measure the blood levels
16 of thiopental after an execution. And that might have
17 provided information in these executions, but I don't
18 believe Missouri did that.

19 Q And do you believe that John Doe One's use of
20 insoluble thiopental created considerable risk of pain in
21 these executions?

22 A If the thiopental didn't work properly, if he wasn't
23 given the amount of actual thiopentothal that he was
24 intending to, then the prisoner's execution would have been
25 excruciating.

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1 Q I'd like to move on to another topic now. Have you
2 reviewed John Doe One's statement regarding the risks and
3 benefits of gaining venous access through the femoral vein?

4 A Yes, I have.

5 Q What are your conclusions with regard to those
6 statements?

7 A He's again made factual statements that are not
8 correct and then he's made errors of judgment.

9 Q Assuming that John Doe One testified that it's
10 impossible to pierce the femoral artery, do you agree with
11 that statement?

12 A No, that's completely false, and I know that because I
13 have accidentally pierced the femoral artery while
14 attempting to place a femoral venous access.

15 Q And mechanically how does one pierce the femoral
16 artery; how does that occur?

17 A Well, we don't know by looking at the outside of a

18 person's body exactly where the femoral vein is. We use
19 landmarks and our anatomical knowledge and feeling the
20 pulse of the femoral artery, which is close to the femoral
21 vein, to make our best guess as to where the femoral vein
22 is. But there is variation between individuals and it's
23 always a mixture of art and science to try and understand
24 where the vein is.

25 So we go in with a needle, a hollow needle, and

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1 we're aspirating with a syringe, drawing back and probing
2 until we get a return of blood. And more often than not
3 that initial blood is venous blood, and we can tell that
4 because it's a dark blue or purple color, but sometimes the
5 first blood that comes back is bright red, it's arterial
6 blood, and that means to get that we have had to have
7 punctured the femoral artery.

8 Q Is it possible to pierce the artery with a .22 gauge
9 needle?

10 A Absolutely. You can pierce it with any needle.

11 Q And does the Seldinger method of catheterization used
12 by John Doe One require the use of a needle?

13 A Yes. The Seldinger technique means that one pushes a
14 needle into the blood vessel and then passes a wire through
15 that needle and then uses that wire to insert the catheter.
16 So one has to pierce blood vessels in order to perform the
17 Seldinger technique.

18 Q So you disagree with John Doe One's statement that
19 piercing the artery is impossible using the Seldinger
20 method?

21 A It's just completely wrong. It's a well-recognized
22 complication that the femoral artery can be punctured or
23 pierced or lacerated during femoral venous access.

24 Q Would you say that arterial puncture is a particularly
25 rare complication?

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1 A No. I think it happens frequently.

2 Q What are the potential complications of an arterial
3 puncture?

4 A Depends on how big the hole is and for how long it
5 goes untreated. If the hole is large and nothing is done
6 about it, then one can lose a tremendous amount of blood
7 out of that hole.

8 Q Okay. So I'd like to show you a photo -- some photos
9 that's contained in what's already been marked and admitted
10 as Plaintiff's Exhibit 18. This is from the materials
11 produced from the Johnston execution. Have you seen this
12 photo before?

13 A I have, yes.

14 Q And have you reached any conclusions with respect to
15 it?

16 A This photo appears to show a triple lumen catheter
17 placed in the groin. It's probably in the femoral vein,
18 although I can't be certain where the tip of the catheter
19 is because I can't see that.

20 Q And I'd like to give you a hard copy of this so you
21 can mark where you see.

22 A Okay.

23 THE COURT: He can mark at his location.

24 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Use your finger, and if
25 you want to clear it, just press this (indicating.)

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1 Q (By Ms. Anders) So using that, could you mark for us
2 where you see the hematoma in this photograph?

3 A So -- can you hear me like that?

4 So hematoma is a mass of blood, a collection of
5 blood that occurs inside the body where blood has leaked
6 out of a blood vessel. And what you see here is the
7 catheter going into the groin and there's a ridge at the
8 end of the catheter, a raised ridge, that's got a blue
9 discoloration, and that's a hematoma.

10 And then it's important to understand that in the
11 thigh it can hold a lot of blood. Several -- it can hold a
12 liter of blood, which is the size of a liter bottle of
13 soda, can be concealed in the thigh. So when one is
14 looking at the hematoma in the groin or the thigh, it's
15 important to understand it may be the tip of the iceberg or
16 you may be seeing all of it.

17 But what it looks to me is like the swelling is
18 extended into the deeper tissue into a larger area causing
19 this bulge under here in the side of the thigh. And there
20 is also an area of blue discoloration in this zone here.
21 So it looks like there's -- beneath this here is a larger
22 area of blood collection and that this blue raised area is
23 the superficial manifestation of that.

24 Q Okay. I'd like the record to reflect that Dr. Heath
25 has marked an oval-shaped portion around the catheter

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1 entrance that's shown on the photo.

2 Is the fact that a hematoma occurred here
3 indicative of medical negligence or error?

4 A Not at all. Hematoma is a recognized complication of
5 femoral venous access because as I said you can't know
6 exactly where the artery and vein are. And it's happened
7 to me. A hematoma can occur in the best of hands, and does
8 occur in the best of hands. It happens to everybody, to
9 all patients. Excuse me, it happens to many patients. It
10 happens to all physicians who perform these things
11 frequently.

12 Q I'd just like to refer you to another part of John Doe
13 One's deposition testimony. When asked about the hematoma
14 in the photo he stated, quote, "What they are seeing is the
15 site where I injected my local anesthesia. It causes a
16 little blue mark." Page 102.

17 In your experience in inserting a femoral line
18 for the induction of anesthesia, local anesthesia, has it
19 ever caused a blue mark?

20 A No, local anesthesia is a clear solution and it can't
21 cause blue discoloration. I suppose when injecting the
22 local anesthesia he could have ruptured a blood vessel and
23 caused a hematoma, but either way, whatever it was that
24 caused this, this is blue and it's from blood collecting
25 there. It's not from local anesthetic. That's just not

1 possible.

2 Q Have you ever heard of a blue mark from local

3 anesthesia occurring, in your discussions with colleagues?

4 A No, unless they injected -- they caused a hematoma in
5 the act of injecting it. But the local anesthetic itself
6 doesn't cause a blue discoloration.

7 Q So does Doe One's explanation change your conclusion
8 that there is a hematoma here?

9 A No. The photograph shows a hematoma.

10 Q Now I'd like to show you another photograph. This is
11 contained in Plaintiff's Exhibit 21, which has been marked
12 and admitted. This is from the Smith execution.

13 THE COURT: What exhibit? You say this is a
14 different exhibit?

15 MS. ANDERS: Yes. This is from the Smith
16 execution contained in Plaintiff's Exhibit 21.

17 Q (By Ms. Anders) So this is from another execution,
18 the Smith execution. Do you see a blue mark on this photo?

19 A No, I don't.

20 Q And looking at this photo, is there any indication
21 that any complication arose during this femoral procedure?

22 A No, there isn't.

23 Q But there is such evidence in the photo from the
24 Johnston execution that we just saw?

25 A Yes. The photographs are very different. It clearly

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1 shows a hematoma is present.

2 Q Does it raise concerns in your mind that John Doe One
3 isn't admitting that the hematoma exists?

4 A Yes. It's right there in the photograph. It's a
5 recognized complication that can occur. I don't understand

6 why he doesn't see it there.

7 Q Could hematoma such as the one that occurred during
8 the Johnston execution be painful?

9 A Yes.

10 Q How does a hematoma cause pain?

11 A Well, when the hematoma forms in the groin it distends
12 and stretches and distorts the tissue and the groin is an
13 area that has a lot of nerve or sensory nerve innervation,
14 it's a sensitive area, so when that tissue is distorted and
15 stretched that causes pain.

16 Q Can you tell definitively whether the hematoma in the
17 Johnston photo was painful?

18 A The only way you know for sure is to ask him whether
19 it hurt. I don't know for sure. It looks painful.

20 Q How would someone behave if they were in pain?

21 A A restrained -- a nonrestrained person would wriggle
22 around. Probably put their hand on the area that was
23 hurting. He would probably try adjusting his position,
24 flex his thigh, his groin, trying to find a comfortable
25 position, those kind of movements.

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1 He's restrained so I'm not sure how much movement
2 you'd be able to see.

3 Q And what else could you rely on in ascertaining
4 whether Johnston felt pain from the hematoma?

5 A You can't rely for sure on anything without asking
6 him, but you can see how other people described his
7 behavior.

8 Q So would you rely on an observer's account in

9 determining whether or ascertaining whether someone might
10 have been in pain from the hematoma?

11 A Yes. I think that's one of the reasons the state
12 wants witnesses to be there to be able to report whether or
13 not pain occurred, whether or not it was humane.

14 Q I'd like to quote to you a newspaper article about the
15 Johnston execution.

16 MR. HAWKE: Objection, Your Honor. This has not
17 been part of discovery and appears to be hearsay.

18 MS. ANDERS: We're not admitting it in evidence.
19 It's just something that he's relied on in testifying,
20 whether it's consistent with --

21 THE COURT: I'm going to sustain the objection.

22 Q (By Ms. Anders) So do you agree with John Doe One's
23 statement that there are no risks to the inmate from
24 femoral catheterization?

25 A That statement is false.

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1 Q And do you think that John Doe One fails to
2 acknowledge some of the common complications of femoral
3 catheterization?

4 A Yes, he does.

5 Q In your opinion, is it dangerous for a physician to
6 perform a procedure and not to acknowledge the risks that
7 could flow from the procedure?

8 A Yes. Before we're allowed to do them on our own
9 without supervision we have to be able to recite what the
10 complications are, what the risks are that can occur.

11 MS. ANDERS: I'd like to ask the witness about

12 something right now that was redacted from the Doe One
13 transcript.

14 (Counsel approached the bench and conferred
15 off the record.)

16 MS. ANDERS: I'm just going to ask a question or
17 two about something that's been redacted from the John Doe
18 One transcript.

19 Q (By Ms. Anders) Dr. Heath, in performing a femoral
20 catheterization, is it important for the doctor doing it to
21 be proficient in the procedure?

22 A Yes, it is.

23 Q Why is that?

24 A Any femoral line is a complex procedure and it's being
25 done in a critical area of the body where there are large

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1 blood vessels and a large nerve and if one is not
2 proficient in this, then severe complications are more
3 likely to ensue.

4 Q John Doe One stated in interrogatory responses that he
5 has not regularly inserted femoral lines in the past few
6 years. He testified in his deposition that he is not in
7 active practice. Do those facts raise concerns in your
8 mind about John Doe One's proficiency in performing femoral
9 catheterizations?

10 A Yes. Part of what proficiency is, one element is a
11 thing we call currency. It's like pilots flying planes.
12 One has to be doing it with a certain frequency to be
13 considered suitable to continue doing it. And if he hasn't
14 been performing this for a number of years, then he lacks

15 the currency that would be necessary.

16 Q Is it your practice when performing femoral
17 catheterization to sedate a patient before inserting the
18 femoral line?

19 A Yes. Some of my patients are already under general
20 anesthesia when I'm placing a central line or femoral line,
21 but if somebody were not under general anesthesia, then I
22 would start a peripheral IV to give them analgesics or
23 painkillers and sedation.

24 Q Why would you do that?

25 A Because it's a very nasty procedure to endure without

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1 any sedation or pain killer.

2 Q And to your knowledge, does John Doe One sedate
3 prisoners before performing femoral catheterization?

4 A He does not, no.

5 Q In your testimony are you distinguishing between the
6 local anesthetic and intravenous sedation?

7 A Right. Intravenous sedation obviously goes everywhere
8 in the body including the brain and intravenous analgesics
9 or painkillers also travel throughout the body, and so
10 that's different from local anesthesia which is just given
11 directly in the groin area and does not affect one's
12 ability to experience pain or level of consciousness.

13 Q So do you believe that the failure to sedate an inmate
14 before performing catheterization is indicative of
15 questionable medical judgment on the part of John Doe One?

16 A Yes. It's standard, whenever possible when one can
17 obtain a peripheral IV, which is the case in almost all

18 patients, that one first puts in a peripheral IV and uses
19 that to give sedation and analgesia and then you put in the
20 femoral venous line.

21 Q I'd like to draw your attention to some more of the
22 deposition transcript. On page 104 John Doe One states he
23 was unable to place a femoral line and therefore placed a
24 subclavian line. Are there different risks inherent in
25 placing a subclavian line?

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1 A There certainly are, yes.

2 Q And could you describe them?

3 A Well, the subclavian line goes in right by the
4 collarbone. It's close to the heart and close to the
5 lungs. And it's a very well-recognized complication that
6 the needle can open up the -- can damage the lung and cause
7 air to enter the spaces that surround the lung and cause a
8 compression of the lung which is a thing we call
9 pneumothorax or tension pneumothorax, and that's an
10 emergency situation that's extremely agonizing. One is
11 basically suffocating to death and it needs emergency
12 intervention.

13 Another problem that can occur when using a
14 Seldinger technique, the subclavian technique, is that the
15 wire tends to enter the heart and can cause arrhythmia, can
16 cause the heart to beat improperly, or even stop the heart,
17 and obviously that's another emergency situation that needs
18 to be corrected immediately.

19 Q I'd like to draw your attention to a statement from
20 the deposition transcript of John Doe One in discussing

21 subclavian line access. He says, quote, "Yes, but it
22 requires significant modification of the facility. In
23 other words, the bed must have the capability of being
24 tilted with the feet up so these veins would dilate
25 sufficiently to guarantee safety. Plus it would be

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1 prudent to have chest tube capability available. I have
2 rudimentary chest tube capability on this tray as I have
3 selected. But if you said I would always do subclavian, I
4 would have chest tube available on every occasion."

5 Is it your understanding from that testimony that
6 John Doe One does not have the equipment necessary to treat
7 the complications of subclavian access in the execution?

8 A Yes, that's right. He's saying that -- he's correctly
9 stating that when one embarks on this procedure one needs
10 to have available certain equipment and supplies including
11 the equipment to put in a chest tube, which is a large tube
12 about the size of one's finger that goes between the ribs
13 into the space outside the lungs.

14 Q What complication would that chest tubing be necessary
15 to treat?

16 A It would be necessary to treat what's called a tension
17 pneumothorax which is where air is collecting outside the
18 lung and inside the chest and collapsing or compressing the
19 lung.

20 Q John Doe One also said in what I just read that there
21 is rudimentary chest tube capability in the catheter tray
22 that he uses. Do you know what he means by that?

23 A There is no chest tube capability. There is a small

24 catheter like the catheter that's used for putting in
25 peripheral IVs. And he's quite right, that can be

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1 introduced into the chest wall to -- as a temporary
2 measure, as an initial measure, to help reduce the
3 pneumothorax or stop it from getting worse, but that would
4 be vastly below the standard of care to rely solely upon
5 that very small catheter when in fact what is needed is a
6 much larger tube and all the equipment to insert that tube
7 and the presence of suction so that the chest can be
8 evacuated.

9 Q In your practice, would you perform a procedure even
10 once knowing you did not have the necessary equipment to
11 treat that complication?

12 A Again, under an exigent circumstance, if somebody
13 needed a subclavian line on the roadside or whatever and
14 they are going to die if you didn't have it, then you would
15 try to put it in and hope you didn't get any of these
16 terrible complications. But in an elective procedure where
17 it's scheduled ahead of time and one has time to obtain and
18 deploy the necessary emergency equipment, then one of
19 course needs to do that.

20 Q Okay. I'd like to discuss with you potassium chloride
21 and whether it hurts when injected into the vein. Could
22 you just explain for me what makes potassium hurt in the
23 veins?

24 A Yes. Potassium is a salt solution that is used by
25 nerve membranes and the membranes in the heart to regulate

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1 their electrical activity, to regulate the voltage across
2 the membrane. And when potassium is put on a nerve ending
3 or in the heart it interferes with how the nerve maintains
4 its voltage across the membrane and it makes the nerve fire
5 signals so the nerve thinks it's being activated in the
6 same way it would be if the tissue were being cut or heated
7 or traumatized.

8 Q And looking at John Doe One's deposition testimony, on
9 page 57 he states, in discussing potassium, "The only way
10 it hurts is by causing spasm in a vessel in your hand or in
11 your arm or in your leg." Do you agree with the statement
12 that potassium does not hurt if the vein does not spasm?

13 A It's not the spasm that hurts. It's the activation of
14 the nerves in the walls of the vessel. Anybody could
15 potentially inject it into a vein or just in the muscle or
16 under the skin and it would be extremely painful.

17 Q So potassium would be painful even in veins that do
18 not spasm?

19 A It would be painful anywhere that has nerves, sensory
20 nerves.

21 Q And looking at the directly following testimony on
22 page 58 of the John Doe deposition transcript, he states,
23 "Plus the drug is diluted instantly. The amount of blood
24 flowing through the interior vena cava amounts to a quart
25 every two seconds, so it's instantly dissolved."

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1 Could potassium not hurt in a femoral vein
2 because it is diluted by blood volume?

3 A I think he's very wrong about that.

4 Q And why is that?

5 A I did some thumbnail calculations and discussed it
6 with colleagues. We estimated that -- we know that the
7 normal flow of blood in the body is about five liters every
8 minute. And we estimated that about one liter a minute is
9 coming from the lower part of the body and flowing past
10 where the catheter tip would be in the configuration used
11 in the Missouri executions. So you have one liter flowing
12 through that vein every minute.

13 I think he describes the delivery of the
14 potassium as occurring over about 30 seconds at one point.
15 So in 30 seconds about half a liter or 500 mls would flow
16 past the end of the catheter, and during that time they're
17 injecting potassium. I'm not sure if they're injecting 120
18 milliequivalents or 240 milliequivalents because of the
19 confusion about the dosing, but let's take the lower dose
20 just to give him the benefit of the doubt. If 120
21 milliequivalents of potassium is injected into half a
22 liter, that will result in a concentration of 240
23 milliequivalents per liter, plus the normal five
24 milliequivalents per liter that's in the blood already so
25 it will result in the concentration of potassium that's

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1 20-fold higher -- is that right, I'm sorry. No, 40-fold
2 higher than what's normally present in the blood, and more
3 than 20 fold, and that would be far higher than necessary
4 to maximally activate the nerve fibers.

5 Q And is the concentration of potassium high enough to

6 stop the heart?

7 A Yes. And it stops the heart in the same way that it
8 activates nerve fibers. It's basically activating the
9 nerve fibers -- or the fibers in the heart that are like
10 the nerve fibers that carry electrical statements to the
11 heart. So if you are giving enough to stop the heart,
12 you're also giving enough to cause pain in the veins. And
13 in fact we know from reports where accidentally in a
14 therapeutic setting a high concentration of potassium was
15 given to a patient, and it was a terrible mistake
16 obviously, but before stopping the heart it causes extreme
17 pain in the veins.

18 Q John Doe One states in his deposition testimony that
19 it's not necessary to do any calculations to be sure that
20 the potassium would be sufficiently diluted so that it
21 doesn't hurt. That's on page 61. Do you agree with that?

22 A You can't know it's unnecessary to do calculations
23 until you do them, so if you run through the numbers like I
24 did, and again I'm making some assumptions, but I think
25 they're all reasonable ones, then you end up with a

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1 concentration that basically almost no matter what
2 reasonable assumption one makes, it's a very high
3 concentration and it would certainly activate nerve fibers.

4 Q I'd next like to draw your attention to the deposition
5 testimony of John Doe One on page 61. He states, "We use
6 the femoral vein to insert a catheter that I think is about
7 16 inches long, so actually from the femoral vein if you
8 measure up to your xiphoid which would mean it's about two

9 inches from the heart, so the catheter is almost in the
10 heart when -- so the drug is directly injected below the
11 heart as it enters."

12 In your experience, do catheterization trays
13 always come with such a long catheter?

14 A This -- the triple lumen catheter is what we're
15 talking about here are not -- did you say 18 inches long?

16 Q 16 inches.

17 A They are not 16 inches long and they don't go anywhere
18 near the heart.

19 MS. ANDERS: I'd like the record to reflect that
20 I'm showing opposing counsel what's been marked as
21 Plaintiff's Exhibit 28.

22 Q (By Ms. Anders) Do you recognize this photo,
23 Dr. Heath?

24 A Yes. It's the package or kit that the triple lumen
25 catheter is supplied in. It's a sterile and sealed kit.

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1 Q So is this an accurate representation of the catheter
2 tray that you observed during the tour of the execution
3 facility?

4 A Yes, it is.

5 MS. ANDERS: I'd like to offer Exhibit No. 28
6 into evidence, Your Honor.

7 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

8 THE COURT: Be received.

9 Q (By Ms. Anders) Could you read the length of the
10 catheter that is included in the catheter tray?

11 A Yes. It's in the first line here. It says that the

12 catheter is 5 and 7/8th inches long, almost 6 inches long.

13 Q Thank you. And even if the catheter did go all the
14 way almost to the heart, could the potassium still hurt?

15 A Yes. The heart has many sensory fibers. We all know
16 that because a heart attack is an extremely painful thing.
17 And so in stopping the heart it's also activating those
18 nerve fibers. Also, to be pumped through the actual muscle
19 of the heart, the potassium has to travel through the right
20 side of the heart, which is the side of the heart that
21 pumps venous blood into the lungs, has to travel through
22 the right side of the heart and has to be pumped through
23 the lungs which themselves have a lot of sensory nerve
24 endings, and then flow back from the lungs after it has
25 picked up oxygen and be carried to the left side of the

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1 heart, and from there it's pumped into the aorta and into
2 the actual muscle of the heart.

3 It's quite possible that in order to get to the
4 actual heart muscle it has to be pumped all the way through
5 the lungs regardless of where it's being introduced. But
6 in this setting, it's being introduced no way near the
7 heart. It's being introduced down in the pelvis six inches
8 from the groin where the catheter is inserted.

9 Q So more broadly, are John Doe One's statements with
10 respect to the possibility of pain arising from the
11 potassium injection, in your view, failure to acknowledge
12 the risks of the execution?

13 A Yes. He's not acknowledging that there are numerous
14 things that can go wrong and that those things can cause

15 problems with drug delivery and cause problems with the
16 humaneness of the procedure.

17 Q In John Doe One's answers to the plaintiff's first
18 interrogatories, this is No. 33, John Doe One states that
19 pancuronium, quote, will mitigate likely seizure activity
20 and involuntary movements and thus result in a more
21 peaceful and humane death. Do you agree with that
22 statement?

23 A He's partly correct. It will stop involuntary
24 movements. It stops all movement, all the muscles in the
25 body except the heart and the muscles in the blood vessels.

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1 But it will stop the movement of all the muscles in the
2 arms and the legs which are normally moving around in a
3 seizure. But he's wrong, it won't stop the seizure. The
4 seizure is actually a thing that happens in the brain.
5 It's abnormal electrical activity in the brain, and when we
6 see somebody jerking around in a seizure that's what we
7 call the motor manifestations, the muscle manifestations of
8 what's occurring in the brain, and pancuronium wouldn't
9 affect that. It doesn't really enter the brain. And so
10 while it will stop physical movement, it wouldn't stop the
11 seizure from occurring. It certainly wouldn't make it any
12 more humane.

13 Q Does pancuronium have any anesthetic or sedative
14 effect?

15 A None whatsoever. The only effect it has is to stop
16 one's ability to move muscles that we're normally able to
17 control. It doesn't affect our thinking or ability to feel

18 pain, our consciousness or awareness, and it doesn't affect
19 whether a seizure occurs or not.

20 Q So have John Doe One's statements in this case given
21 you concerns about whether he's competent to ensure that
22 executions are performed humanely?

23 A Well, given how these executions are being performed
24 in a way that requires general anesthesia to first be
25 successfully administered and monitored, no, he's not

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1 competent to do that.

2 Q What are you basing that on?

3 A On the numerous factual errors, some of which you
4 raised here, but he has things just completely backwards.
5 It's like he's driving on the wrong side of the road and
6 doesn't realize it. That's very concerning.

7 Q Do these factual errors raise concerns in your mind
8 about John Doe One's medical judgment?

9 A Well, first of all, you can't have good medical
10 judgment -- if your facts are wrong, then your judgment
11 can't be good. But even if he had the right facts, some of
12 the judgment calls that he's made are very concerning.

13 Q Do you believe that entrusting John Doe One with
14 responsibility for inducing general anesthesia, including
15 the preparation of thiopental, creates a significant risk
16 that the inmate will be improperly anesthetized?

17 A It does, yes. He should never be entrusted with
18 general anesthesia under any circumstances unless he's
19 going to undergo a considerable amount of training.

20 Q So is there significant risk, therefore, that inmates

21 will suffer excruciating pain?

22 A Yes, there is.

23 Q And do you believe that entrusting John Doe One with
24 responsibility for the femoral catheterization procedure
25 also creates a significant risk that inmates will suffer

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1 pain from the procedure?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. Now I'd like to talk with you a little bit
4 about the drug delivery system that's maintained in
5 Missouri at Bonne Terre.

6 THE REPORTER: Ms. Anders, I need to change
7 paper.

8 THE COURT: Why don't we take a recess, about ten
9 minutes. Give you a chance to stand and stretch a little.

10 (Recess)

11 MS. ANDERS: Your Honor, just very quickly I'd
12 like to ask if it's okay with the court if the expert
13 witnesses sit in on the testimony. I think the parties
14 have agreed that would be okay, and I'm very sorry. I
15 think we misunderstood.

16 THE COURT: If there is an agreement there, I
17 don't have a problem.

18 MR. HAWKE: There is. It's no problem.

19 MR. PRITCHETT: Just so it's clear, the agreement
20 included Mr. Moore could come in as well.

21 THE COURT: I kind of figured.

22 Q (By Ms. Anders) I'd like to talk with you about your
23 inspection of the execution facility at Bonne Terre and the

24 drug delivery system used by the Missouri execution team.
25 I believe you testified before that as part of your

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1 participation in the execution system you observed the
2 equipment as well as the facility itself; is that correct?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And did you draw any conclusions with respect to
5 whether the drug delivery system allows the execution team
6 to ensure a humane execution?

7 MR. HAWKE: Objection, Your Honor. This line of
8 questioning is beyond the scope of the Court of Appeals'
9 remand. The issues before the court concern the efficacy
10 and humaneness of the three-drug protocol as well as the
11 use of the femoral access. It does not involve drug
12 delivery systems and things like that.

13 MS. ANDERS: Dr. Heath testified before that
14 components of the execution procedure include the manner in
15 which the drugs are delivered into the inmate, and a large
16 part of the issue here is whether the anesthetic can be
17 successfully delivered into the inmate's circulation. So
18 because of that, the drug delivery system is very, very
19 relevant.

20 THE COURT: I agree. Objection is overruled.

21 Q (By Ms. Anders) Dr. Heath, did you draw any
22 conclusions with respect to whether the drug delivery
23 system allows the execution team to ensure an humane
24 execution?

25 A I did, yes.

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1 Q And what are your conclusions?

2 A There are several problems with the layout in the
3 execution chamber and the drug preparation room or the work
4 room that's right next to the execution chamber. The drugs
5 are delivered from one room through a wall into the room
6 where the prisoner is and the IV tubing disappears into a
7 hole in a desk and goes down under that desk and out
8 through the wall and then runs along the bed underneath the
9 sheet so one cannot survey as is necessary the tubing
10 through which the drugs are supposed to flow.

11 Q So I believe it's implicit in your answer, but does
12 the execution team administer the drugs from a different
13 room?

14 A Yes, they're standing in one room, and in a completely
15 separate isolated room is the prisoner who is being
16 executed.

17 Q When, if ever, do anesthesiologists induce general
18 anesthesia from a remote location?

19 A One would never induce general anesthesia from a
20 remote location. That would be completely, deeply beneath
21 any reasonable standard of care.

22 Q Does remote induction of general anesthesia create a
23 risk of improper anesthetization?

24 A Yes, it does. One is unable, if one is in a different
25 room, to assess whether one has achieved the desired or

1 necessary anesthetic depth.

2 Q Why is it -- what does monitoring anesthetic depth

3 entail?

4 A It's a very complicated thing. It's essential for an
5 anesthesiologist to do. It involves integrating an array
6 of different information from monitors, from different
7 monitors, from what the patient is doing, and being able to
8 touch the patient and perform various tests.

9 Q And why is it necessary to monitor anesthetic depth?

10 A Because anesthetic depth is not something that one can
11 predict based on what one has done, so we give -- what we
12 do is we do what's called titrating for effect. It's
13 like somebody who is trying to get a certain level of
14 intoxication from alcohol. They drink a certain amount.
15 They see what effect they get and then they drink however
16 much more they need to get to where they want to be.

17 Anesthesiologists are doing the same thing.
18 We're giving drugs and we don't know exactly what they're
19 going to do to any individual when you give the amount that
20 we need to give to get an effect. And if we don't have
21 that effect, then we continuously adjust that so we know
22 how much more or less we need to give and we need to have
23 some way of knowing how deep their level of anesthesia is.

24 Q Is it necessary to monitor anesthetic depth even when
25 a large dose of thiopental is being given?

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1 A Yes, it's always necessary to monitor anesthetic depth
2 when you're using intravenous anesthetic drugs. With the
3 gases that people inhale for anesthesia, we can actually
4 measure how much gas they're breathing in and breathing out
5 and that tells us in real time how much drug is present in

6 their body. But with intravenous anesthetics we don't have
7 any, unfortunately, have any tests or devices or machines
8 that tell us the concentration of drug in the body, so we
9 have to do the next best thing which is rely on different
10 monitors and other tests and to integrate that information
11 in a continuous real time basis to come up with our best
12 estimate of what the anesthetic depth is.

13 Q And so is there any other way besides monitoring
14 anesthetic depth to determine that the entire intended dose
15 of anesthetic has been delivered and has the desired
16 effect?

17 A No. We think we're getting a certain amount of the
18 drug, but we don't know that for sure unless -- we don't
19 know that we have given the right amount, that it's
20 successfully entered the circulation until we test or
21 assess what the result was, and that's why it's always
22 important to test anesthetic depth before initiating any
23 painful or uncomfortable procedure.

24 Q And so is it necessary to monitor anesthetic depth
25 even if there is no need to bring the inmate out of the

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1 anesthesia?

2 A It's important for you to know that for a humane
3 execution to take place. If you care about that, then you
4 have to in some way assess and show that a surgical plane
5 of anesthesia, which is a deep enough level of anesthesia
6 that you could do surgery on a person and it wouldn't cause
7 them pain or suffering. So if you want to know that it's
8 humane, you need to show that there is a surgical plane of

9 anesthesia.

10 Q Based on your observation during your inspection of
11 the execution facility, does the execution team's vantage
12 point in another room allow them to monitor anesthetic
13 depth?

14 A No. They only have one -- they have two monitors, but
15 only one useful monitor for assessing anesthetic depth and
16 that's the monitor giving them the heart rate information
17 and that's a monitor that can be used, when integrated with
18 many other monitors, other medical signs, to give
19 indication of anesthetic depth. But they can't, as we need
20 to be, be physically in contact with the patient, standing
21 right by their head and able to test various reflexes and
22 do tests along those lines. And they don't have other
23 monitors like blood pressure and other things that we use.
24 So from where they are, they cannot make any meaningful
25 determination of anesthetic depth.

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1 Q Can a heart rate monitor alone give you a meaningful
2 reading or meaningful sense of anesthetic depth?

3 A Not by itself. It's one of many different monitors
4 and clinical signs that we continuously integrate. We
5 continuously absorb that stream of information from many
6 sources and use it to synthesize our assessment of what the
7 anesthetic depth is.

8 Q And how does the execution team visually observe the
9 inmate?

10 A They're standing in a different room. There is a
11 window between the execution room and the -- I'm sorry,

12 there is a window between the room where the executioners
13 are standing and where the prisoner is lying on the bed.
14 So they're looking down with a view from the head of the
15 prisoner down towards his feet.

16 Q While at the inspection, did you perform a simulation
17 to determine what view the execution team had through the
18 window into the execution chamber?

19 A Yes. We had one of the people who was present lay
20 down on the bed that's used at the executions and then the
21 door to the execution chamber was closed and everybody went
22 into the work room where they inject the drugs from and the
23 camera person stood at each of the locations where each of
24 the executioners were standing to record a video version of
25 the view that they would have during the execution.

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1 Q And could you describe the view through the window?

2 A Well, it's difficult to describe. Maybe a picture
3 would help. But you're looking down from the head of the
4 prisoner towards his feet and all you can see is the top of
5 his head or a very shallow view of his face. And then
6 you're looking through a venetian blind, a screen that
7 partly obstructs the view. And then the window is also --
8 it's a one-way mirror, a partly silvered mirror, so -- a
9 window, so I think it's kind of like looking through
10 sunglasses. It obstructs some of the flow of the light.

11 Q I'd like the record to show I'm showing opposing
12 counsel what has been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 29.

13 Do you recognize this scene, Dr. Heath?

14 A Yes, I do.

15 Q And what is it?

16 A This is a picture taken by the video filmer of one of
17 the people who was present at the inspection and he's lying
18 on the bed that's used for the executions and he's covered
19 with a sheet, which is how the prison personnel describe
20 the execution being done. And to his -- to the right of
21 his head you can see a window and I believe that's where
22 some of the witnesses sit. I'm not sure if it's the
23 official witnesses or family members. And then to the left
24 of his head, which is sort of above his head, is a window
25 that leads into a different room where the execution

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1 personnel and the physician and other individuals are
2 present.

3 You can see under that window there's a hole in
4 the wall and IV tubing coming out from that hole and under
5 the sheet, and then it runs into the groin of the condemned
6 prisoner. So that IV tubing was set up to simulate -- set
7 up by the prison personnel to show how things are set up
8 during an execution.

9 Q So based on your observation during the execution
10 chamber tour, this is an accurate rendition of the view on
11 the gurney?

12 A This is what we saw on the tour, and the prison
13 personnel indicated this is how things generally look
14 during an actual execution.

15 Q Thank you.

16 MS. ANDERS: I'd like to admit Exhibit 29 into
17 evidence.

18 MR. HAWKE: No objection, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Received.

20 Do you plan on offering the videotape at some
21 point in time?

22 MS. ANDERS: Yes, I believe --

23 THE COURT: Because if this is contained on that,
24 we can save some time. It will be part of the record.
25 It's of no real value for me to see this because I have

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1 seen it.

2 MS. ANDERS: We don't have the videotape here.

3 MR. HELLMAN: But we can offer it, yes, Your
4 Honor.

5 MS. ANDERS: We would like to offer the videotape
6 of the tour into evidence.

7 THE COURT: We'll make it part of the record, if
8 there are no objections.

9 MR. HAWKE: No objections.

10 MS. ANDERS: Thank you, Your Honor.

11 Q (By Ms. Anders) So from this perspective --

12 THE COURT: What would the number of that be?

13 MS. ANDERS: I'm sorry. The number of the
14 videotape will be 47.

15 THE COURT: Show it received.

16 Q (By Ms. Anders) So, Dr. Heath, from this
17 perspective, is it possible to see the inmate's face?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And is it possible to see the IV tubing?

20 A I can see a little bit of the IV tubing, yes.

21 Q And I show you another photo that is part of
22 Plaintiff's Exhibit 47. Have you seen this scene before?

23 A Yes, I have.

24 Q And could you describe what this photo shows?

25 A This is a simulation again of the prisoner lying on

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1 the bed or the gurney. Now, this is in a different room.
2 This is in the work room or the room where the executioner
3 stands, and it's looking down from where the IV tubing, the
4 end of the tubing is and where the drugs are injected from,
5 looking down at the top of the person's head. It would be
6 the prisoner's head.

7 Q And do you believe that you'd be able to ascertain
8 whether general anesthesia has been successfully induced
9 using this view?

10 A No, you can't make any such assessment.

11 Q Why not?

12 A You're in a different room. You can't see the
13 person's face well. The top of the head doesn't really
14 show, or doesn't show any indications of whether somebody
15 is anesthetized or not. The face can reveal information
16 about that. You can't see any part of his body, and again,
17 there are no -- there aren't the monitors that we normally
18 deploy to help us assess anesthetic depth. And you
19 certainly can't touch the person, which is one of the
20 important things or methods we have available to us to
21 assess anesthetic depth.

22 Q I'd like to draw your attention to a statement from
23 the John Doe One deposition transcript, page 41, in

24 response to the question, "Did you monitor Mr. Gray's
25 anesthetic depth during execution?" He stated, quote, "The

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1 only thing that can be monitored is facial expression and
2 you can judge when the effect of the drug is accomplished,
3 and that can be seen from across the room through a
4 window."

5 Do you agree with that statement based on your
6 observations of your view into the execution chamber?

7 A Well, first of all, you don't have a good view of the
8 face. You certainly don't have the kind of view that you
9 would need to monitor facial expression if you're using it
10 to monitor anesthetic depth. But much more importantly,
11 he's totally wrong about being able to use facial
12 expression in this context to monitor anesthetic depth. If
13 the thiopental didn't work properly, when the pancuronium
14 goes in, it will cause a relaxed facial expression, similar
15 or identical to what expression we get with thiopental. So
16 from being -- even if one were standing right next to the
17 person, the rapid onset of pancuronium and the rapid onset
18 of thiopental would be very similar.

19 Q And based on your observation of the IV tubing, is it
20 possible to monitor the flow of drugs through the IV?

21 A No. You only see a very small part of the IV, maybe
22 and few inches where it comes out of the hole in the desk,
23 and you can't see any of the rest of the extent of the IV.
24 Most importantly, you can't see the connection where the IV
25 plugs into the triple lumen catheter. That's underneath

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1 the blanket or the sheet.

2 Q So if the IV tubing can't be seen, are there potential
3 problems that could arise with the IV tubing that cannot be
4 detected?

5 A Yes. It can disconnect or partly disconnect and leak.
6 It can have a hole in it. It can kink. There are numerous
7 problems. And that's why it's our standard of care when
8 we're inducing general anesthesia in a patient whenever
9 possible to have the full extent of the IV tubing
10 completely visible and laid out in a neat fashion so that
11 we can clearly see that the conduit through which the drugs
12 will flow is working properly.

13 Q And based on your observation of the IV tubing, do you
14 know whether the execution team uses an IV bag or drip?

15 A They do not use an IV bag or drip. They just inject
16 straight into the end of the IV tubing.

17 Q Is it standard medical practice to use an IV bag and
18 drip of saline or other solution when inducing general
19 anesthesia?

20 A Yes. What we normally do is connect a bag with a drip
21 chamber so we can see the rate of fluid as it enters the IV
22 and when we introduce the drugs into the IV line, we can
23 see that the fluid is flowing properly.

24 Q So to your knowledge, does any other state not use an
25 IV bag in its execution procedure?

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1 A Everywhere else that I'm aware of, unless they have
2 made a recent change that I'm not aware of, does use IV

3 bags.

4 Q When you are injecting drugs through IV tubing, are
5 there any tactile clues that can help you ascertain whether
6 the drugs are flowing properly?

7 A Yes. There is a thing that we call back pressure.
8 When you are pushing on the plunger of the syringe, there
9 is a certain amount of resistance to pushing that plunger
10 in, and it depends on many factors. If there's just air in
11 the syringe, you can push that plunger very easily. If
12 there is fluid in the syringe, then you have to push
13 harder. And it depends on the viscosity of the fluid. And
14 if it's connected to an IV tubing into a catheter, then one
15 needs to push even harder.

16 And we learn from experience what the normal feel
17 of that pressure is for a given size syringe, and if we're
18 not feeling that normal feeling that's one of the
19 indications that we have that something is going wrong with
20 the injection. It's hard to describe in words. Sort of
21 like riding a bicycle. It's something you need to get a
22 feel for, how a plunger should normally feel.

23 Q So how does a person acquire that feel for the back
24 pressure?

25 A The way you learn that something is going wrong is

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1 if you have -- over time from learning how to inject drugs
2 and how to induce anesthesia, one has bedside experience in
3 giving the drugs and seeing what happens. And sometimes we
4 do have an infiltration or a problem or a leakage, and, for
5 example, if you're injecting and there's a leakage, things

6 won't feel right and you'll see a leakage and you connect
7 that in your brain and you know in the future when things
8 don't feel right that maybe that's what the problem is.

9 Q Do the persons who inject the drugs have any medical
10 training?

11 A Apparently not.

12 Q And do they perform rehearsals or train in pushing the
13 syringes, based on your review of the documents?

14 A No, they don't. There are some states where there
15 is rigorous training protocols where the guards or the
16 injection personnel are timed injecting the syringe at a
17 certain rate and knowing what the feel -- what the back
18 pressure feels like. But there is no indication that
19 that's been done here.

20 Q And are rehearsals important to the execution
21 procedure?

22 A Yes, it is very important. One needs to have a
23 protocol and one needs to rehearse that protocol because
24 several people are involved in effecting the execution.
25 It's a series of steps that have to be taken in the right

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1 order and the right way. Everybody has to know what their
2 responsibilities are and where to stand. And the rehearsal
3 process allows a quality assurance. It allows one to work
4 out the kinks and the bugs that are inevitably present in a
5 complex endeavor.

6 Q Based on your observations of the execution chamber,
7 is it possible to see the catheter site?

8 A No. That's covered up by the sheet that's placed over

9 the prisoner.

10 Q So if the catheter had infiltrated would the execution
11 team be able to detect it?

12 A By infiltration you mean if the fluid was leaving the
13 catheter and not going into the vein, what we call
14 extravascular position of the catheter tip, they would not
15 be able to see that in this configuration.

16 Q And if a large hematoma had formed, would the
17 execution team be able to detect it?

18 A Not in this configuration unless the sheet became
19 blood-soaked. That might give them a clue that something
20 was going wrong, but that would require the blood to
21 actually be leaving the body as opposed to collecting
22 inside the body in a hematoma.

23 Q I'd like to draw your attention to a statement from
24 the transcript of John Doe One's testimony in his
25 deposition, page 31 of the transcript, he states, "The

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1 people who do the injections are nonmedical and they're in
2 the dark so they have a small flashlight that they're able
3 to quickly identify the syringes." Does injecting the
4 drugs in the dark create a risk of mistakenly injecting the
5 syringes in the wrong order?

6 A Yes. That's a ridiculous thing that they're being
7 asked to work in this encumbered or hindered situation
8 where they don't have good visibility of what they're
9 doing. That's a completely needless set-up for a problem.

10 Q So in general, do the problems in monitoring the
11 inmate for anesthetic depth exacerbate the risk that

12 complications could go undetected?

13 A Yes, they do.

14 Q Does the inability of the execution team to detect
15 problems or complications exacerbate a risk that a mistake
16 by John Doe One or any other member of the team could go
17 undetected?

18 A Yes.

19 Q So is it your -- do you have an opinion as to whether
20 the drug delivery system used by Missouri creates a
21 significant risk of pain to the inmate?

22 A It does, a significant and needless remedial risk.

23 Q Assuming that the doctor -- John Doe One's discretion
24 is in the future limited and he is required to give five
25 grams of thiopental, does that allay your concerns

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1 regarding the doctor's lack of qualifications to induce
2 anesthesia?

3 A No, it doesn't. First of all, my understanding is
4 that ultimately the warden or the director of the
5 Department of Corrections is responsible for all --
6 everything that happens regarding an execution, including
7 the details. But the doctor has said that he's the person,
8 the only person they have to advise him about any of
9 this -- of these features of the execution, of any of the
10 medical aspects, so it's pretty clear that any directive
11 that would come from the higher-level person would be
12 initiated by the doctor himself. So it's just sort of a
13 bureaucratic work-around and it leaves him basically as the
14 sole person who is guiding what's occurring.

15 And as we have discussed, he's completely lacking
16 in the credentials and qualifications and knowledge, skill
17 set and experience to be entrusted with the delivery of
18 general anesthesia, especially in an incredibly important
19 thing like an execution.

20 Q And does determining the intended dose of thiopental
21 ensure that that is the dose that will be delivered
22 successfully into circulation?

23 A I'm sorry. Could you ask that again?

24 Q Does determining with certainty what the intended dose
25 of thiopental is, does that guarantee that that intended

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1 dose will be delivered successfully into the circulation?

2 A No. You could be intending to give five grams, you
3 could be intending to give 50 grams, it doesn't really
4 matter. When you give intravenous drugs you need to
5 undertake some independent method of assessing what the
6 effects of that intended dose is and find out what in fact
7 actually happened. That's absolutely essential.

8 Q Earlier you testified about the components of a
9 written execution protocol. Is a directive that specifies
10 the dosage of the drugs the equivalent, in your opinion, of
11 a written execution protocol?

12 A No. It's more like you're saying it's a list that
13 says the name of a drug and the dose of the drug. That's
14 just a list of ingredients. What you really need is a full
15 protocol that lays out in clear and concise detailed
16 instructions everything that needs to happen. If you don't
17 put that in writing, then it might not happen and that

18 jeopardizes the interests of the state and the Department
19 of Corrections and of the prisoner.

20 Q Assuming that the doctor still has discretion to
21 determine alternative means of IV access, do you have
22 concerns regarding the safety of the IV access procedure?

23 A This doctor has made a huge error in judgment in how
24 he decided to obtain IV access. No other state to my
25 knowledge proceeds by putting a femoral line or a

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1 subclavian line in a person when a peripheral IV catheter
2 placement can be achieved. So he should not -- he's just
3 made, I think, too many mistakes and he shouldn't be
4 entrusted with any part of this process.

5 Q Are there complications that can arise during any part
6 of the execution that would require a doctor to make quick
7 decisions using his medical judgment?

8 A Oh, sure. Sometimes things go wrong when we're
9 inducing general anesthesia, just like they can go wrong
10 when the plane is taking off or whatever, and you want the
11 pilot of the plane and you want the anesthesiologist to be
12 nimble and adept in figuring out what to do, and that
13 includes making on-the-fly-calculations and understanding
14 doses of drugs.

15 This doctor in his deposition basically said he'd
16 have a hard time doing this stuff. He has his nurses help
17 him out with these things, and he's no good with numbers.
18 If he can't do his cable bill, then he should not be
19 charged with making these on-the-fly ad hoc changes that
20 sometimes a doctor would need to make inducing and

21 maintaining general anesthesia.

22 Q So then given that John Doe One would still be
23 participating in or overseeing the execution procedures, or
24 assuming that he would be, do you still think there would
25 be a significant risk of unnecessary pain in the execution

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1 procedure?

2 A Yes, I do.

3 MS. ANDERS: Your Honor, if I could have a
4 moment.

5 That concludes my direct examination, Your Honor,
6 but I'd just like to confirm that the Exhibits 1 through
7 23, which are the discovery materials, have been admitted
8 into evidence.

9 THE COURT: Those are the ones agreed upon in
10 advance?

11 MR. HAWKE: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MS. ANDERS: The photo stills that we showed from
14 the video, we separately marked those as exhibits. Would
15 it be acceptable if we enter those into evidence, just for
16 convenience?

17 THE COURT: I have no problem with that. They
18 are part of the video anyway.

19 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

20 MS. ANDERS: Thank you.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HAWKE:

22 Q Can you describe for the record what the execution
23 chamber at the Eastern Reception and Diagnostic Center

24 looks like?

25 A The chamber itself, or the overall layout of all the

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1 rooms?

2 Q The chamber itself.

3 A It's a room, I'd make a very broad estimate, of maybe
4 twenty feet by twelve feet or something along those lines.
5 There's very little in the room. The main thing is the bed
6 that the prisoner is placed on, and I believe there are
7 windows on all four walls of that room and I believe there
8 were I think at least two doors to that room, one going to
9 a work room where the executioners stand and one I think
10 leading to the area where the prisoner -- the holding cell
11 where he's kept before the execution.

12 Q And is the room constructed of block material,
13 concrete block material?

14 A I'm sorry. I don't recall what the construction was.
15 I think the walls might have been painted, so I'm not sure
16 what it was made of.

17 Q And can you describe -- I believe you said during
18 direct examination there was a window between the execution
19 chamber and what was described as the execution support
20 room?

21 A Yes, sir, there is.

22 Q What was the size of the window between those two
23 rooms?

24 THE COURT: Get to the point here, because we
25 already know, it's a matter of record what it looks like,

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1 Mr. Hawke. If you have a specific question, get to that
2 question.

3 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Would you describe that window as a
4 large window?

5 A Yes, it's a full-sized window.

6 Q And I believe you said that there were blinds on that
7 window?

8 A There's a venetian blind, yes.

9 THE COURT: Is this the window here (indicating)?

10 THE WITNESS: Yes. You have the picture where I
11 can see the top of his head?

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's the window.

14 Q (By Mr. Hawke) And when you're in the execution
15 support room you can view what is occurring in the
16 execution chamber through that window?

17 A Yes.

18 Q With the limitations you described during direct
19 examination.

20 A That's correct.

21 Q And I believe the photograph reflects that there are
22 thin black lines where the venetian blinds are?

23 A Yes, the slats of the blind are there, yes.

24 Q But the offender can still be observed through that
25 blind?

1 A There's a limited ability to observe, yes. It's
2 partly obscured by the things that I talked about. And if

3 I could just clarify, the blinds are at an angle so one's
4 head has to be at just the right height to be able to see
5 the prisoner's face, so one has to be standing in just the
6 right place. So for some people, depending on their height
7 and where they're standing, their view would be more
8 obscured than others because of the angle of the slats of
9 the venetian blind. It can only be -- its maximal
10 transparency is only present at one angle.

11 Q Do you know what the purpose of the blinds is?

12 A We were told during the tour. We were given a reason
13 for their presence, yes.

14 Q What was the reason?

15 A We were told that there are witnesses in the opposite
16 side of the -- in the room that's opposite the work room
17 and that there's a concern that those witnesses would be
18 able to see through the window, even though it's a one-way
19 mirrored window, and see what's happening in that room and
20 they would be able to identify the individuals who were
21 standing there. And it's a needless concern because when
22 I stood in that same room we played with the blinds and
23 regardless of the configuration of the blinds, you can't
24 see the people who are in there. And even if you could,
25 that situation could easily be remedied by having them wear

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1 surgical masks or something else that would obscure their
2 identity.

3 Q A disguise?

4 A Well, a disguise implies making them look like
5 somebody else. I'm talking about something that would

6 make them unable to see who they are. That can easily be
7 achieved.

8 Q Now, I believe you testified during direct
9 examination that the tubing between the execution support
10 chamber and the condemned could not be observed.

11 A Large parts of it cannot be observed. The end of it
12 can be observed where one injects the drug.

13 Q So in the area that we're describing as the execution
14 support room, the tubing can be observed?

15 A A very small tip of the end of it. If you're talking
16 about a snake, it's like seeing just the very tail of that
17 snake. So, yes, I suppose you could say that you're
18 observing the tubing, but you're not observing the tubing
19 in its full extent.

20 Q Now -- and the people who do the injection of the
21 drugs observe the syringe; is that correct?

22 A I'm not sure I'd describe it as observing. It's a
23 darkened room, but they do have their hands on the syringe
24 and they're getting some tactile feedback in terms of back
25 pressure on the plunger. I don't know if they're looking

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1 at the prisoner or if they're looking at the syringe, so I
2 don't want to characterize exactly what they're observing.

3 Q And how many people are in this area that is capable
4 of observing the offender during an execution?

5 A Whomever is standing looking at this picture, that's
6 the window there, and in front of them is a bench at about
7 waist height and I believe that there's a line of three
8 people standing pretty much shoulder-to-shoulder because

9 it's a small space behind that bench. And then also to the
10 right-hand side of the bench, on the end of the bench, is
11 another individual. And then there's the physician who I
12 understand stands behind those three people but might also
13 move around. His position is less fixed. And then it's
14 not clear to me, I think there's the John Doe Two, the
15 nurse who participates in the execution, and I'm not sure
16 where that individual stands, or if they are one of those
17 people.

18 Q Okay. Now, you testified during direct examination
19 that you would not induce anesthesia from a remote
20 location; is that correct?

21 A I have tried to think of circumstances where that
22 might happen. It's very hard to come up with a realistic
23 one where that would be needed.

24 Q And when you testified to that effect, I assume what
25 you are describing there you would not induce anesthesia

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1 for the purpose of surgery from a remote location; is that
2 correct?

3 A For any purpose.

4 Q For any purpose. But what you're basing that on is
5 your experience as an anesthesiologist who induces
6 anesthesia for the purpose of surgery; is that correct?

7 A Well, we induce anesthesia for other reasons in
8 addition to surgery, but if you're saying I'm basing it on
9 my clinical experience and training, then that would be
10 correct.

11 Q And you have not participated as a person involved in

12 the preparation and planning of an execution?

13 A I have not.

14 Q Now --

15 A If I can clarify that, because I have been involved in

16 I wouldn't call it an execution of an animal but the

17 euthanasia of an animal by intravenous techniques.

18 Q But that's not what is being done here; is that

19 correct?

20 A No. What is being done here is not done to the same

21 standard as what is being done to an animal during

22 euthanasia.

23 Q And this is not surgery, is it?

24 A There is a surgical procedure that's already taken

25 place with the placement of the central line.

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1 Q But that's already passed.

2 A That's right.

3 Q Now, you stated during direct examination that you

4 would always want to monitor the depth of anesthesia; is

5 that correct?

6 A When administering anesthesia one does need to monitor

7 its depth, yes.

8 Q And you base that upon your clinical practice?

9 A Yes, and my practice during animal research and also

10 during my research about lethal injection.

11 Q Now, can you describe for the court why that is

12 necessary, or is that necessary when a massive dose of

13 sodium pentothal is given as the initial drug?

14 A It's necessary because while I may be intending, and I

15 believe there is an intent to give a massive dose, I'm very
16 comfortable that it was John Doe One's intent to give these
17 multi-gram doses, call them massive doses, just because
18 that intent exists does not mean that translates into the
19 successful delivery into the prisoner's circulation and
20 delivered to the brain of that dose of thiopental.

21 Q And I believe during direct examination you used the
22 example of alcohol, drinking; is that correct?

23 A I think I was using that as an example of what we call
24 titrating effects. I was trying to describe how a person
25 intoxicates themselves to a desired level by drinking a

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1 certain amount and seeing what effect it has and then
2 drinking more.

3 Q And if an individual were to consume, for example,
4 five cases of beer, would you need to observe that
5 individual drinking before classifying that person as
6 drunk?

7 A Absolutely.

8 Q So you would want to actually see him do the drinking
9 rather than categorize him as drunk after his ingestion of
10 five cases?

11 A Well, again to characterize somebody as drunk you have
12 to either do a behavioral test to show that they're
13 intoxicated, I think that's what the police officers do on
14 the roadside, sobriety test I think it's called, or you
15 have to undertake some chemical measurement like a
16 breathalyzer test to show the alcohol is there. So if you
17 drink five cases of beer, it could be non-alcoholic beer

18 like the beer I had last night and I wouldn't expect them
19 in any way to be intoxicated from that.

20 Q So your testimony today is that a dosing of five
21 grams of sodium pentothal would be insufficient to induce
22 anesthesia in Missouri?

23 A You are mischaracterizing my testimony.

24 Q Did you testify to that effect during direct
25 examination?

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1 A That was not my intent to testify to that effect. My
2 intent was to say if one successfully achieves delivery of
3 five grams of thiopental into a prisoner's circulation and
4 the circulation successfully carries that throughout the
5 body, including the brain, then that would be a sufficient
6 dose to guarantee a surgical plane of anesthesia. But
7 intending to give five grams is not the same as
8 successfully achieving the delivery of five grams.

9 Q So to make sure I understand, if five grams goes in,
10 then that's adequate anesthesia?

11 A If five grams, not just goes into the prisoner's body,
12 but goes into his circulation and the circulation is active
13 and carries it throughout the body including part of it to
14 the brain then -- and there is nothing to obstruct the flow
15 of blood to the brain, then that would deliver anesthesia.

16 Q And if 2.5 grams goes in, would that be sufficient?

17 A Yes, that would be. Again, not just going in, but
18 being delivered into the vein and carried by the
19 circulation throughout the body.

20 Q What number would you say would be insufficient?

21 A Well, you can't put a specific number on any
22 individual person. That's enormous person-to-person
23 variation and it's in response to many drugs, including
24 anesthetic drugs and including thiopental. So some people,
25 just like your beer analogy, can be rendered unconscious by

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1 probably one beer and there are other people who I think
2 can drink, I don't know, whatever large amount, like a case
3 or something, and still manage to drive a car. So there's
4 enormous variation. I can't put a specific number on it.
5 It depends on other factors like the person's weight,
6 whether they have been taking drugs like anti-seizure
7 medications or many other drugs, anti-anxiety drugs that
8 can affect their resistance to drugs like thiopental.

9 Q Have you ever monitored a condemned person during an
10 execution?

11 A No.

12 Q So you have not observed a person being executed who
13 was not under the effect of anesthesia, either in Missouri
14 or around the country?

15 A I have never been present to observe the induction of
16 general anesthesia during any execution procedure.

17 Q Now, I believe you testified that there was a
18 monitoring device at the execution chamber. Is that an
19 EKG monitor?

20 A My recollection is there is a thing called a pulse
21 oximeter and another device called an EKG which monitors
22 the electrical activity of the heart.

23 Q And the purpose of that is to determine when the

24 offender has passed away?

25 A I believe that's correct, yes. It is not being used

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1 to monitor anesthetic depth.

2 Q Up on your computer screen is Exhibit 30. Do you
3 know where in the execution support chamber that picture
4 was selected? Whether that's the position of John Doe One,
5 John Doe Two, John Doe Three or John Doe Five?

6 A I don't know for sure. I know it's not -- well, you
7 have to understand that the video camera has a zoom
8 function, so I can't tell from this picture how far the
9 videographer was standing from the window when it was
10 taken. I think it could either be from the person who is
11 standing directly behind the bench or it could be from a
12 person who is looking over their shoulder or between two of
13 the people who are standing behind the bench, but I can't
14 say for sure because of that zoom effect.

15 Q Now --

16 A But there's a wall behind that area, quite close
17 behind it, so they couldn't have been more than probably --
18 I'd say that's at most five feet, probably more like four
19 feet from the window.

20 Q Now, you said that there could be a problem with the
21 IV access because it would become disconnected; is that
22 right?

23 A Yes.

24 Q If it becomes disconnected, then none of the drugs
25 enter the offender; isn't that correct?

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1 A If it's fully disconnected, then no drug would enter.
2 In fact, there would be blood leaking back out of the
3 triple lumen catheter. If it became partially
4 disconnected, which is another kind of disconnection,
5 then there would be -- one would expect only a partial
6 delivery of the drugs.

7 I'll make this comment. The way it's set up
8 with a mattress is different from other -- many other
9 execution chambers. Other execution chambers just have a
10 hard metallic gurney and any leaking would immediately drip
11 through onto the floor. But in this setting there's a
12 mattress there that in all likelihood would absorb a
13 considerable amount of fluid before it showed up on the
14 floor. And again, the IV introduction site is deliberately
15 kept visible to the personnel so they can see if a leak is
16 occurring. And neither of these conditions are applied
17 here.

18 Q Now, for it to be disconnected, the entire length of
19 the catheter would have to come out of the offender; isn't
20 that correct?

21 A No, that's incorrect.

22 Q So there is a connection between the catheter and the
23 tubing that you're saying could become dislodged?

24 A That's correct. There is a piece of tubing, I forget
25 how long it was, maybe six or seven or eight feet,

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1 something like that, and then that is attached to the end
2 of the triple lumen -- the end that's outside the prisoner

3 of the triple lumen catheter.

4 Q And if that were to happen, none of the drugs would go
5 into the offender; isn't that correct?

6 A If there was a partial disconnection, then there would
7 be a partial reduction in the delivery of drugs. If there
8 was a complete disconnection, then there would be a
9 complete obliteration of all drug delivery.

10 Q And similarly, if there is, as you described it, a
11 kink in the line, then the drugs, none of the drugs would
12 go into the offender; isn't that correct?

13 A No, that's not correct.

14 Q Okay. If there's a kink in the line are you saying
15 they would go into the offender more slowly?

16 A A kink in the line could be a complete obstruction so
17 that no drugs could go in, or it could be a partial
18 obstruction, increasing resistance. Just like your garden
19 hose, you can kink it so no water comes out the end of it,
20 but you can also kink it in a way where the flow is just
21 decreased. So another possibility is if the tubing could
22 be kinked. And the way it's configured, there's a real
23 risk of that, and that would increase the resistance to
24 injecting drugs and it would also interfere with the
25 ability to assess the back pressure, which, as I described,

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1 is an important thing.

2 Q So when that happens, the person who is doing the
3 injection has to plunge harder?

4 A My understanding in this context is they are unable to
5 plunge harder because they are already plunging as hard as

6 they can, so they would be unable to do anything greater
7 than what they were already trying to do.

8 Q So in that scenario is the effect of the kink the
9 drugs would go in more slowly?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q Now, your understanding of the Missouri protocol is
12 that there's one -- is it correct that your understanding
13 is that there is the first drug, sodium pentothal, followed
14 by a flush, followed by a second drug, Pavalon, followed by
15 a flush, followed by the third drug, potassium chloride,
16 followed by a flush?

17 A Just to clarify, there is no protocol. But in terms
18 of what has been done in the past, that's a fair
19 representation of the drug phase. But as I described, I
20 think it's useful to break this whole thing into four
21 phases, with the first phase being achieving an IV access,
22 and that's something that warrants protocol surrounding
23 that. And then there's the second phase, which is delivery
24 of the anesthetic. The third phase, the paralyzing drug.
25 And the fourth phase is the drug that causes death.

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1 Q But that is a correct description of the order that
2 the drugs are injected?

3 A That's correct, that's the order they're intending to
4 inject them.

5 Q And if there is a kink in the line, that would not
6 change the order of the drugs that are being injected?

7 A No, it wouldn't, unless a person said something is
8 wrong and stopped and they said we better stop this and

9 they went and decided to run a different line of tubing or
10 maybe plug it into a different one of the three catheters
11 in the triple lumen catheter and they forgot where they
12 were, or the syringes got knocked around in that process.
13 So there are ways where a kink -- anything that disrupts
14 the sequence of injection in an unexpected way can cause
15 disorder and, therefore, disrupt the smooth performance of
16 the procedure.

17 Q And are you telling the court this morning that there
18 should be a written protocol that covers all of those
19 contingencies?

20 A When you have individuals who are not competent or
21 qualified to adapt to unexpected events and contingencies,
22 then you need to have some written instructions for them
23 about what they would need to do.

24 Q To cover all contingencies?

25 A I think all reasonably foreseeable contingencies. One

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1 needs to plan properly for an important event like this.
2 Obviously there are things that can happen that nobody can
3 reasonably expect or anticipate, and that's why in the end
4 you also want to have people who are able to adapt.

5 Q When you say reasonably foreseeable, what percentage
6 of a possibility are you placing on that? Is it like a one
7 percent chance of something happening or a tenth of a
8 percent chance of something happening or a hundredth of a
9 percent chance of something happening? What are you
10 telling the court?

11 A You can't put numbers on it. It's like teaching

12 somebody to drive to be safe to take a motor vehicle on the
13 road. They have learned a lot of procedures as it were,
14 how to use their hand brake and how to signal and how to do
15 various things. They learn how to make hand signals if
16 their signals go out. But there are things that you can't
17 anticipate, so they need to have a certain demonstrative
18 level of training and proficiency in driving a car before
19 you allow them to go out on the road. And there are
20 unexpected things that you can't put down in the driver ed
21 manual that can happen. A cow crossing the road, that's
22 probably not in the book, but the person needs to be able
23 to figure out what to do if a cow crosses the road, that
24 there might be other cows coming around and they need to
25 slow down and take it easy.

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1 Q Now, you state that other states do not use an IV bag,
2 is that correct, in their execution protocol?

3 A If I stated that, I misspoke. Other states do use
4 IV bags.

5 Q And Missouri is the only state that does not?

6 A To my knowledge, yes. I should clarify that while
7 most states have revealed their written protocols in some
8 cases to the public and in other cases under protective
9 orders, not every state has done that.

10 Q Now, the reason -- is there a reason that they use an
11 IV bag?

12 A I'm not inside their head so I don't know what is
13 their thinking, but there is a good reason to use IV bags
14 for the induction of anesthesia.

15 Q Now, in Missouri the execution process is a very quick
16 process; isn't that correct?

17 A Can you describe quick? Quick as compared to what?

18 Q Compared to surgery, what you're used to.

19 A We're not talking about surgery. We're talking about
20 the induction of general anesthesia, and I'd say within
21 boundaries it's approximately the same kind of time frame
22 as induction of general anesthesia tends to occur during a
23 clinical setting.

24 Q Now, assuming that an execution is scheduled at
25 midnight, do you recall when the insertion of the catheter

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1 occurs?

2 A I'm sorry, I don't recall, but I believe it was in a
3 relatively short time frame beforehand. It was not the day
4 before or anything like that.

5 Q And the purpose of using the catheter would be -- is
6 only for the execution; is that correct?

7 A That's right. It's not being put in for any
8 therapeutic purpose.

9 Q So once it's used, there's no further use for it?

10 A Once the execution has been achieved?

11 Q Yes.

12 A Yes. Assuming the execution is not stayed, assuming
13 the execution is actually carried out, then that catheter
14 does not serve any useful purpose, although for autopsy
15 purposes it's standard procedure to leave all catheters in
16 their normal place.

17 Q I believe you stated during direct examination that if

18 there was leakage, that the syringe -- that the pressure on
19 the syringe would not feel right. Am I summarizing your
20 testimony correctly?

21 A It might not feel right, that's correct, yes.
22 Depending on the leakage and whether there were things like
23 kinking or other problems interfering. And also implicit
24 in that, knowing that it would feel right implies that the
25 person has in their head a notion of what feeling right and

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1 feeling wrong is. If they lack that, then there is no feel
2 right or feel wrong for them to experience.

3 Q Are you familiar with the experience of John Doe Three
4 and John Doe Five in the execution process as injectors?

5 A I'm sorry, I don't have in my head exactly who -- I
6 know who John Doe One is, not who they are but I know what
7 their responsibilities are, John Doe One, the physician,
8 John Doe Two, the nurse. But if you could refresh me on
9 what John Does Three, Four and Five specifically do. I
10 don't want to confuse the record.

11 Q Three and Five are the current injectors.

12 A They're the individuals pushing the drugs?

13 Q Yes.

14 A Okay.

15 Q Are you familiar with their experience at doing that
16 job?

17 A I don't know their life history, how many executions
18 they have participated in, how many times they have
19 injected through central lines and all of those things, no.

20 Further, I believe those are just titled

21 positions. They could be occupied by any individual, just
22 like the presidency or a senator. So it's a titled
23 position, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, that any individual could
24 occupy. If John Doe Three was sick that day, somebody else
25 would step in to fill his place, I believe. So I don't

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1 know the backgrounds of whomever might be available to step
2 in.

3 Q Now, the syringes that are used at the execution
4 support room, do you recall that those syringes are
5 labeled?

6 A You'll have to refresh me. I don't want to confuse
7 the record. I have seen many different methods used in
8 different states. I believe that the name was written on
9 the syringe, but I'm not sure whether it was -- a paper
10 label was put on or whether it was written directly on the
11 syringe, so if you could describe for me what is done, that
12 would be helpful.

13 Q You don't remember?

14 A I don't remember precisely. I believe they wrote with
15 a magic marker on the actual plastic of the syringe.

16 Q And do you recall that the syringes are placed on a
17 block of wood in a particular order in the execution
18 support chamber?

19 A Yes, I do recall that there's an especially shaped
20 block of wood with concave depressions in it for the
21 syringes to lie in.

22 Q And they go onto that block of wood in the order in
23 which they are to be given; isn't that correct?

24 A That's the plan. That's what is supposed to happen,
25 but there is no protocol dictating that.

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1 Q I believe you testified during direct examination, and
2 correct me if I'm wrong on that, that even if Missouri
3 intended to use 50 grams of sodium pentothal, you would
4 still find the Missouri practice to be unacceptable?

5 A If that were the only change that were made, yes.
6 When you use potassium to kill a person or any animal,
7 which is what is being -- what the Department of
8 Corrections is choosing to do in this setting, it's
9 essential that the person who is performing the
10 administration of the potassium, intravenous potassium, is
11 experienced in the assessment of anesthetic depth and
12 experienced in the administration of intravenous
13 anesthetics and, further, that they undertake specific
14 tests to ensure that the person or the animal is properly
15 anesthetized, they're at a surgical plane of anesthesia.

16 So if the only change that were made to Missouri
17 protocol were just to increase the dose of thiopental, that
18 would still be deeply adequate. It's very important to
19 have a person who knows how to check anesthetic depth, who
20 knows how to administer intravenous anesthetics, actually
21 go and assess that the animal, if it's a veterinarian
22 procedure, or the prisoner in an execution, if you want
23 the execution to be humane, they have to assess that the
24 surgical plane of anesthesia has been achieved. If they
25 don't do that, it's inadequate.

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1 Q So a massive overdose of the first drug, sodium
2 thiopental, is insufficient, in your estimate?

3 A The intent to deliver a massive overdose is
4 insufficient. When veterinarians use potassium to put down
5 dogs, they have an intent to give a massive overdose of
6 barbiturates. They are also professionals who are trained
7 and experienced in the administration of intravenous
8 anesthetics. Even in that setting, even when they're right
9 there in the same room, they are required to be
10 knowledgeable in assessing anesthetic depth and are
11 experienced, and they are required to undertake certain
12 tests to demonstrate a surgical plane of anesthesia.

13 So you can be intending to give any amount of
14 thiopental. It doesn't matter if you're going to use
15 potassium to kill an animal or a person, you need to first
16 demonstrate a surgical plane of anesthesia. You need to
17 assess anesthetic depth.

18 Q So giving a massive overdose is insufficient?

19 A Intending to give a massive overdose is insufficient.
20 If you successfully achieve delivery into the circulation,
21 which is something that can never be assumed with
22 intravenous anesthetic, then a 50-gram dose would certainly
23 be sufficient, but you can never make that assumption.

24 Q Is there any barbiturate that would satisfy you?

25 A If one is going to use potassium to cause cardiac

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1 arrest, to achieve the death, then it doesn't matter what
2 drug you use to provide the anesthesia or how much you're

3 intending to use. You must assess the anesthetic depth.
4 You must demonstrate the animal or the person is in a
5 surgical plane of anesthesia, which is a very deep plane of
6 anesthesia.

7 Q Now, you stated during direct examination that
8 Missouri was the only state to use femoral venous access;
9 is that correct?

10 A If I stated that, that was a misstatement. It's the
11 only state that I'm aware of that does not first attempt to
12 obtain peripheral IV access and only proceeds to femoral --
13 proceeds to a femoral access in people who do not need
14 femoral access.

15 Q Now, peripheral access is through the arm, or is it
16 through the leg as well?

17 A Either one of those would count as peripheral IV
18 access. The hands, the wrists, the arms. Anything -- I
19 don't think there is exactly a bright line, but anything in
20 the extremities would count as peripheral access. And I
21 should just say the groin is -- the end of the catheter is
22 inside the main part of the body, the trunk of the body,
23 and most people would call that peripheral access.

24 Q And would you agree, generally speaking, that those
25 peripheral veins are the ones that drug addicts use for the

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1 injection of illicit drugs?

2 A That's right.

3 Q And that use of illicit drugs damages those veins?

4 A Over time it tends to do that, yes. It's not just
5 drug addicts who have that problem. It can be people who

6 have never used intravenous drugs of abuse.

7 Q And would you agree with the statement that use of a
8 femoral vein provides an effective access to the venous
9 system, to the circulation system?

10 A When the catheter is properly placed, it does provide
11 effective access, that's right.

12 Q And it puts the drugs -- it puts the poisons where
13 they need to be, close to the heart; would you agree?

14 A Well, first of all, they're not poisons. They're
15 medications. Secondly, the circulation is what carries
16 them where they need to be. The place where they need to
17 be is not close to the heart. The place where they need to
18 be is different for each of those three medications. The
19 thiopental needs to be in the brain and the spinal cord.
20 The pancuronium needs to be in the muscles. And the
21 potassium needs to be in the heart. The central line does
22 not put them close to the heart. The circulation is what
23 brings them to the heart and into the other places.

24 Q The central line places the potassium close to the
25 heart; would you agree?

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1 A Define close. What's your definition of close in this
2 context?

3 Q Why don't you define it for the court?

4 A Well, just to clarify, I will say that peripheral IV
5 access can be closer to the heart than central IV access.

6 A catheter placed in the elbow right here has -- the drug
7 would have to travel from about here to the end of the
8 catheter, a distance of about one foot, to reach the heart.

9 And that contrasts with a femoral catheter that's down in
10 the groin. If that catheter is six inches long, it comes
11 up to somewhere in the lower pelvis, but it would still
12 have to travel a considerable distance to get to the
13 heart.

14 The surgeon mischaracterized his catheter and
15 where its location is. He's very wrong. He's off by
16 about --I think about ten inches, and that's a great
17 distance.

18 Q About like that (indicating)?

19 A Yes. He's saying it's under the xiphoid, I think two
20 inches from the xiphoid process, which is the bottom of
21 the breast bone and very close to the heart, and he's
22 wrong.

23 Q Now, you started your direct examination by stating
24 that you had practiced anesthesiology for 15 years; is that
25 correct?

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1 A That's right. I think it's actually more like 18
2 years now since I became attending anesthesiologist.

3 Q But your practice does not include participation in
4 the lethal injection process of any state?

5 A Not for human beings. I have done animal research
6 where we have used IV intravenous drugs to end the animal's
7 life after an experiment.

8 Q So when you stated that you induced anesthesia, that
9 would be for a clinical purpose. Not for the purpose of
10 lethal injection?

11 A In human beings, that's correct.

12 Q Now, you stated that you had been involved in
13 lethal -- in testifying in other lethal injection cases; is
14 that correct?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q And is there a state or a commonwealth where the
17 government has retained your services to testify about the
18 government's execution protocol?

19 A I know -- just to be clear what your question is --

20 Q The government being the state or a prison official.

21 A No, no one has ever asked me to testify in that
22 regard.

23 Q So generally speaking then, it is fair to characterize
24 your testimony as being at the behest of the offender; you
25 are retained by the offender?

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1 A In most cases. Sometimes it's been by another party,
2 but not the state. There was an execution in Connecticut
3 where the offender was volunteering, wanted to proceed and
4 other parties did not want the execution to proceed, or the
5 other parties were concerned about the manner in which the
6 execution was going to be conducted.

7 Q In Connecticut, did they set up the peripheral access
8 with two peripheral sites, or with one?

9 A I believe the Connecticut protocol calls for two
10 access sites, but I don't recall specifically in that
11 execution whether they put one or two in. In some cases
12 there is difficulty in securing a second line and it's
13 abandoned, so I don't know specifically. I can't recall
14 that autopsy report.

15 Q In those states that use peripheral access, do they
16 set up two peripheral IVs?
17 A Yes.
18 Q And in those states, do they use one of the access and
19 keep the other as a back-up, or do they use them both?
20 A It varies from state to state.
21 Q Okay. So some states just have one in reserve if it's
22 needed?
23 A That's correct.
24 Q And other states actually actively use both accesses?
25 A That's correct.

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1 Q But --
2 A At least that's their representation. I'm not there
3 to see what they actually do.
4 Q I understand. And I believe you testified that you
5 had observed the execution chambers of other states.
6 A If I did, I -- only one other state.
7 Q One other state. Which state was that?
8 A California.
9 Q And did you approve of what you observed in the
10 California execution chamber?
11 MS. ANDERS: Objection, Your Honor; relevance.
12 THE COURT: I'll allow the question.
13 A Well, I wasn't in the posture of approving or not
14 approving. I don't have the authority to do that.
15 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Have you written a report about the
16 California chamber?
17 A I'm -- I'm not sure that I have. I have written stuff

18 about it before seeing it. I just can't recall whether I
19 was asked to provide a report after that inspection. I
20 honestly don't know.

21 Q Let me approach the question a little bit
22 differently. Are you critical of what you observed in
23 California?

24 A There are some features of what is being done that
25 is very problematic and some features that are not

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1 problematic.

2 Q That's fine. Now, I believe you stated that you
3 corresponded with the first person who set up the lethal
4 injection process?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Who was that person?

7 A A person named Dr. Chapman. When I say set up, that's
8 probably the -- when you say set up, that's not the term.
9 The person who -- he's not the person who conceived the
10 concept of lethal injection. I think that was actually
11 done during -- by the German government in World War II,
12 but he's the person who -- he's not the person who
13 conceived the introduction of lethal injection in the
14 United States. That was done by a legislator in Oklahoma,
15 but he's the person who conceived the use of these three --
16 or the use of the drugs that are used in lethal injection.
17 He didn't really go beyond that to talk about exactly how
18 they are given as they are given now.

19 Q And he's the doctor from Oklahoma; is that correct?

20 A He is a doctor from Oklahoma.

21 Q Now, during direct examination I believe you stated
22 that today you find use of capital punishment, and what I
23 wrote down was, problematic when applied after the
24 adversarial process. Is that --

25 A That's correct.

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1 Q By that, I think I understand you to say that you
2 disapprove of capital punishment. Am I understanding your
3 testimony correctly?

4 A The problem is how you get to decide. In my view, one
5 of the problems is how one decides who should get it and
6 who shouldn't, and it's not -- it's a result of our
7 judicial system, which has got to be the best judicial
8 system in the world, but it's still designed to reach an
9 outcome which is necessary for maintaining order in
10 society, and generally that outcome is the same as a
11 righteous or truthful outcome.

12 But the system is not perfect and errors can
13 occur in the sense that the correct outcome might not be
14 arrived at. And if the outcome is to do something
15 irreversible, mainly to execute someone, then I think the
16 protection can be arrived at in a open, truth-seeking
17 method as opposed to an adversarial one.

18 Q So as it's currently administered today in the United
19 States, you would be opposed to the imposition of capital
20 punishment?

21 A That's correct. I should clarify I didn't really have
22 a position on this before I found out what drugs were being
23 used and how it was being done. It really wasn't on my

24 radar. It wasn't something that I thought much about.

25 Q Now, you stated during direct examination that your

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1 review of the Missouri process showed that there were what
2 you described as variations in the quantity of sodium
3 pentothal given to the offender; is that correct?

4 A It showed variations in the amount that they were
5 intending to give.

6 Q And those variations range between 2.5 grams and
7 5 grams; is that correct?

8 A No, we don't really know -- well, we know how many
9 bottles -- sorry, kits, containers, each of which have half
10 a gram, they took out. So it's accurate that it sets a
11 ceiling of how much they were given. If ten kits, each
12 containing half a gram, were checked out as it were, then
13 it sets an apparent ceiling of five grams. There's no
14 floor set here because as the doctor describes, they give
15 some, they waste some, and they put down the total of those
16 two amounts and so you can't tell.

17 And even with the doctor's intention, given what
18 we know about these individuals working in the dark, under
19 time pressure, a person who has difficulty completing a
20 cable bill, who has numeric dyslexia, who has to rely on
21 the nurse because he's not good with figuring out
22 percentages and milligrams and things like that, you really
23 don't know how much was delivered to those prisoners.

24 Q Okay. Now, the other states that you have studied,
25 what is their intent on the quantity of sodium pentothal to

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1 be administered to the offender?

2 A That also ranges -- the highest I have seen is five
3 grams.

4 Q And what's the lowest?

5 A The lowest I have seen is around one or one and a
6 quarter grams.

7 Q One or one and a quarter. Okay. So one, one and a
8 quarter up to five is the intent of those other states that
9 you have studied?

10 A To my knowledge, yes, although I'm also aware of
11 consideration of protocol revisions that would change those
12 amounts.

13 Q Downward or upward?

14 A Upward.

15 Q Upward. Okay. Is any state contemplating a change to
16 an amount higher than five?

17 A I believe California is.

18 Q To an amount higher than five?

19 A I believe so, yes.

20 Q Okay.

21 A I think the latest iteration of their protocol
22 included a bolus amount and also an infusion of a
23 continuous drip, and that would result in a higher amount
24 than five, but I'd have to refresh myself to be certain
25 about that.

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1 Q And on the second drug, the Pavalon, you stated there
2 were also variations in the amounts that were given?

3 A There's apparent variations. Again, we don't know
4 exactly how much was delivered. All we know is there was
5 an intended amount.

6 Q Okay. And is it true to say that for every state we
7 don't know what amount is actually given, only the intended
8 amount?

9 A Well, many states perform toxicology testing, so after
10 the prisoner is dead blood is drawn and used to measure the
11 concentrations of the thiopental and/or the pancuronium
12 and/or the potassium and that, in some settings, can be
13 used to provide information about the amount of thiopental
14 in the prisoner.

15 Q You might draw an inference; isn't that correct?

16 A Correct. You are sampling from one part of the body.
17 The only way to know the total amount delivered would be to
18 take the entire body and extract all the thiopental from
19 the entire body.

20 Q And those measurements from the blood, it depends on
21 where that blood is drawn; isn't that correct?

22 A That's correct. Among other things.

23 Q Now, I believe you stated during direct examination
24 that no other state has a physician participate in the
25 lethal injection process.

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1 A I didn't mean to -- if I said that, it's not what I
2 meant. No other state has participation to this level and
3 this level of authority vested in one sole physician.

4 Q Okay. Do other states have medical personnel assist
5 before the lethal injection occurs?

6 A Yes.

7 Q During direct examination you were shown Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 25, the drug log. What is the purpose of that log?

9 A If you could clarify the question, because purpose
10 implies an intent in some person's head, and I need to know
11 who -- the purpose for what person.

12 Q Do you know why that record is kept?

13 A I believe it's kept because the person who completes
14 it has been instructed to fill out this information.

15 Q What is the purpose of recording that information,
16 according to your understanding?

17 A It's to keep track of the flow of drugs, or the -- I
18 guess the transfer of the chain of custody of drugs from
19 one place and one person to another to know how much you
20 started out with, how much was given, how much was
21 injected, how much was discarded or flushed, and to keep
22 track of -- it's a tracking system I suppose one could call
23 it.

24 Q Okay. Now, in your clinical practice you state that
25 you record the amount of drug, anesthetic, that you

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1 administer to an individual; is that correct?

2 A The amount that we intend to administer, yes; we
3 believe we administered.

4 Q But in Missouri, in this case we're dealing with an
5 execution, not a surgical process.

6 A We're dealing with the induction of general anesthesia
7 and after the induction of general anesthesia hopefully is
8 achieved, one then goes on to kill the prisoner with the

9 injection of potassium. So there's a medical process
10 there, a necessary medical process, the induction of
11 general anesthesia. And that is followed by a step that
12 causes the prisoner's death, the injection of a lethal dose
13 of potassium.

14 Q And the purpose of recording the number, the amount of
15 the drug given in your practice, your clinical practice,
16 what purpose is that? Why do you write that number down?

17 A It serves several purposes. It allow us to know what
18 we have given, to know how a prisoner is responding when we
19 assess anesthetic depth. Since our memories aren't
20 perfect, we need to have a written record of what we have
21 done.

22 It's also used for tracking, again, the use of
23 drugs to make sure that the amount of a controlled
24 substance, say a narcotic, that's taken out by a doctor,
25 that none of it is diverted for purposes of abuse, that

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1 it's either all given to the patient or it's flushed.

2 Q And you stated during direct examination that you
3 would not want to give an entire dose of an anesthetic or
4 an anesthesia after already giving a dose; is that correct?

5 A That's not what I was trying to say, no. I'm not sure
6 of the context, so you need to clarify your question,
7 please.

8 Q The doctor stated during his deposition that he would
9 give the entire dose of the anesthetic again in order to
10 achieve the effect that was needed, and you criticized the
11 doctor for trying to do that.

12 A What he said, I believe, was that you have to give the
13 entire full dose. You can't just give, the second time
14 around, a partial amount of the amount you initially gave.
15 So, for example, if you were trying to give ten grams the
16 first time and you didn't get the desired effect, he said
17 you'd have to give ten grams again. And that's not true
18 and that's why I disagreed with it.

19 Q And you disagree with it based upon your clinical
20 practice, not with the goal of achieving an execution?

21 A I base it on the context that in order for the
22 execution to be humane, there is a phase of the execution
23 which is the induction of general anesthesia. The
24 procedure is very painful, it's a death-causing procedure.
25 The injection of potassium is very painful and requires a

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1 surgical plane of anesthesia. You have to induce general
2 anesthesia successfully before you do that final painful
3 step. So I'm talking about a context of inducing general
4 anesthesia.

5 Q Now, you stated that sodium pentothal depressed the
6 cardiovascular system?

7 A That's correct.

8 Q How efficient is -- how quickly does that depression
9 occur?

10 A That depends on numerous factors. It can be rapid or
11 it can be slower. Depends on how much is given, how
12 quickly it's given, what the cardiovascular status is of
13 the patient or the prisoner when it's given, what their
14 cardiac output is, what their blood pressure is and the

15 status of their cardiovascular system. Those are some of
16 the factors that would affect that answer.

17 Q So if it's robust, it fails more quickly, or if it's
18 sick, it's a bad heart, does it fail more quickly?

19 A We're not talking about failing. We're talking about
20 depression. We're talking about reducing the function of
21 it, and that effect will start very quickly after the drug
22 is administered. Basically as soon as it is pumped through
23 the heart it starts to depress the function of the heart,
24 and as soon as it's pumped into blood vessels it starts to
25 depress the tone of those blood vessels and lower the blood

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1 pressure that way. So it's basically very, very rapid once
2 it reaches the thing that it's going to depress.

3 Q Now, the doctor, John Doe One, stated in his
4 deposition that the rapid onset of the effect of the
5 drugs is desirable, but I believe you testified that you
6 disagreed with that.

7 A Could you show me where he -- I don't remember
8 discussing -- I don't recall discussing that in my direct.

9 Q The reference given was page 95, line 4.

10 A I'm sorry.

11 Q Page 95, line 4.

12 A That was the questions of the direct examination.

13 Q Would you agree with me then, independently of that,
14 that the rapid injection of the drugs is a beneficial
15 feature of the Missouri execution process?

16 A No, that's not necessary to -- I believe the interests
17 of the execution process are, number one, to achieve

18 justice by causing the death of the individual, and even
19 though it's not stated, I believe it's legally important
20 that it be conducted in a humane fashion, and that does
21 not require what I think you're characterizing as rapid
22 injection, that a humane execution could be a successful
23 injection of general anesthesia and anesthesia can be
24 achieved by injecting drugs at a rapid rate.

25 THE COURT: I thought your concern was as long as

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1 the anesthesia had been effectively distributed within the
2 body, that was your primary concern.

3 THE WITNESS: You're exactly right.

4 THE COURT: And after that, it doesn't matter?

5 THE WITNESS: You're exactly right. So long as
6 it's delivered and maintained at a sufficient level to keep
7 the person asleep, how fast you gave it really doesn't
8 matter.

9 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Now, during direct examination you
10 were asked about Plaintiff's Exhibit 26, the package
11 insert. Does the package insert give information on what a
12 dose of sodium pentothal would be for the induction of
13 anesthesia for a surgery?

14 A It gives some approximate doses about -- these are
15 intended doses, doses that you would try to deliver. And
16 again, it's not for performing surgery. It's for inducing
17 anesthesia to a level where we can take control of the
18 airway.

19 Q Perhaps a step towards surgery, before surgery begins?

20 A The way it's supposed to work is before you undertake

21 surgery you first induce and then maintain for a period of
22 time general anesthesia.

23 Q And what is the recommended quantity of sodium
24 pentothal that the package insert suggests?

25 A Can you refer me to the --

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1 Q Page four. It's your exhibit.

2 A It starts off on page three talking about dosing and
3 administration. There's a long paragraph there and then it
4 goes into other things that doesn't relate to surgery like
5 treating convulsive states and procedures and psychiatric
6 disorders and so if you could just refer me to what --

7 Q Why don't you take a look at page four, what appears
8 to be the second -- I'm sorry, the first full paragraph,
9 the last sentence.

10 A Okay. I see where you're talking about now. It talks
11 about three to four milligrams per kilogram. And just to
12 clarify that, for a typical adult male who would weigh
13 around 70 kilograms, that would be an amount of about 200
14 plus milligrams, 210 milligrams, 280 milligrams.

15 Q Okay. And that sentence reads, "As an initial dose
16 210 to 280 milligrams of pentothal is usually required for
17 rapid induction in the average adult."

18 A That's correct, yes.

19 Q And for those of us who are numerically challenged,
20 that would be point -- .2, almost .3 grams?

21 A Correct.

22 MS. ANDERS: Your Honor, I'd like to object here
23 not to the substance of the cross, but the fact that his

24 cross is counting against plaintiff's time.

25 THE COURT: I'll be the judge of that.

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1 How much more time do you intend to take,
2 Mr. Hawke?

3 MR. HAWKE: I'm going to say twenty minutes.

4 THE COURT: I'll give you ten.

5 A I should clarify also, that that text there is
6 accompanied by a detailed description of how one assesses
7 anesthetic depth because these are just estimated initial
8 amounts. Like we discussed, these are intended amounts.

9 Q (By Mr. Hawke) For the purpose of surgery, not for
10 the purpose of execution?

11 A For the purpose of induction of anesthesia, whether it
12 relates to surgery or an execution.

13 Q And there's no instruction in there on monitoring
14 anesthetic depth for an intended dose of five grams, is
15 there?

16 A I believe the instructions for monitoring anesthetic
17 depth are just generic instructions of how one can do that.
18 I don't believe it's curtailed or restrained to any
19 specific dose range.

20 Q You said that the doctor found the sodium pentothal
21 to be hard to dissolve from which you concluded that the
22 sodium penothal was defective; is that correct?

23 A I didn't draw that as a firm conclusion, but it
24 certainly raises that concern. That's one possible
25 explanation.

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1 Q The manufacturer is Abbott Laboratories?

2 A It used to be Abbott Laboratories, but it no longer
3 is.

4 Q Okay. Has the manufacturer of sodium pentothal
5 recalled any ampules of sodium pentothal in the past three,
6 four years?

7 A I wouldn't know the answer to that question. I
8 haven't asked. I wouldn't be privy to it, I believe, even
9 if I did ask.

10 Q You wouldn't be privy to a recall of a drug you use
11 every day?

12 A First of all, I don't use thiopental every day, and
13 very few anesthesiologists do.

14 Q So you're unaware of any recall?

15 A I'm not aware of a recall of thiopental in recent
16 history.

17 Q Now, I believe you said that the doctor found
18 sodium --

19 A If I could clarify. Also recall is something that's
20 done when a whole batch of -- let's say the products of one
21 week's worth of manufacturing is all pulled back, not
22 knowing whether the individual lots are damaged or not.

23 But it is -- it definitely does happen with drugs. They
24 come to a specific hospital that there's problems with --

25 THE COURT: Doctor, if you don't know, there's no

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1 need to clarify.

2 THE WITNESS: Okay.

3 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Did John Doe One state in his written
4 interrogatory that he was unable to dissolve the sodium
5 thiopental?

6 A I think the word used was difficulty, there was
7 difficulty dissolving it and unable to dissolve the full
8 dose into the proper volume. He was only able to partly
9 dissolve it.

10 Q I believe you testified already that access to the
11 venous system through the femoral vein is an effective
12 means of obtaining access to the circulation system; is
13 that correct?

14 A When it's performed properly and the catheter is in
15 the right place, that's correct.

16 Q And you made reference to use of a needle during this
17 process.

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Now, how broad, how wide is that needle?

20 A Do you mean specifically in the Missouri executions?

21 Q Yes.

22 A I'd have to look at the photograph of the kit.

23 Q I believe it says .18 gauge. So how wide is that?

24 A I don't know in terms of the number of -- it's a
25 little bit narrower than a coat hanger, a little bit

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1 narrower than a coat hanger wire or a guitar string,
2 approximately.

3 Q But you're not able to tell the court how many
4 millimeters?

5 A I don't know how many millimeters an .18 gauge is. I

6 believe it is -- it also refers to the -- it may refer to
7 the inner diameter of the needle, not the outer diameter of
8 it.

9 Q Now, you state that piercing an artery happens
10 frequently; is that correct?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Dose that happen one out of two, one out of three, one
13 out of ten, one out of a thousand? What's the probability
14 of that?

15 A It really depends on the hands of the practitioner,
16 the experience they bring to the table, and on the
17 characteristics of the individual. But it's happened to me
18 many times. I don't want to put a number on it, but I'm
19 not at all surprised when I'm probing for the femoral vein
20 that I see blood that's from the femoral artery.

21 Q And when that happens, there's no remedy for that; is
22 that correct?

23 A That's not correct.

24 Q Oh, there is a solution to that problem. What is it?

25 A If there's a puncture of the artery and blood is

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1 leaking or being pumped out of the artery and collecting in
2 a hematoma, then there are a series of things that one
3 might need to do depending on how severe the injury is to
4 the artery.

5 Q Okay. So it is something that can be remedied?

6 A Generally, yes. It may require a surgical procedure.
7 It may require opening up the groin to close the injury
8 directly.

9 Q Now, on Plaintiff's Exhibit 18, where is that raised
10 ridge that you discussed?

11 A Maybe you should bring the picture back up. It's hard
12 to --

13 Q It's plaintiff's exhibit. I assume you have it.

14 Where is that raised ridge on that
15 two-dimensional picture?

16 A I'm sorry. Do you have the picture in front of you.
17 I can't see what you can see.

18 Okay. Right at the tip of the catheter is the
19 middle of that ridge. The ridge extends at about -- it
20 would be in the direction of 2 o'clock if it were a clock
21 face.

22 Q And that's raised?

23 A Yeah. You can see by the way the light is reflecting
24 off of it that it's -- even though I agree you're looking
25 at a two-dimensional picture, one's eye can render a

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1 three-dimensional interpretation of that. We can see that
2 his thigh there is not flat. We can see that the catheter
3 is closer to us, as it were, than his thigh is. One
4 interprets three-dimensional information based on
5 reflection of light and coloration from that image.

6 Q Is it bigger than a goose egg?

7 A What you can see there is smaller, but this again can
8 be the tip of the iceberg. I don't know how big the
9 hematoma is. It could be larger or smaller than a goose
10 egg.

11 Q Is it smaller than a hen's egg?

12 A I'm not a farmer.

13 Q Okay. Now, where is the blue you kept talking about?

14 A At the tip of where the white catheter goes in, there
15 is a bluish discoloration, and --

16 Q Where is that?

17 A You see the white -- the white part of the triple
18 lumen catheter, it's got a black piece of plastic on top of
19 it. If you go about the same distance as the length of
20 that black piece of plastic, beyond the end of that black
21 piece of plastic, there is a clear bluish-purple discolored
22 area there.

23 Q Okay. Now --

24 THE COURT: By my count, you should know you have
25 about three minutes left.

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1 MR. HAWKE: I appreciate that.

2 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Does everybody who receives access
3 through the femoral vein receive -- in a clinical setting,
4 does everybody receive a sedative?

5 A In some cases it's not possible to achieve peripheral
6 access because somebody has bad veins and so you have to go
7 directly to putting in a central line, perhaps a femoral
8 line, without having given them sedation, but it's a very
9 undesirable situation both for the patient and the
10 practitioner. It's far better to give both a sedative and
11 an analgesic, a painkiller, and that's done through an IV
12 line so one can titrate the correct amount to that
13 individual patient.

14 Q And people who receive dialysis, is that done through

15 the femoral vein?

16 A Usually it's done through a shunt that's usually
17 placed in the arm.

18 Q Before these people receive a shunt, is there access
19 for purpose of dialysis through the femoral vein?

20 A That's one place that can be used. Through the neck
21 or femoral vein.

22 Q And do these people receive sedation before that
23 happens?

24 A In my practice, yes.

25 Q Is that universal?

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1 A I don't know the full universe of practitioners, but
2 putting in a central line is a nasty and painful procedure
3 and it's appropriate to do one's best to provide sedation
4 and analgesia. Any of us in this room, if we had to have
5 this procedure done to us, would want to have sedation and
6 analgesia provided.

7 MR. HAWKE: If I could have a minute with
8 cocounsel, Your Honor.

9 That concludes. Thank you.

10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. ANDERS:

11 Q I just have a couple of questions for you, Dr. Heath.

12 Is it your understanding that when Joe Doe One
13 had difficulty mixing the thiopental, he testified he did
14 not have time to call the manager -- the manufacturer, I'm
15 sorry, and ask them about that?

16 A Yes. I think he referred to it being late at night
17 and they don't have time, yes.

18 Q Is that something that raises concerns in your mind
19 with respect to his judgment?

20 A Yes. It's not an exigent circumstance where one has
21 to do things at a certain time. One can call the
22 manufacturer. They have 24-hour hot-lines and can connect
23 one to somebody who can provide the necessary information,
24 and I have done that on a number of occasions.

25 Q And have you seen, or is there any evidence or data

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1 from Missouri executions from which it is possible to
2 conclude or draw inferences that a particular inmate was
3 sufficiently anesthetized?

4 A We have no information whatsoever as it currently
5 stands to know whether or not these individuals were or
6 were not properly anesthetized. We don't have toxicology.
7 They have been paralyzed so we can't tell. We just do not
8 know whether or not they received sufficient or any
9 anesthesia.

10 Q And is execution by lethal injection as currently
11 performed in Missouri a medicalized procedure?

12 A I'm not sure what you mean by the word medicalized,
13 but as it is currently structured if one wanted to be
14 humane, one has to first induce general anesthesia, and
15 that's a medical procedure. And as it's being done now,
16 one is placing a femoral catheter or perhaps a subclavian
17 catheter, and those are medical procedures.

18 The execution itself I think really distills
19 down to the administration of the drug that causes death,
20 the potassium. The other facets are things that are done

21 to set one up to do the execution.

22 Q And so it's your view that the induction of general
23 anesthesia, whether in an execution setting or any other
24 setting, is a medical procedure?

25 A Yes. Therefore, in that context this is a medicalized

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1 procedure. It's being done in a way that requires a
2 medical procedure to precede it.

3 MS. ANDERS: Nothing further.

4 MR. HAWKE: Nothing further.

5 THE COURT: Thank you, Doctor.

6 Why don't we take about a 30-minute break and
7 we'll resume. Okay.

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11

12 (Lunch recess)

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION

MICHAEL TAYLOR,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	Case No.
vs.)	05-4173-CV-S-FJG
)	
LARRY CRAWFORD, et al.,)	
)	JUNE 12, 2006
Defendant.)	AFTERNOON SESSION

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TRANSCRIPT OF BENCH TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE FERNANDO J. GAITAN, JR.
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

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1 THE COURT: Ready to go?

2 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Before we
3 begin we'd just like to confirm, by our count we have used
4 approximately three hours of time for Dr. Heath's direct
5 cross and redirect. Is that consistent with your
6 accounting, and do we have approximately three hours left?

7 THE COURT: I'd say that's correct.

8 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 We'd like to call our next witness, Dr. Stephen
10 Johnson.

11 STEPHEN JOHNSON, called as a witness on behalf of the

12 Plaintiff, being first duly sworn, testified:

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HELLMAN:

14 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Johnson. Would you please state
15 and spell your name for the record?

16 A Stephen Paul Johnson. Stephen, S-t-e-p-h-e-n. Paul,
17 P-a-u-l. Johnson, J-o-h-n-s-o-n.

18 Q And what position do you currently hold?

19 A I'm chief of interventional radiology at the
20 University of Colorado.

21 Q And degrees do you hold?

22 A I hold a bachelor of science and an M.D.

23 Q And what board qualifications do you hold?

24 A I'm a board-certified radiologist and I have a
25 certificate of ABA qualification in interventional

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1 radiology.

2 Q Could you please describe what interventional
3 radiology is?

4 A Interventional radiology is a subspecialty in which we
5 use imaging, ultrasound, CT to perform surgical procedures.

6 Q What types of surgical procedures do you perform?

7 A Actually I personally perform over 150 different types
8 of procedures and the common link is that we use the
9 imaging to accomplish those procedures.

10 Q So then you currently practice medicine?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q Where have you practiced medicine?

13 A Well, I trained at Northeastern Iowa College of
14 Medicine and interned at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron,

15 Ohio. Did my residency at the University of Cincinnati.
16 Did a fellowship training, additional training in
17 interventional radiology at the University of Colorado. I
18 practiced for four years on active duty in the Air Force
19 down in San Antonio at Wilford Hall, and then I've been
20 back at the University of Colorado and at Denver Medical
21 Center as well as Denver Health -- the VA Hospital in
22 Denver ever since.

23 Q In your practice, do you place central lines?

24 A Yes, I do.

25 Q And how long have you been placing central lines?

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1 A Well, I've been placing central lines since I started
2 my training as a radiologist in 1989.

3 Q Do you have a sense of how many central lines you have
4 placed in your career?

5 A Whenever you asked me to review that, we have a
6 database and I think since 1996 or '97 when I came back to
7 Colorado I've placed over 1800 central lines.

8 Q And how many of those placements were through femoral
9 catheterization?

10 A The majority that I place are through the jugular or
11 the subclavian, but a couple hundred femoral catheters.

12 Q Is that a large number for someone with your age and
13 experience?

14 A Yes, absolutely.

15 MR. HELLMAN: At this time I'd like the record
16 to reflect I'm holding Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 31, which is
17 Dr. Johnson's curriculum vitae. I'm showing that to

18 opposing counsel. I'm just going to bring this to the
19 witness, if that's all right.

20 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Dr. Johnson, do you know what this
21 document is?

22 A Yes, I do.

23 Q And what is it?

24 A This is my CV.

25 Q Did you prepare it?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Is it an accurate statement of your accomplishments
3 and degrees?

4 A I believe so.

5 MR. HELLMAN: I'd like to move Plaintiff's
6 Exhibit No. 31 into evidence.

7 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

8 THE COURT: Be received.

9 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Have you given testimony in a legal
10 proceeding before?

11 A One other time.

12 Q Did that case involve lethal injection?

13 A No, it did not.

14 Q What documents have you reviewed to prepare for
15 today's testimony?

16 A I primarily reviewed John Doe One or the physician's
17 deposition, and I did a review of the literature on central
18 line placement, and then I looked at my own database of
19 cases as well.

20 Q Did you review materials obtained in discovery besides

21 John Doe One's deposition, including photographs of
22 execution marks?

23 A Yes, I did as well.

24 Q And are you familiar with the manner in which Missouri
25 places femoral lines for executions?

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1 A Yes, I am.

2 MR. HELLMAN: At this time plaintiff would like
3 to tender Dr. Johnson as an expert witness on the subject
4 of central line placement, and femoral line placement in
5 particular.

6 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

7 Q (By Mr. Hellman) I'd like to ask you now if you
8 reached any conclusions upon your review, and what those
9 conclusions are.

10 First, have you reached any conclusion with
11 respect to whether it's necessary for Missouri to use a
12 femoral line to conduct executions?

13 A Yes, I have.

14 Q And what is that conclusion?

15 A The routine use of central lines for administering
16 medication for lethal injection in my opinion is in a large
17 majority of cases completely unnecessary.

18 Q Second, have you reached any conclusion about whether
19 Missouri's use of a femoral line creates a significant
20 likelihood that the inmate will experience painful
21 complications?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q And what is that conclusion?

24 A The decision to place a central line from a femoral
25 approach in my opinion increases significantly the chances

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1 of pain and complications as opposed to peripheral IV
2 access.

3 Q So then, third, I take it then you have reached a
4 conclusion whether the risk of painful complications would
5 be reduced if Missouri were to use peripheral access to
6 administer its lethal injection drugs?

7 A Yes, that is my opinion.

8 Q That it would reduce it significantly, the risk of
9 complications?

10 A That peripheral IV access has a lot less complications
11 and pain associated with it.

12 Q To what degree of medical certainty do you hold these
13 conclusions?

14 A A high degree of certainty.

15 Q Why did you choose to testify in this case?

16 A Well, I'm asked to look, because of my position, at a
17 number of legal cases. When I looked at this, I just found
18 it completely unnecessary, in my opinion, to go straight to
19 placement of a central line for all executions, if a
20 peripheral IV is obtainable. I just find it to be an
21 unnecessary risk and unnecessarily painful.

22 Q And may I ask what do you think of the death penalty
23 in general?

24 A I'm not categorically against the death penalty. I
25 think that -- and actually I see a lot of trauma. I see a

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1 lot of violence in my profession. I'm basically on staff
2 at a trauma hospital, the county hospital there in Denver,
3 and I actually worked on a number of the Columbine kids
4 that day. In my opinion, the death penalty should be
5 reserved for the most heinous crimes in this society, and
6 so I'm not categorically against it.

7 I have some concerns about socioeconomic status
8 and race and how it's distributed, and also have some
9 concerns that I know that there have been people on death
10 row that have been completely exonerated by later
11 evidence. So I think personally it should be used in very
12 limited circumstances, but I'm comfortable with it.

13 Q All right, Doctor. Thank you.

14 Now I'd like to talk a little bit about some of
15 the basics of femoral line insertion.

16 MR. HELLMAN: I'd like the record to show that I
17 am holding what's marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 32,
18 which is a diagram of the venous system of the human body.
19 I'm now showing that to counsel for the state.

20 MR. HAWKE: Do you have a copy for the state?

21 MR. HELLMAN: Yes, I do. Actually if counsel
22 doesn't mind, I'm going to put it up on the screen.

23 MR. HAWKE: So at the back end of the trial we'll
24 get copies of things we have seen?

25 MR. HELLMAN: Absolutely.

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1 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Doctor, is this diagram familiar to
2 you?

3 A Yes. This is a drawing, anatomic -- standard anatomic
4 drawing by Dr. Netter.

5 Q Are drawings by Dr. Netter relied on by experts in
6 your field?

7 A Yes, they are.

8 Q And do you believe this drawing is accurate?

9 A Yes.

10 MR. HELLMAN: I'd like to move it into evidence
11 as Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 32.

12 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

13 THE COURT: Be received.

14 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Doctor, could you point to where the
15 femoral vein is on this diagram using the electronic system
16 we have here?

17 A The femoral vein is located in the groin, as indicated
18 in the drawing.

19 Q And is that where the femoral vein is accessed if a
20 femoral vein catheterization is used?

21 A Yes, it is.

22 Q Based on your review of the documents in this case,
23 can you give us an overview of how Missouri performs
24 femoral access?

25 A Yes. John Doe's deposition indicates that he does a

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1 femoral access basically with a blind technique using a
2 Seldinger needle. In layman's terms what that means is you
3 essentially do a surgical prep of the area. You've got to
4 prep your central line kit which all takes time of course.
5 He provides local anesthesia and then he places his fingers

6 over the femoral, or what he determines should be the
7 location of the femoral artery. Of course the femoral
8 artery is pulsing so you're feeling pulsations on the
9 surface of the skin.

10 The femoral artery, nerve and vein lie deep to
11 the skin, several centimeters. And that varies obviously
12 depending on how obese the patient is. If you have an
13 obese inmate or patient, then it can be a number of
14 centimeters below the skin.

15 Then what you do with the Seldinger needle, you
16 feel the artery and then you aim medial to the artery, to
17 the location where you think the vein is, and you basically
18 put the needle down until you hit bone, pull the stylet
19 out. Then you hook the needle to a syringe and aspirate as
20 you are withdrawing the needle and then you get a flash of
21 blood. You can get a flash of blood if you're in the
22 artery. You can get a flash of blood if you're in the
23 vein. Obviously the artery is usually going to be brighter
24 and pulsatile and the vein is usually going to be darker
25 and non-pulsatile. If you don't hit the vein, then

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1 basically you redirect the needle, repeat the steps until
2 you get access into the vein. Then --

3 Q I'm sorry --

4 A I'll just finish it up. Then once you get blood
5 return through the needle, which is usually an .18 or
6 .19 gauge needle, you advance the guidewire through the
7 center or the lumen of the needle. That wire goes up into
8 the vein and then you pull the needle out and then you

9 advance the catheter over that wire and pull the wire out
10 for your access.

11 Q Is this procedure typically used to administer drugs
12 in medical practice?

13 A No, it's not typical.

14 Q Is the femoral vein typically used to administer
15 anesthetics?

16 A No, it's not.

17 Q And why is that?

18 A Well, there are a lot of other more readily
19 accessible, less risky alternatives. I predominantly
20 prefer a peripheral IV. That's the way we standardly
21 administer medications in anesthesia. And actually the
22 femoral vein for administering medications is usually
23 reserved for emergency situations, patients who, you know,
24 are having cardiopulmonary arrest. And you're basically
25 aiming at a large, deep structure, but, you know, it's not

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1 typically used for standard IV access.

2 Q What risks are associated with femoral vein access?

3 A Well, there are a number of additional risks as
4 opposed to peripheral IV access. One, you can hit the
5 artery. The artery and the vein lie immediately adjacent
6 to each other. You're basically using the pulsation you're
7 feeling on the skin to get the general location, but the
8 reality of it is you not infrequently hit the femoral
9 artery if you're blindly trying to get access to the
10 femoral vein. If you look at the literature, that's up to
11 17 percent of the cases.

12 With the Seldinger needle or the Seldinger
13 technique that he's using, you're actually doing
14 through-and-through puncture of the vessels. You're
15 putting two holes into the vessel. If you hit the artery,
16 you've created two holes. So bleeding occurs every time
17 you put a puncture into the artery.

18 It hurts. The Seldinger technique is designed so
19 you put the needle down until you hit the bone. And any
20 time you hit the bone with a needle, if you have ever had
21 your tooth numbed up when they go in with the anesthetic
22 needle and hit the bone, it hurts. So that's additional
23 pain, in my opinion, that's totally unnecessary.

24 The femoral nerve lies immediately adjacent to
25 the vein so they run basically in a sheath together and

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1 when you hit the femoral nerve, which also occurs a
2 significant percentage of time, then you usually feel very
3 bad about it, because what happens is it's like sciatica,
4 instantaneously you get a jolt of basically pain down your
5 leg.

6 Then there is the additional complication, one of
7 the reasons we don't use femoral access routinely, it's
8 right next to the scrotum. There is chance of
9 contamination, chance of infection. And then any time you
10 put a central line in the vein there is a chance of getting
11 a blood clot and that's a longer-term complication of
12 getting a deep vein thrombosis, but that's an additional
13 complication.

14 Q So, Doctor, putting all of these risks together

15 collectively, could you give a range or an assessment of
16 what the likelihood is that a complication would occur
17 under clinical settings?

18 A It again does depend on the patient's body habits, how
19 fat they are basically, and the experience, but 10 to 15 or
20 10 to 20 percent of the time, collectively, this total
21 complication rate can occur.

22 Q You mentioned a puncturing of the artery. I'd just
23 like to get a sense of how painful that is. Sometimes
24 people talk about a scale of pain from one to ten where one
25 is a trivial pain and ten is excruciating pain. Could you

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1 give a number associated with arterial puncture?

2 A Well, it's not the puncture of the artery that's
3 painful, but it's the bleeding that occurs. And depending
4 on the amount of bleeding, it can be quite painful. The
5 reality of it is when you hit the artery you immediately
6 pull the needle out and you hold pressure on the artery. I
7 mean, that's how you get bleeding stopped. And you usually
8 have got to compress on somebody's groin for 15 minutes,
9 that's standard. Usually we're administering some sedative
10 at that point and some analgesic, because it hurts. On a
11 scale, I'd say six to eight.

12 Q Six to eight out of a scale of one to ten for pain?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And about how quickly will the pain result with the
15 bleeding, is a long-term onset or is it quick?

16 A Well, the pain is going to happen immediately. The
17 bleeding happens immediately. You're pushing on the groin

18 and trying to control the bleeding, so it's an immediate
19 effect, yes.

20 Q Are there factors that would increase the likelihood
21 of a puncture with a patient?

22 A Well, I mentioned earlier how large the patient was.
23 That's one. The deeper the vessel, the more difficult it
24 is to accurately locate it by just palpating. Two, high
25 blood pressure. If you hit the artery and somebody has

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1 high blood pressure, then obviously you're going to get an
2 increased rate of bleeding. A lot of people who are either
3 going to go into a surgical procedure or obviously if
4 they're going to be executed, their blood pressure is going
5 to be up.

6 If you are resisting, you know, or if the patient
7 is uncooperative, you know, intoxicated patients, trauma,
8 whatever, in this particular type situation if the inmate
9 resisted at all, and I think it is very hard to immobilize
10 somebody, particularly if you're talking about the core
11 body muscles, that increases your likelihood you're going
12 to hit the artery.

13 Q Do you administer a sedative to your patients before
14 giving femoral catheterization?

15 A As -- I agree with Dr. Heath, yes. Typically we do,
16 unless we don't have a peripheral IV.

17 Q Is the medical standard of care to administer a
18 sedative whenever possible?

19 A I think that -- it's accurate to say that would be the
20 medical standard of care at this point, yes.

21 Q Do you use any additional technology to help you find
22 the femoral vein and avoid hitting the femoral artery in
23 your practice?

24 A One of the reasons interventional radiologists are
25 putting these lines in now is because we're using the

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1 imaging to increase the accuracy and the safety of these
2 procedures. We usually put an ultrasound device on the
3 groin. You can directly visualize the artery and the vein,
4 and you can watch the needle go into the vein in the large
5 majority of cases, which decreases the overall incidence of
6 hitting the artery, which is a big complication.

7 Two, we use the X-ray to watch the guidewire go
8 up into the correct vein, because there are branch vessels
9 coming off the iliac system, so you want to be sure the
10 guidewire is going into the correct location and you
11 advance the catheter and confirm the catheter position.

12 Q Does Missouri use this technology in conducting its
13 executions?

14 A No, it does not.

15 Q Does Missouri give its inmates a sedative before all
16 executions?

17 A I don't know about all executions. The five ones that
18 I was available to review, they did not, no.

19 Q Doctor, I want to cover briefly, just so we understand
20 it, could you give in your own words exactly what a
21 hematoma is.

22 A Well, a hematoma is essentially bleeding. It's
23 localized bleeding. And any time that you -- even hitting

24 the vein, although the vein is not under the pressure that
25 the artery is, you get bleeding. When the bleeding occurs

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1 in a contained space, that's called a hematoma.

2 Q Doctor, I'd like to now read you a bit of testimony
3 given by John Doe One in his deposition on page 77 of that
4 deposition regarding bleeding and hematomas. The question
5 presented to the doctor was, "So just hypothetically, if
6 you were attempting to insert a femoral catheter on anyone
7 and they moved and you ended up lacerating the femoral
8 artery, what would you do about that? Answer. It would
9 never happen."

10 What do you think of John Doe One's response?

11 A Well, I think he's incorrect. Number one, I think the
12 literature, it's not just my experience, but the literature
13 supports the fact that you do have complications hitting
14 the artery and getting bleeding occurs. And so
15 categorically to say it doesn't I think is incorrect.

16 Q Have you reviewed the photographs of the execution
17 logs that you were provided with in this case?

18 A Yes, sir.

19 Q Have you reviewed the photographs of the Timothy
20 Johnston execution?

21 A Yes, I have.

22 Q I'd like to now go back to what was part of
23 Plaintiff's Exhibit 18, which is one of two photos from
24 that execution. I'm going to put it up on the screen so
25 everyone can see it.

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1 Doctor, can you describe what you see here?

2 A Yeah. The first thing that is obvious is the amount
3 of blood in the field, and the blood that's in the field is
4 bright red, which indicates to me that it's oxygenated.
5 Obviously everybody has seen or had a peripheral IV put in.
6 You don't get this kind of blood-letting during the
7 insertion of a peripheral IV. And the fact that it's
8 oxygenated, and the degree of it, would indicate to me that
9 the artery was hit in this particular case.

10 If you look at the catheter, look at the blood
11 within the catheter, it's a significantly darker color,
12 non-oxygenated blood, so that would indicate to me that
13 that's venous blood.

14 And then around the site, as Dr. Heath pointed
15 out, and I agree with him, there's swelling, significant
16 swelling right in this location (indicating.) That
17 indicates to me that there's hematoma present.

18 Q And just so that everything is clear, I'd like to also
19 show you the same picture that Dr. Heath was looking at as
20 well. It's from the same site, the same exhibit.

21 A This is a different angle of the same patient, or same
22 execution, pardon me. And again, just so that there's --
23 again, there's a lot of blood in the field. It looks like
24 oxygenated blood indicating that this was arterial blood.
25 And then there's swelling around the catheter that

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1 indicates a hematoma.

2 Q And just to give you a chance to comment, I'd like to

3 read what Dr. Doe said in response to the question about
4 whether or not there was a hematoma here. The question
5 was, and this is on page 102 of his deposition, which I
6 believe is a question from his own counsel: "What would
7 you see or what would you expect to see if there was a
8 hematoma? How can you say there's not one here? Answer:
9 What they're seeing is the site where I injected by local
10 anesthesia. It causes a little blue mark. A hematoma
11 would be the size of a tennis ball."

12 Can you please comment on Dr. Doe's explanation.

13 A Yeah, to me that doesn't make sense because the
14 lidocaine that you inject is clear, number one. Number
15 two, the amount of lidocaine that comes off these central
16 lines kits is a small volume, anywhere from five to ten
17 cc's. Here you're seeing a lump basically that is
18 distending the skin, and you don't see that with your
19 normal lidocaine administration. And the blue coloration
20 indicates to me that that's blood, not lidocaine. So I
21 would disagree with his assessment of that.

22 Q I want to talk a little bit more now about what
23 happens if a bleeding or a hematoma would develop. I
24 believe you were here when you heard the colloquy between
25 state's counsel and Dr. Heath about whether or not a

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1 hematoma and bleeding were treatable. If a doctor
2 punctures the artery, you have said it will bleed. How
3 does one stop the bleeding?

4 A The standard technique is you hold manual compression,
5 significant manual compression, because what you're trying

6 to do is create more pressure outside that artery than is
7 from within the artery. That will control the bleeding.
8 Then you have to allow the body's coagulation system to
9 form a blood clot in the hole, and that takes time.

10 So the standard way of dealing with this, which
11 by the way is not 100 percent successful, is essentially
12 really to squish on the groin, hold pressure for 15, 20
13 minutes, and then restart your procedure.

14 Q Did you say 15 to 20 minutes? I'm sorry, I
15 couldn't --

16 A Yes, 15 to 20 minutes.

17 Q I'm going to read you now John Doe One's explanation
18 as to what he would proceed to do if a hematoma developed.
19 This is on page 78 of his deposition transcript and it's a
20 couple paragraphs long so please bear with me, and stop me
21 if you'd like to comment.

22 "Question: And just assuming for a second that a
23 hematoma developed, what would you do about that? Answer:
24 Reach over on the tray, take the knife that's provided with
25 the tray, open it and vent it and it would be controlled.

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1 Actually under this setting, the hematoma would actually
2 stop bleeding better than actually -- the medical treatment
3 would be to drain it, but in this setting the hematoma is
4 actually useful and it will stop the bleeding in a matter
5 of seconds by itself. So there's a medical reason why you
6 drain a hematoma, but the reason in this situation was the
7 hematoma would actually stop the bleeding. But we have
8 never and could not possibly see a hematoma in this setting

9 because of the small needles used. Question: So when you
10 say the hematoma would stop the bleeding, I really don't
11 follow that. Answer: As it bleeds into the space, it
12 increases the pressure around the vessel. The pressure of
13 the hematoma is going to stop the bleeding no matter where
14 the bleeding is."

15 I'll stop right there for the moment. First,
16 Doctor, is it proper procedure to open and vent a hematoma?

17 A No. No. I mean, you would not make an incision in
18 the skin and allow the bleeding just to basically well up
19 in front of you. That would be a totally inappropriate way
20 to deal with a hematoma.

21 Q And then I'm going to continue reading. The question
22 that follows immediately the passage that I just read says,
23 "Question: So the bleeding would stop on its own? Answer:
24 It would stop on its own."

25 Now, would the bleeding stop on its own if a

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1 hematoma developed?

2 A Highly unlikely. That would be a very painful way of
3 dealing with that particular problem, because essentially
4 you'd allow blood just to accumulate in the leg, dissect up
5 into the abdomen, and then what's he's basically indicating
6 he's allowing enough bleeding to create pressure in the
7 groin and that pressure which basically is what I described
8 as the physician usually applies, would -- that would be a
9 lot of blood in the groin. That would be an extremely
10 painful way of dealing with that particular issue. And
11 that is not how you deal with it. You don't sit there and

12 watch a hematoma expand and expand, generate enough
13 pressure.

14 Q Would it eventually --

15 A I mean, you could bleed to death that way, yeah, but
16 that would be a very painful way to go.

17 Q If the artery were punctured, could that femoral line
18 still be used?

19 A Well, now it makes it harder because the artery has
20 got a lot of muscle in it and it's hard to compress an
21 artery. The vein has a muscular wall, but it's a lot
22 thinner so it's easy to compress a vein. And it's not
23 under pressure. So as soon as you start having a hematoma
24 develop in the groin, it squishes on the vein and it makes
25 it a lot more difficult to get your femoral line in. So

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1 it's possible, but it becomes a lot tougher.

2 Q If the doctor were to use another site, say the other
3 leg, would the inmate experience pain while another site
4 was found?

5 A If there's continued bleeding, absolutely. I mean, if
6 your method of dealing with it is just to let it bleed out
7 and go to the other leg, yeah, absolutely.

8 Q I just want to read you again for your comment a
9 passage continuing on page 78 where I left off. "If that
10 happened" -- this is the question: "If that happened while
11 you were trying to get the catheter in for an execution,
12 how would you then get the catheter in? Answer: He's got
13 two legs. Question: So you'd go to the other leg?
14 Answer: Yes."

15 What do you take to mean by the two legs comment?

16 A Well, basically what I -- I take it as if they botched
17 up the first line attempt on the one leg, that they abandon
18 it and go to the other leg. But the statement seems a bit
19 crass to me, a bit unprofessional.

20 Q I'd like to talk now about a couple of the other
21 risks of femoral access. You described hitting the bone.
22 How often does that happen?

23 A Well, if it's the Seldinger technique, that's part of
24 the procedure because the femoral head lies just behind the
25 artery and the vein and you can use the Seldinger technique

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1 to get into either one. But essentially what you do is you
2 do a through-and-through puncture of the artery or the vein
3 and then when you hit the bone you stop and pull the stylet
4 out and then slowly retract the needle until you get blood
5 return.

6 Q So this happens every time under the Seldinger
7 technique?

8 A Yes. You can do a single-wall technique where you
9 just try to puncture through the front side and that's
10 usually what I use when I'm using image guidance. But the
11 Seldinger technique is designed to hit the bone.

12 Q And how painful, on a scale of one to ten in the way
13 that we described, is hitting the bone would you say?

14 A Well, it hurts. It hurts. I would say again in the
15 six to eight range, and this is part of the reason you give
16 some sedation before you do the central line.

17 Q Would a local anesthetic be sufficient to eliminate

18 that pain?

19 A Well, again, you've got to hit the bone to put the
20 anesthesia in so you can get deep anesthesia down on the
21 surface of the bone, but really when you hit the bone for
22 the first time, again I'll use that analogy of your tooth,
23 when the needle hits the bone you feel that and it's a
24 pretty intense pain.

25 Q And is this a pain that becomes painful immediately?

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1 A Oh, yeah. It's instantaneous.

2 Q And you mentioned another risk in terms of hitting the
3 femoral nerve. Could you describe what happens when that
4 complication occurs?

5 A Well, again, when you hit the nerve it's very
6 instantaneous. I mean, there's no mistaking it because
7 your patient will let you know immediately, because, one,
8 involuntarily they -- their leg jerks and they get a
9 shooting sensation down their leg.

10 Q And on a scale of one to ten, just so we have a rough
11 measure of comparison, how painful is that?

12 A That's like having very intense sciatica. I would
13 bump that up to the seven to eight range. It's a pretty
14 painful thing.

15 Q The complications we've talked about, are they the
16 type of thing that can be eliminated with practice?

17 A They cannot be completely eliminated, particularly if
18 you're doing all this blindly. Experience matters, there's
19 no denying that, but complications occur. There's just --
20 I mean, that's a fact of medical practice.

21 Q I want to read you another passage from Dr. Doe's
22 deposition, from page 89 of that deposition. The question
23 was: "So are there any complications that could make
24 themselves -- that could become visible after you have left
25 the execution chamber?" The answer is: "No.

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1 Complications can occur months and weeks later due to
2 long-standing problem, but the complications that you are
3 referring to that occur with the insertion, these only
4 occur on a person that is doing his first five insertions.
5 After someone has done ten of anything he'll never have
6 another complication for the rest of his life."

7 Do you agree with that statement?

8 A I categorically disagree with that statement.

9 Q In reading that, is it your opinion that Defendant
10 Doe One understands the risks of the procedure that he is
11 performing?

12 A No, I don't think he does. If he's making a blanket
13 statement like that, that sounds like denial to me.

14 Q Do you think his apprehension, or misapprehension if
15 that's the word you would use, of those risks would affect
16 his ability to properly perform and treat femoral
17 catheterization and any complications that ensued?

18 A I think that, number one, if he assumes he cannot have
19 a complication, then he's probably not even, first of all,
20 looking for that complication. And his description on how
21 he would address those complications is incorrect as well,
22 in my opinion.

23 Q Now, I'd like to turn to your thoughts on femoral

24 access vs. peripheral access specifically. I know we have
25 talked a little bit about it, but now I'd like to get to

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1 some specific questions. Could Missouri's drugs that they
2 use currently in their execution process be administered
3 through the peripheral veins?

4 A Yes.

5 Q With peripheral access, is the risk of painful
6 complications reduced?

7 A Very significantly.

8 Q How would peripheral access work?

9 A Peripheral access is basically placing the standard
10 IV. Your choices are in the top of your hand, in your
11 wrist. There are two large veins that are in your
12 antecubital fossa. You put a tourniquet on, put a little
13 bit of alcohol on the skin. You advance essentially a
14 standard IV. When you see a flash of blood, you advance
15 the plastic tubing into the vein. Hook it up to the IV.
16 One of the very first things you do is you hook that to an
17 IV bag. One indication that it's working is you see the
18 dripping of the IV fluid which indicates there's no
19 obstruction.

20 Two, it's very standard to flush the IV. You
21 flush it, manually observe it. No swelling, no
22 resistance. Perfectly good intravenous access.

23 Q Would you say peripheral access is less invasive?

24 A By far. Way less invasive.

25 Q Could a hematoma result from peripheral access?

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1 A The vein is running right beneath the skin. Most of
2 the hematomas that we're talking about happen when you hit
3 the artery. So a significant hematoma from a peripheral
4 IV, you might get a little bruise, but no is my answer.

5 Q Is it possible to hit a nerve with peripheral access?

6 A Very, very unlikely because these are superficial
7 veins. They're not deep veins, okay. And the deep vein
8 and artery and nerve run together. So with peripheral
9 access you're placing the IV in a vein that essentially is
10 running right beneath the skin.

11 Q Is it possible to hit the bone with peripheral access?

12 A Highly unlikely.

13 Q And are IVs, in general, administered peripherally in
14 medical practice?

15 A Absolutely. Routinely.

16 Q Are you aware of any indications in this case that
17 would make femoral access appropriate?

18 A The only indication, in my opinion, here that they
19 would choose to use a central access like femoral access is
20 they could not establish peripheral IV.

21 Q Do you have any reason to believe that that would not
22 be possible in this case?

23 A I'm not aware in this case that this patient is a
24 chronic IV drug abuser which would probably be the primary
25 indication in an inmate.

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1 Q I want to read you a few statements that John Doe One
2 has made with respect to peripheral access as compared to

3 femoral access and get your thoughts.

4 A Okay.

5 Q Question on page 86 of the Doe deposition: "And if a
6 complication occurred using femoral access for an
7 execution, would you consider changing back to peripheral
8 access? Answer: No. Question: Why not? Answer: It
9 isn't reliable or predictable or safe."

10 Do you believe that's an accurate statement of
11 the relative benefits and disadvantages of peripheral as
12 compared to femoral access?

13 A That's an incorrect statement. And do you want me to
14 elaborate? I mean, during my review of his deposition they
15 even admitted that they tried a femoral access in one
16 inmate and couldn't get it in because the vein was probably
17 thrombosed. So, one, I think probably one of their
18 reasons, and he may have mentioned this in his deposition,
19 is to avoid any type publicity problems and having to go
20 explain to the press why they struggled with the IV access.
21 You can struggle with central venous access. One.

22 Two, if you follow standard procedures, placing
23 an IV, checking it, flushing it, it is very reliable, very
24 safe, and you can rapidly administer medications through
25 it. As a matter of fact, every day in CAT scan, CT scan,

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1 you get a peripheral IV in and you can inject three to five
2 cc's a second for a total of 150 cc's. That's a big bolus
3 of contrast which can be a desiccant or basically can cause
4 sloughing of the skin. But that rarely, rarely happens
5 because they do standard techniques, put the IV in, check

6 to make sure it's an adequate IV. So I just disagree with
7 that statement.

8 Q In his deposition the doctor suggested that femoral
9 access would yield quicker administration of the drugs. Do
10 you believe that to be correct?

11 A Not how they're currently doing it. It makes sense
12 the larger caliber a tube, the faster a fluid can go
13 through it, but they have elected to connect either, well,
14 the central line here to eight feet of tubing. And by
15 doing that, they admit that what they next have to do -- to
16 fill up eight feet of tubing, that requires 10 or 15 cc's
17 of your injection, and then you've got to follow it with a
18 flush.

19 Even given all that, with the exhibit there I'd
20 like to show the court you can very rapidly administer
21 40 cc's through a peripheral IV.

22 MR. HELLMAN: At this time I'd like to offer
23 into evidence Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 33 which is a
24 60 cc syringe and eight feet of IV tubing. I'm now showing
25 that to state counsel.

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1 And now with the court's permission I'm going
2 to present it to the witness who will use it as a
3 demonstrative aid.

4 THE COURT: No objection?

5 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

6 THE WITNESS: So this is a standard peripheral
7 IV. That's the size of an IV that's placed in the arm,
8 typically. The rate of injection also depends on the size

9 of the syringe. If you used a five or ten cc syringe you
10 can create a lot more pressure than a 60 cc syringe. They
11 have done this to simplify their procedure.

12 And, Your Honor, I don't know if you have a
13 secondhand on your watch, but I just want to show -- this
14 is 40 cc's which is what the standard volume that they were
15 injecting. And if we take a peak at the clock, I'll just
16 show you that basically you can inject this within 30
17 seconds.

18 (Witness demonstrates.)

19 So even power injecting a peripheral IV, if it's
20 working, is completely adequate for -- for what they say
21 they need to accomplish, which is very rapid injection.

22 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Doctor.

23 Plaintiff would like to move this equipment,
24 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 33, to be put into evidence.

25 THE COURT: I think we did that earlier.

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1 MR. HELLMAN: I wanted to be sure that happened.

2 MR. HAWKE: No objection.

3 MR. HELLMAN: Very good.

4 Q (By Mr. Hellman) I just want to read you one more
5 statement from Defendant Doe One regarding the relative
6 virtues of femoral and peripheral access. Actually, I take
7 that back. It's the next to the last statement I'm going
8 to read. The next to the last statement is this, and I
9 believe it comes from pages 87 and 88 of the Doe
10 deposition. "Question: I see. And when you said that the
11 femoral procedure is safe, what did you mean? Answer: No

12 complications. I can't puncture a lung. Can't hit the
13 wrong thing. The vein is protected by muscle on one side
14 and the artery, which I can feel with my finger. So if I
15 can feel the artery with my finger and my finger is on top
16 of the artery, I'm not going to stick my finger. And the
17 nerve is on the other side of all of this, so nerve and
18 artery lacerations are impossible."

19 Again, I'd just like to get your comment in light
20 of what you reviewed in this case.

21 A Well, I think I illustrated for the court how that can
22 and does occur, and it certainly -- the literature shows
23 that as well. It's just not my opinion. You do in fact
24 hit the artery and nerve, and not insignificantly when
25 you're doing it blindly as they're doing here.

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1 Q And then the last statement I'd like to draw the
2 witness's attention to is on page 83 of that deposition.
3 "Question: And in making your recommendation, did you
4 consider the risks and benefits of femoral
5 catheterization? Answer: Yes. Question: And what risks
6 and benefits did you consider? Answer: No risk. All
7 benefit. Question: And what are the benefits? Answer:
8 All benefits. There's no way it can fail and no risk to
9 the inmate. Question. So there's no risk of
10 complication? Answer: Really, no."

11 Do these statements strike you as someone with
12 sound medical judgment when it comes to femoral line
13 catheterization?

14 A It sounds like statements from somebody who doesn't

15 understand the risks of this procedure. I think I have
16 illustrated, hopefully, for the court that it hurts. It's
17 significantly more invasive, and it involves risks that are
18 basically avoidable by putting a peripheral IV in.

19 Q And if I told that you Missouri was the only state in
20 the union to use femoral access, what would your response
21 be?

22 A My response would be that that -- they're in agreement
23 with me, that in the large, large majority of cases this is
24 totally unnecessary and avoidable.

25 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Doctor. No further

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1 questions at this time.

2 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HAWKE:

3 Q My name is Stephen Hawke. I'm an assistant attorney
4 general with the state of Missouri, and I have a few
5 questions I will need to ask you for cross-examination this
6 afternoon.

7 The demonstration you did a couple minutes ago,
8 that represented the injection through -- into a peripheral
9 port; is that correct?

10 A That was a peripheral IV.

11 Q Peripheral IV. And during your demonstration, you did
12 not make a comparison of a peripheral IV vs. a femoral IV,
13 did you?

14 A I did not.

15 Q Okay. And during the demonstration, you were -- I
16 assume the liquid in the vial was water; is that correct?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q And the receptacle of the water leaving the syringe
19 was a plastic bag; is that correct?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q I just want to make sure the record reflects that.

22 Now, are you familiar with the execution
23 practices of other states?

24 A No, I'm not.

25 Q So you have no knowledge --

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1 A I have no knowledge.

2 Q Okay. So you don't know if Missouri is the only state
3 that uses a femoral vein access?

4 A No, no, sir.

5 Q Just don't know. Okay. Now, during the -- during the
6 initial discussions you stated that you had been placing
7 central lines since 1989; is that correct?

8 A That's correct.

9 Q And during your practice, your radiology practice,
10 that is primarily the insertion of central lines in the
11 arteries; isn't that correct?

12 A No, that's incorrect. I place probably 80 percent of
13 the venous catheters for the hospital. Myself and my two
14 colleagues.

15 Q Okay. So you are a vein person, a person that uses a
16 vein?

17 A We use both, depending on the procedure. We place
18 central lines primarily for chemotherapy. We place central
19 lines when you require long-term access and they're going
20 to come back and have multiple injections, and we place

21 them for pretty much all the dialysis patients.

22 Q Dialysis patients. When a person receives a central
23 line access for dialysis, does that person receive
24 sedation?

25 A Yes, in my practice.

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1 Q And is that standard in your community?

2 A Yes, it is.

3 Q Now, you stated that when you use a -- or when you use
4 the femoral access, that there is a risk of hitting the
5 artery; is that correct?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q And from your experience, what percentage of the time
8 does that happen?

9 A Well, depends on the technique, okay. If you use
10 image guidance like I described, you still can hit the
11 artery probably one to two percent of the time. If you are
12 blindly sticking the artery -- or blindly sticking the vein
13 without any guidance, then that incidence has been shown to
14 be up to 17 percent of the cases.

15 Q 17 percent of the cases. And that is based on the
16 study in France back the end of 1990?

17 A I've seen I think several articles basically
18 documenting the risks of femoral venous line placement,
19 that's correct.

20 Q And I believe that 17 percent included all risk of
21 complications, not just hitting the artery.

22 A Well, we'd have -- I'd have to relook at that document
23 to accurately state that.

24 Q Do you have that with you?

25 A I don't know. I don't have it with me, no. The

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1 incidence of bleeding I believe, at least in one of the
2 documents I submitted, was ten percent, significant
3 bleeding, hematoma formation. Inadvertent femoral artery
4 puncture I think was actually 17 percent.

5 Q And that study from France involved critically ill
6 people, did it not?

7 A That particular one did, yes.

8 Q And in fact, all of these studies involve people who
9 are in need of this for some clinical purpose.

10 A Usually because there is no peripheral femoral access,
11 or the patient, yes, is in an emergent type of situation
12 which is the only real reason to put it in.

13 Q So those people who are ill are not really comparable
14 with a person who is condemned to death, are they?

15 A I'd say anatomically, yes, they're very comparable.
16 They're --

17 Q But the circumstances under which the procedure is
18 administered is certainly different.

19 A I would say yes, I would agree with that statement.

20 Q Now, during direct examination you were shown, or you
21 showed us the diagram by Dr. Nets, or Netzi?

22 A Netter.

23 Q Neter. And the picture that it showed of the femoral
24 vein, at least to my eye, it appeared substantially larger
25 than the other veins around it, did it not?

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1 A It is the largest vein in that particular anatomic
2 region, yes.

3 Q Is it -- it's bigger than a straw of spaghetti; is
4 that correct?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And is it bigger than a person's little finger?

7 A I would say in general that's probably pretty
8 accurate.

9 Q Okay. Is there another anatomical landmark that you
10 can compare it to, to say it's the exact same size as --

11 A It depends on the patient. You know, a small, five
12 foot two female, it's going to be significantly smaller
13 than that. A 300-pound male, it would be a little bit
14 bigger than that.

15 One thing I didn't talk about, it depends on
16 where you access it as far as your degree of actually
17 hitting the artery as well. If you access it a little bit
18 lower -- the artery splits into two arteries and the one
19 artery goes directly in front of the vein, and without any
20 imaging, you know, you don't know exactly where you're
21 entering or trying to enter that vein. So that's another
22 anatomic description that I didn't bring up earlier.

23 Q And I recall you discussing during direct examination
24 that the artery does have a pulse to it; is that correct?

25 A Yes. But it's continuously under pressure would be my

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1 point. Diastole and systole. During systole when the
2 heart is contracting, the pressure is significantly

3 elevated, say 140. During diastole, there's still pressure
4 in that vessel, and that's the lower pressure in your blood
5 pressure. 60, you know.

6 Q And the vein does not pulse?

7 A The vein does not pulse, that is correct.

8 Q Okay. When you described the Selman method of
9 doing this --

10 A The Seldinger technique, yes.

11 Q -- it involved running a needle through the front of
12 the vein through the vein; is that correct?

13 A Well, what the Seldinger needle is, it's a needle that
14 has a stylet and it goes through the central hole of the
15 needle, okay. And what basically that needle is designed
16 to do is to puncture through-and-through the vessel. Then
17 you pull the stylet out so -- in the center of the needle
18 is a hole, so when you pull back, when you enter the blood
19 vessel, you get a return of blood. That's one reason it's
20 designed for that.

21 The other reason it's designed for that is so
22 then you can put a guidewire through the center of that
23 hole which allows you access into the blood vessel.

24 Q Okay. And I believe you stated during direct
25 examination that femoral vein access was not typically used

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1 for drug administration or for anesthesia administration;
2 is that correct?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q But it certainly can be used for both of those things;
5 is that correct?

6 A Yes. And I would say would be one of my last choices.

7 Q And it is certainly typically used for medical
8 procedures, is it not?

9 A It definitely can be used for therapeutic procedures,
10 absolutely.

11 Q Now, I believe during direct examination you testified
12 that the -- that all the complications put together, the
13 likelihood of complications was between 10 and 15 percent?

14 A I think -- I gave a range. I thought I said 10 to 20
15 percent if you put it together, but --

16 Q 10 to 20 percent.

17 A But again, it is extremely variable. But if you look
18 at the literature, that would be your range typically.

19 Q And hitting the artery I believe you testified was at
20 17 percent?

21 A I said up to 17 percent in the literature. There's a
22 range again.

23 Q And hitting the bone you said happens all the time
24 with this technique; is that correct?

25 A It's a pretty routine part of the procedure because of

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1 the Seldinger technique as I described it.

2 Q So that is not a complication then?

3 A No, but it's painful.

4 Q And hitting the femoral nerve, you used the word a
5 significant percentage. What did you mean by that?

6 A It lies immediately adjacent to the vein, just like
7 the artery, and I don't think -- I don't think there's any
8 actual reported incidence of that in the literature.

9 However, when I say significant, I mean, you know, at least
10 10 percent of the time, just like the artery.

11 Q So it's not reported in the literature. What is your
12 basis for saying it's 10 percent?

13 A Because I have hit it.

14 Q 10 percent of the time?

15 A Particularly before we used imaging guidance. And you
16 know it. It's immediate. It's painful. But it doesn't
17 have long-term sequelae.

18 Q Now, with the lethal injection process, is really the
19 risk of infection a complication to be worried about?

20 A Only if there's a stay of execution.

21 Q And again, in the lethal injection context, is the
22 risk of a, quote unquote, blood clot really something to be
23 worried about?

24 A Again, only if there's a stay of execution.

25 Q So help me with my math here. Hitting the artery

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1 happens up to 17 percent of the time. Hitting the nerve
2 happens 10 percent of the time. But total complication is
3 10 to 20 percent of the time?

4 A That's -- that's my testimony, yeah.

5 Q Okay. Now, can you describe in the literature the
6 work that was done to support your opinion, the study that
7 has been done to support your opinion that puncturing an
8 artery constitutes a pain rating of I believe you said
9 6 to 8 on a scale of 10.

10 A That is my professional opinion from my experience as
11 a practitioner. He asked me to rate it.

12 Q Okay. So there's not any literature then that
13 supports that conclusion?

14 A Not that I brought to the courtroom, no.

15 Q Okay. And as I recall, you said that -- are the
16 people that you use the femoral vein access on, have they
17 been sedated?

18 A A large majority get sedation beforehand, absolutely.

19 Q So a large majority, or all?

20 A Well, only if we don't have a peripheral IV access,
21 okay. And that means potentially in a life-threatening
22 situation, or when we don't have or are unable to access
23 a peripheral IV.

24 Q So the sedated people, you did not ask them what the
25 pain felt like then?

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1 A It still hurts, believe me.

2 Q But you didn't ask those sedated people?

3 A Sure. Every time we do a procedure, our nurse is
4 documenting the pain scale. Are you in pain? What is your
5 1 to 10 pain scale? That's actually now a standard part of
6 conscious sedation.

7 Q And the nurse, when they're asking this question, do
8 they ask the patient to distinguish between the pain that
9 they have from the trauma that's requiring the femoral vein
10 access as compared to what you just did to them by hitting
11 the artery?

12 A I don't know, how you phrase that question.
13 Essentially when you hit the bone, when you hit the nerve,
14 when you get bleeding, you have just caused significant

15 pain in your patient. They're hurting. Our nurses are
16 going, Are you in pain, yes. What's your degree of pain,
17 6, 8. That's where I base my clinical opinion from.

18 Q And these are the same people that have come in and
19 are in sufficient trauma to require you to do a femoral
20 vein access?

21 A They're all patients essentially. Now, the reason we
22 use conscious sedation is because a local anesthesia hurts,
23 number one. Number two, it relaxes that person, brings the
24 blood pressure down which decreases the degree and, you
25 know, the likelihood of a complication, but it doesn't

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1 eliminate completely the pain when you hit the nerve, when
2 you hit the bone. And usually you titrate your medication
3 through the procedure to deal with these additional
4 problems.

5 Q I think I understand. Now, you say this pain is
6 immediate. By that do you mean within a minute, five
7 minutes, ten minutes, an hour? What do you mean?

8 A Well, we talked about a number of different instances,
9 a number of different problems. One, when you hit the
10 nerve, that's instantaneous pain, okay. When you hit the
11 bone, that's instantaneous pain. When you start bleeding,
12 that hurts. And if the bleeding continues and a hematoma
13 continues to expand, and if you sit there and watch it and
14 let it expand, that pain is going to progressively
15 increase.

16 Q Okay. And I believe you testified that there are ways
17 of preventing the hematoma from becoming a problem.

18 A Not always. If you're blindly sticking the blood
19 vessel -- the one situation you can't deal with is if you
20 stick the femoral vein above the inguinal ligament there,
21 so essentially you do your Seldinger technique, if you poke
22 a hole in the back wall of the artery that's in the
23 abdominal cavity and you start bleeding out, it's very
24 difficult to manually control that. There definitely are
25 cases when you send a patient to the operating room, just

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1 like Dr. Heath had talked about, where they have to do a
2 cut-down and sew up the artery to stop the bleeding.

3 Q And you are unfamiliar with that being necessary in
4 Missouri during the past five executions?

5 A Yes, I am unaware of that occurring.

6 Q Now, are you aware if Missouri offers the offender a
7 sedative before the execution -- during the period before
8 the execution occurs?

9 A From the documents that I looked at, it said sedative
10 offered, yes.

11 Q Now, this afternoon you were shown a couple of
12 photographs in which you said that there was a lot of
13 blood.

14 A Well, what I said was if you look at this field, there
15 is a significant amount of blood in the field. If you
16 compare that to the amount of blood that you see with a
17 typical IV, which I think most people in the room have some
18 experience having an IV put in, or one of their loved ones,
19 that's a significant -- that's a lot more blood than occurs
20 when you have a peripheral IV established. Absolutely.

21 Q And that appears to be a teaspoon of blood, two
22 teaspoons of blood, a cup, a quart; what number would you
23 give it?

24 A It's difficult to quantify that because you can see
25 the gauze is absorbed with blood. It's difficult to

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1 quantify that.

2 Q The gauze is certainly covered with blood.

3 A Well, it's soaked.

4 Q And I believe that there is oxygen in the air; is that
5 correct?

6 A Hopefully.

7 Q And that explains why the blood is red, doesn't it?

8 A That's incorrect, in my opinion.

9 Q You described the blood as being oxygenated?

10 A Oxygenated blood is -- obviously the blood that's
11 located within the artery is coming from the lungs which is
12 oxygenated. That's a physiological response.

13 This is instantaneous, and this to me indicates
14 basically when they pulled that Seldinger needle out, to
15 get this kind of volume of blood, that coloration, they
16 obviously hit the artery, in my opinion.

17 Q And when blood is exposed to air it's red, is it not?

18 A It -- different varying degrees of red. I'll give you
19 that, absolutely.

20 Q And in the catheter you described the blood as being
21 darker; is that correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And blood in the catheter has not been exposed to air,

24 has it?

25 A Most likely not.

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1 Q All right. Now, can you explain to the court the risk
2 that you explain to your patients when you -- before you do
3 a peripheral IV on them?

4 A We don't consent for peripheral IVs.

5 Q A patient does not consent?

6 A Absolutely not. There basically are no legitimate
7 risks for putting in a peripheral IV. I mean, you might
8 not be able to get it in, but we don't have patients
9 signing consent to have a peripheral IV. You would be
10 having thousands of consents signed every day. Absolutely
11 not. Because the risks are so minimal that it doesn't
12 justify a formal consent.

13 Q A formal consent. Well, let's phrase the question
14 differently. If you're talking with the patient and the
15 patient asks you what risks are there from a peripheral IV,
16 what will you tell the patient?

17 A I would tell the patient primarily it may take us one
18 or two pokes to get an IV in. If we've got an established
19 IV, there is essentially very, very little risk. There is
20 a small risk of extravasation which, because it's on the
21 surface of the skin, we will immediately detect.

22 I mean, you know, if you're trying to, in my
23 mind, increase the overall risks of a peripheral IV I'm
24 just going to disagree with that, because they're just an
25 essentially well-functioning IV that you can see sitting on

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1 the surface of your skin that poses very little, minuscule
2 risk for the patient.

3 Q And you do not inform the patient of those risks
4 before you do a stick?

5 A No.

6 Q Okay. And is that the standard of care that I can
7 expect in Colorado?

8 A I would think that is the standard of care,
9 absolutely. You talk about the surgical risk of the
10 procedure you're doing, et cetera, et cetera. But the risk
11 for a peripheral IV, no.

12 Q Okay. So from your perspective, there's no risk of
13 bleeding?

14 A Not significant bleeding, no.

15 Q I didn't say significant.

16 A You might get a few -- a tiny bruise. Nothing that's
17 going to require surgery or evacuation. The vein is not
18 under pressure, no. Significant bleeding, absolutely not.

19 Q And is there a risk of pain?

20 A Relative, yes. I would say the initial -- the initial
21 pin-prick, sure. It's a much smaller catheter.
22 Absolutely.

23 Q And there's no risk of hitting a nerve?

24 A I have never -- I personally have never hit a nerve
25 putting a peripheral IV in. So is there a chance? Yeah, I

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1 would say, but it's not a significant chance.

2 Q Not enough that --

3 A Way less than a percent.

4 Q -- you would inform your patient.

5 Now, would you agree as a general matter that the
6 more experience one has doing a peripheral IV or doing a
7 femoral vein access, the more proficient one becomes at it?

8 A I would agree with that. And I'd also like to state
9 that his statement that there is no risk is just
10 categorically wrong.

11 Q Now --

12 THE COURT: Mr. Hawke, I hope you're winding
13 down now.

14 MR. HAWKE: I am.

15 Q (By Mr. Hawke) Are there certain patients where you
16 would not advise them to use a peripheral IV?

17 A For which particular type of procedure? I mean, in
18 general, patients who are going to need a long-term IV
19 access, okay, for multiple infusions of chemotherapy,
20 you would not put a peripheral IV in that type of patient.
21 Dialysis, in which you require flow rates of 350 to
22 450 cc's a minute, obviously you're not going to do that
23 through a peripheral IV.

24 MR. HAWKE: If I could have a moment with
25 counsel.

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1 That concludes my questioning, Your Honor.

2 MR. HELLMAN: Just a brief redirect, Your Honor.

3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HELLMAN:

4 Q Dr. Johnson, is there any difference in the anatomy
5 relative to femoral catheterization between an older person

6 or a sick person and a prison inmate, the best you can
7 tell?

8 A The anatomy is pretty standard, yeah. There's no
9 change in the anatomy, no.

10 Q Do you believe that a prison inmate about to undergo
11 execution might suffer from high blood pressure?

12 A Absolutely.

13 Q Is that a factor that would increase the risk over the
14 general population of femoral access?

15 A Well, I -- hypertension definitely increases the
16 chance of getting significant bleeding, yes.

17 Q Would you call it a significant increase over the
18 general population?

19 A In a nonsedated person, I would say in a nonsedated
20 person, because you can generalize that to the acute
21 critical stage when you couldn't sedate somebody as well,
22 yes, that situation increases your chance of complications.

23 Q Are you aware if Missouri, when it offers sedation to
24 an inmate, explains the risks of femoral access and the
25 possible painful complications that could result?

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1 A I see no documentation of that, no, because they have
2 stated there are no risks.

3 Q If a severe bleeding were to occur as a result of an
4 arterial puncture, does Missouri have equipment in the
5 execution facility to properly care and remedy that type of
6 injury?

7 A Not that I'm aware of. If they had to go to the
8 operating room to repair the hole in the artery, no, I'm

9 not aware of that. But I personally haven't toured the
10 facility.

11 Q Just for the record, what type of equipment would be
12 necessary to do that?

13 A Well, you're talking major surgical procedure. You
14 need to have general anesthesia. You need to have a
15 sterile surgical field, as well as all of the sterile
16 surgical steps required to do a femoral arterial cut-down
17 and repair the artery.

18 Q Going back to the exhibits from the Johnston
19 execution, I just want to be sure I understood your
20 testimony. The color of the blood that is outside the
21 catheter is a lighter red than the color of the blood
22 inside. What is your medical opinion about why the reason
23 the blood outside the catheter is lighter?

24 A Because it came from a femoral source. It's
25 oxygenated compared to the venous blood.

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1 Q To what degree of certainty do you hold that opinion?

2 A A high degree of certainty.

3 MR. HELLMAN: One second, Your Honor.

4 Those are all the questions I have for

5 Dr. Johnson.

6 MR. HAWKE: Nothing else, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Doctor.

8 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, I apologize for this,
9 but our third expert, Dr. Thomas Henthorn's flight was
10 delayed by about two and a half hours. He landed in Kansas
11 City about 20 minutes ago and should be here within a half

12 hour, hopefully much sooner. We certainly apologize to the
13 court for the inconvenience in time, but I'm wondering if
14 you wouldn't mind if we could take a short recess to allow
15 Dr. Henthorn to get into the courtroom. We certainly
16 believe his testimony is important to this case.

17 THE COURT: Well, if it was important he would be
18 here sooner rather than later. I'll take a brief recess,
19 but I'm going to recalculate your time as well.

20 Thank you.

21 (Recess)

22 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, I'd like to call
23 Dr. Thomas Henthorn to the stand.

24 THOMAS HENTHORN, called as a witness on behalf of the
25 Plaintiff, being first duly sworn, testified:

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1 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BERGER:

2 Q Please state your name.

3 A My name is Thomas Henthorn.

4 Q For the record please spell your name.

5 A First name T-h-o-m-a-s. Last name H-e-n-t-h-o-r-n.

6 MR. BERGER: Let the record reflect that I'm
7 showing opposing counsel your CV marked as Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 34.

9 May I approach the witness.

10 Q (By Mr. Berger) Is this your CV, Dr. Henthorn?

11 A Yes, it is.

12 MR. BERGER: Plaintiffs would like to move
13 Plaintiff's Exhibit 34 into evidence, Your Honor.

14 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

15 THE COURT: Received.

16 Q (By Mr. Berger) Please state your position.

17 A I am currently the -- professor and chair of the
18 Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Colorado
19 in Denver.

20 Q And you have researched the pharmacokinetics of
21 thiopental; right?

22 A Yes, I have.

23 Q And you are also a practicing anesthesiologist?

24 A Yes.

25 Q How long have you been an anesthesiologist?

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1 A 23 years.

2 Q And about how many patients do you anesthetize a week?

3 A These days it's about 20 a week.

4 Q And you were on call last night too, weren't you?

5 A Yes, I was.

6 Q Until about what time?

7 A About 7 this morning.

8 Q Did you get any sleep?

9 A I got two hours.

10 Q And did you review any of Missouri's execution records
11 in preparing for this hearing?

12 A Yes. I reviewed the last six, I believe.

13 Q And did you rely on these records in forming your
14 opinions of Missouri's lethal injection procedure?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we would like to tender
17 Dr. Thomas Henthorn as an expert witness.

18 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 Q (By Mr. Berger) Did these Missouri records you
21 reviewed include for each of the six inmates the ECG
22 reports?

23 A Yes, they did.

24 Q And did you also review the interrogatory responses of
25 John Does One through Five?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q And did you also review the Crawford interrogatory
3 answers?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And did you review Mr. Crawford's deposition
6 transcript?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q And did you review the deposition transcript of John
9 Doe One?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Have you ever testified before in a lethal injection
12 case?

13 A No.

14 Q Would you be testifying in this case if you didn't
15 think there were problems with Missouri's lethal injection
16 procedure?

17 A No.

18 Q In your medical opinion, based on your review of the
19 execution materials provided by Missouri, does Missouri's
20 lethal injection procedure leave enough time for the

21 thiopental to take effect before injecting the potassium
22 chloride?

23 A No, it does not.

24 Q So in your opinion, do you think the lethal injection
25 procedure causes significant risk of unnecessary pain?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q Now, is thiopental one of your areas of expertise?

3 A Yes, it is.

4 Q And as you understand it, does Missouri use thiopental
5 in its lethal injection procedure?

6 A Yes, it does.

7 Q What is thiopental, briefly?

8 A Thiopental is a barbiturate that acts on the brain to
9 produce sedation and sleep or hypnosis.

10 Q And is sodium pentothal just another word for
11 thiopental?

12 A Yes, it is.

13 Q Where does thiopental need to get into the body to
14 take effect?

15 A Well, it needs to enter the brain.

16 Q Can it take effect before it gets into the brain?

17 A No, it cannot.

18 Q Do you understand Missouri's lethal injection
19 procedure to inject thiopental into the femoral vein?

20 A Yes, that's true.

21 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, let the record reflect
22 that I'm showing the opposing counsel Plaintiff's Exhibit
23 35 and 36.

24 Q (By Mr. Berger) Is this an accurate picture
25 regarding the human circulatory system?

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1 A Diagrammatically it appears to be accurate.

2 Q Is this the system through which thiopental must
3 travel on its way to the brain?

4 A Yes, it includes that.

5 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer into evidence
6 Exhibit 35, Plaintiff's Exhibit 35.

7 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

8 THE COURT: It will be received.

9 Q (By Mr. Berger) Please describe the course of
10 thiopental, starting when it is first injected. And
11 could you mark the path of the thiopental on the screen.
12 It actually will show up so we can all see it.

13 A Yes. It would be injected into the femoral -- there
14 it is -- into the femoral vein. It would then travel into
15 the pelvis through the iliac vein, which is here. And then
16 into the inferior vena cava and from the vena cava it would
17 travel up to the heart in the chest.

18 Q Okay. Thank you. Let the record reflect the screen
19 is now showing Plaintiff's Exhibit 36. Is this an accurate
20 depiction of the heart and lungs?

21 A Yes.

22 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer into evidence
23 Exhibit 36.

24 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Be received.

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1 A Okay to proceed?

2 Okay. Thanks. From here it would enter the right
3 side of the heart, specifically the right atrium. It would
4 travel down into the left -- the right ventricle which is a
5 powerful pump which will pump the blood out into the
6 pulmonary artery. Here the artery is marked as being blue
7 because the blood is not oxygenated. Then it goes out into
8 the capillaries of the lung.

9 The blood re-collects in these red vessels which
10 brings the blood back into the left side of the heart, the
11 left atrium. From the left atrium it goes into the left
12 ventricle and the ventricle contracts and would then send
13 the blood up the aorta into the arteries and very rapidly
14 after that it would be in the tissues of the body.

15 Q Dr. Henthorn, from the time the injection is first
16 started, how long does it take the thiopental to travel
17 this course and get to the brain?

18 A If you include the injection tubing, it's about 45
19 seconds.

20 Q And once the thiopental is in the brain, does it take
21 affect instantly?

22 A No, it does not.

23 Q Why not?

24 A It must move across the concentration gradient
25 Initially the concentrations in the blood are very high.

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1 It then diffuses into the brain tissue and the
2 concentrations in the brain begin to rise.

3 Q Please describe briefly the concept of depth of
4 anesthesia.

5 A Well, depth of anesthesia refers to interplay between
6 unconsciousness and a stimuli that might interrupt that
7 unconsciousness. At the farthest end of the curve would be
8 no stimuli whatsoever. Somebody may appear to be
9 unconscious, they close their eyes or fall asleep
10 spontaneously. Next up would be a stimulus of voice, a
11 voice command. Beyond that would be like touch. And then
12 various levels of pain would be moderate pain and high pain
13 and extreme pain.

14 Q So is it possible to not be able to respond to voice,
15 but to be able to respond to touch?

16 A Yes. I have to think about that. I'm slow after no
17 sleep.

18 Q And is it possible not to be able to respond to touch,
19 but to be able to respond to moderate pain?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And is it possible to not be able to respond to
22 moderate pain, but be able to respond to a higher level of
23 pain?

24 A Yes, it is.

25 Q Have you read Dr. Dershwitz' affidavits in the

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1 Johnston litigation in Missouri?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Have you read Dr. Dershwitz' affidavits in the Brown
4 case in North Carolina?

5 A Yes.

6 Q In those affidavits, what depth of anesthesia does
7 Dr. Dershwitz select as appropriate for a lethal injection?

8 A He uses for his modeling response to voice command, or
9 lack of response to voice command.

10 Q Do you think voice recognition loss of consciousness is
11 the correct depth of anesthesia to choose?

12 A Not for something painful.

13 Q Why not?

14 A Because there could still be a response to pain.

15 Q What depth of anesthesia would you select as
16 appropriate for a lethal injection execution?

17 A I would select silence of the cerebral cortex that
18 corresponds to an isoelectric or flat line ECG. It's also
19 known as burst suppression.

20 Q Why is burst suppression the appropriate method of
21 determining consciousness for a lethal injection execution?

22 A Because without having cerebral activity there is no
23 chance that there would be any conscience recognition of
24 pain.

25 Q So if someone has been anesthetized but has not

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1 reached burst suppression, is it possible for them to feel
2 pain?

3 A Yes, it is.

4 Q But if someone has reached burst suppression, is it
5 possible for them consciously to feel pain?

6 A In my best medical opinion, no, it's not possible for
7 them to feel pain, or experience pain.

8 Q Why do trained anesthesiologists monitor anesthetic

9 depth during surgery?

10 A To be sure that the anesthetic drugs are working, that
11 they're working properly.

12 Q Can we be sure that anesthesia is working without
13 monitoring anesthetic depth?

14 A In my opinion, no.

15 Q And in the execution context, what can go wrong that
16 can prevent anesthesia from working?

17 A Well, with these large doses, the thing that could
18 prevent it from working would be delivery, so it could be a
19 leaking tube, leaking stopcocks, things like that, could be
20 extravasation into the tissue instead of into the blood
21 vessels. It could be prevention of the blood to freely
22 flow if there were straps on an arm or something like that,
23 if it were going into a peripheral IV. Or the dose could
24 be incorrect, either prepared improperly or was a defective
25 dose.

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1 Q Let the record reflect that the screen is now showing
2 a photo of the executioner and doctor's view of the
3 gurney.

4 MR. BERGER: My understanding is this has already
5 been admitted into evidence as part of the video from the
6 tour of the facility.

7 MR. PRITCHETT: I understand that as well. No
8 objection to the still photograph.

9 Q (By Mr. Berger) There's a person lying on the gurney
10 here. The first of these photos shows a person lying on
11 the gurney as seen from the execution support room from the

12 view approximately of one of the plungers. Dr. Henthorn,
13 in your medical opinion, could a person untrained in
14 anesthesiology properly judge anesthetic depth given this
15 view?

16 A No.

17 Q Why not?

18 A Well, first of all, the individual is covered up so
19 many of the signs of late anesthesia, movement, et cetera,
20 would not be discernible with someone covered up. Second
21 of all, you can't even really see the facial expression.
22 And most importantly, there is an object in the way that
23 prevents you from interacting with the patient -- or the
24 inmate, sorry.

25 Q What is that object?

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1 A It's the window with blinds on it.

2 Q In your medical opinion, could a trained
3 anesthesiologist properly judge anesthetic depth given
4 this view?

5 A They would be extremely hesitant to because most
6 anesthesiologists would believe you could not do that,
7 and I believe that as well.

8 Q And this is also a picture from the execution support
9 room of a person lying on the gurney with a slightly
10 different angle. This would be the view of one of the
11 other plungers. In your medical opinion, could a person
12 untrained in anesthesiology properly judge anesthetic depth
13 given this view?

14 A No.

15 Q Would that be for substantially the same reasons that
16 you said before?

17 A The same reasons.

18 Q And in your medical opinion, could a trained
19 anesthesiologist properly judge anesthetic depth?

20 A No.

21 Q Also for the same reasons?

22 A The same reasons.

23 Q When we talk about the word pharmacokinetics, what
24 does that mean?

25 A It's the study of the timed course of drugs in the

199

1 body. Specifically, it would be the distribution of drugs
2 through body tissues, and the other would be metabolism of
3 the drug or its elimination.

4 Q Does thiopental take effect immediately?

5 A No, it does not.

6 Q And the affidavits you referred to above, does
7 Dr. Dershwitz' affidavits take into account the time it
8 takes for thiopental to take effect?

9 A It was not evident to me that he used those in his
10 calculations.

11 Q Have you read the transcript of John Doe One's
12 deposition?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Based on your reading of the transcript, how long does
15 he say it will take for thiopental to take effect?

16 A He says it will take effect within 15 seconds.

17 Q In your medical opinion, is this right?

18 A This is not correct.

19 Q Dr. Dershwitz testified in this case on January 30th,
20 2006. He said, quote, the typical time to lose
21 consciousness will be somewhere between 30 seconds and one
22 and a half minutes.

23 Defining loss of consciousness as Dr. Dershwitz
24 does as being unable to respond correctly to verbal
25 commands, do you agree that loss of consciousness might

200

1 arrive within a minute and a half?

2 A Yes, it's possible.

3 Q Would burst suppression arrive within one and a half
4 minutes with a five-gram dose?

5 A It's unlikely, according to my calculations.

6 Q Would burst suppression arrive within a minute and a
7 half with a two-and-a-half-gram dose?

8 A Well, actually -- you said the first one was five?

9 Q Yes.

10 A Let me backtrack. It would be likely at a minute and
11 a half to have burst suppression, but not with a 2.5.

12 Q And would burst suppression arrive -- strike that.
13 Would burst suppression within the minute and a half with
14 a five-gram dose still be likely if we considered the
15 reduction in cardiac output?

16 A No, not with reduction in cardiac output.

17 Q Do you consider reduction in cardiac output likely?

18 A Extremely likely.

19 Q And would burst suppression arrive within a minute and
20 a half with a two-gram dose?

21 A It's -- it's unlikely with a two-gram dose.

22 Q So while Dr. Dershwitz does recognize that thiopental
23 needs time to take effect, is he correct that a minute and
24 a half is the longest it would take for thiopental to reach
25 the necessary level of anesthesia to assure that the inmate

201

1 would not feel pain?

2 A No. It's too short.

3 Q In your medical opinion, is there a significant risk
4 that the protocol as carried out by Missouri causes
5 unnecessary pain?

6 A Yes.

7 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, let the record reflect
8 that I'm showing opposing counsel Figure 1.

9 Your Honor, would you like me to bring each of
10 the figures up to the witness that are on the screen, the
11 physical figures?

12 THE COURT: Are they the same thing that's on the
13 screen?

14 THE WITNESS: The same. I don't need them.

15 THE COURT: He doesn't need them.

16 Q (By Mr. Berger) What is this, Dr. Henthorn?

17 A This is a graph that first shows the course of
18 thiopental as it works its way from the injecting syringe
19 to the brain, which takes about 45 seconds.

20 Q How do you know what this is?

21 A I prepared this.

22 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer Plaintiff's
23 Exhibit 39 into evidence.

24 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

25 THE COURT: It will be received.

202

1 Q (By Mr. Berger) So please take us through the
2 thiopental's path through the body and how long each step
3 takes. How long does it take for the thiopental to get to
4 the end of the tubing from the syringe?

5 A 7.5 seconds.

6 Q And how long does it take from there to get to the
7 heart?

8 A 12 seconds.

9 Q And at that point, once the thiopental is in the
10 heart, what is the arterial concentration of thiopental?

11 A As it shows in this graph, it is zero.

12 Q And what is the brain concentration of thiopental at
13 that point?

14 A It would also be zero.

15 Q Does the thiopental go to the lung next?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And about how long does it take for it to go to the
18 lung?

19 A About 13 seconds.

20 Q What is the arterial concentration of thiopental then?

21 A Still zero.

22 Q And the brain concentration at that point?

23 A It's still zero.

24 Q Does the thiopental then go back to the heart?

25 A Yes.

203

1 Q About how long does it take to get back to the heart?

2 A Approximately another 13 seconds.

3 Q And then does it go to the arteries?

4 A Yes, it does.

5 Q And from there how long does it take to get to the
6 brain?

7 A Best guess would be -- not a guess, but it would be
8 one to three seconds.

9 Q Once the thiopental is in the brain, does it take
10 instant effect?

11 A No, it does not.

12 Q What needs to happen for it to work in the brain?

13 A What needs to happen is it needs to diffuse from the
14 arteries in the brain -- the capillaries in the brain, into
15 the brain tissue.

16 Q The graphs here plot both arterial plasma
17 concentration and brain concentration. Which measure is a
18 better indicator of when a patient or inmate will be at
19 burst suppression?

20 A It would be the brain concentration, or the effect
21 side concentration.

22 Q And does it take longer for the thiopental modeling
23 to run to the arteries or in the brain?

24 A It's more rapid in the arteries. It's longer in the
25 brain.

204

1 Q In your opinion, does Missouri give enough time for
2 the thiopental to take effect before the potassium chloride

3 is injected?

4 A No.

5 Q What knowledge did you base this modeling on?

6 A This modeling is based on modeling that was developed
7 in our laboratory, mostly by myself, and it's based on
8 experiments over a number of years.

9 Q How much experience do you have performing this kind
10 of modeling?

11 A I exclusively did this sort of modeling for at least
12 twelve years, and with thiopental for I believe about six
13 manuscripts. We also -- yeah.

14 Q And have you tested your models in the scientific
15 community?

16 A Yes. These have been subjected to peer review in very
17 good journals. They have been published and well-received
18 there. And in addition, this was the basis of my National
19 Institute of Health research.

20 Q And what has the response of the scientific community
21 been to your models?

22 A It was favorable. We got quite a good score and we
23 were funded for -- I was funded for eleven straight years
24 to do this kind of work.

25 Q How many people in the country would you say have as

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1 much experience as you do modeling the pharmacokinetics of
2 thiopental?

3 A If we're talking about the specifics of onset and the
4 intensity of onset, I would say it's less than six.

5 Q Do you know Dr. Mark Derschwitz?

6 A Yes, I do.

7 Q Did you teach Dr. Dershwitz pharmacokinetics at
8 Northwestern?

9 A I was the teaching assistant for the pharmacology
10 course where we had an intense experience with
11 pharmacokinetics.

12 Q Is Dr. Dershwitz considered an expert in the onset of
13 the effect of thiopental?

14 A No, he's not.

15 Q Let the record reflect that the screen is now showing
16 Figure 2 and I'm showing Figure 2 to opposing counsel.

17 What is this, Dr. Henthorn?

18 A This is a graph showing the difference in onset time
19 between simple loss of consciousness as defined by loss of
20 voice recognition to a deeper level of anesthesia.

21 Q And how do you know what it is?

22 A I prepared it.

23 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, plaintiff offers
24 Figure 2, otherwise known as Exhibit 40, into evidence.

25 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

206

1 THE COURT: It will be received.

2 Q (By Mr. Berger) What does the X axis in this graph
3 represent?

4 A It's time and it shows the first two minutes after
5 beginning the injection of thiopental.

6 Q And just to be clear, the X axis is the horizontal
7 axis?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And what does the Y axis represent?

10 A It would be the vertical axis, and it looks at the
11 probability of effect.

12 Q And what probability of effect are you most interested
13 in as an anesthesiologist?

14 A As an anesthesiologist, and actually most clinicians,
15 but we are interested in 95 percent probability.

16 Q Why do you choose 95 percent?

17 A This -- because it's, first of all, it's a standard in
18 pharmacology. We understand the mathematics behind it.
19 And it also means that virtually all, or the vast majority
20 of individuals will have reacted to the drug. So it's a
21 good way of calibrating a dose.

22 Q And what does the dotted line on the left represent?

23 A The dotted line on the left is -- represents the
24 probability of having loss of consciousness vs. time after
25 starting infusion at time zero.

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1 Q And what does the solid line on the right represent?

2 A Basically the same thing. Starting at time zero, but
3 this one is looking at a deeper level of anesthesia.
4 Specifically burst suppression.

5 Q And again, which depth of anesthesia do you believe
6 is necessary to assure that a person will not feel pain?

7 A The one represented by the solid line, EEG burst
8 suppression.

9 Q How much longer does it take to achieve a 95 percent
10 likelihood of burst suppression compared to achieve a 95
11 percent likelihood of lack of voice recognition

12 consciousness?

13 A It's going to depend on a number of things, including
14 dose. This was modeled with a five-gram dose, so you can
15 see with a five-gram dose it's only about 20 seconds
16 difference.

17 Q And how did you choose that amount of five grams?

18 A From the Crawford affidavit saying that was the dose
19 used in Missouri.

20 Q If you found out that Missouri used a different amount
21 of thiopental or that not all the thiopental that was used
22 was delivered successfully into the inmate's veins, would
23 that change the result?

24 A It would -- the only result that would change would be
25 moving the curve to the right, which would mean that the

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1 effects would come on slower.

2 Q Does this figure take into account the reduction in
3 cardiac output that might be caused by thiopental?

4 A No. This -- it was simply to show the difference in
5 time between the two kinds of effect of thiopental.

6 Q Is a reduction in cardiac output likely?

7 A With a five-gram dose, yes, it is.

8 Q Why did you exclude that assumption from this graph?

9 A This -- because it would affect both. And the idea
10 here was just to illustrate that there is a time
11 differential between loss of consciousness and achieving a
12 deeper level of anesthesia from the same dose.

13 Q And what effect does a reduction in cardiac output
14 have on the circulation?

15 A It would slow the circulation down.

16 Q And what effect does a reduction in circulation have
17 on when thiopental is delivered to the brain?

18 A It would slow that down as well, so it would take
19 longer to take effect.

20 Q And what effect does less thiopental in the brain have
21 on the time it takes to reach burst suppression?

22 A It would prolong that as well.

23 Q Let the record reflect I'm showing Exhibit 41 to
24 opposing counsel.

25 This is an affidavit submitted by Dr. Dershwitz

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1 in the Page case in North Carolina. Have you read this?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Let me read a short portion. Dr. Dershwitz writes,
4 "During an execution by lethal injection" --

5 MR. PRITCHETT: Where are you reading from?

6 MR. BERGER: I'm sorry. My apologies. Page 9,
7 paragraph 22.

8 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you.

9 MR. BERGER: My apologies.

10 Q (By Mr. Berger) "During an execution by lethal
11 injection, circulation is slowed or stopped immediately by
12 the administration of thiopental."

13 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer Exhibit 41 into
14 evidence.

15 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

16 THE COURT: Be received.

17 Q (By Mr. Berger) Do you agree with Dr. Dershwitz'

18 assessment that the thiopental slows circulation?

19 A Yes, I do.

20 Q Do you agree with Dr. Dershwitz' assessment that the
21 slowing would happen immediately?

22 A No. It would take time for it to reach the arterial
23 side of the circulation so it would take approximately
24 45 seconds to a minute.

25 Q Do you agree with Dr. Dershwitz' assessment that the

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1 heart could stop?

2 A In some patients with heart disease it might be able
3 to stop their heart, but I don't think it would stop their
4 heart.

5 Q Have you seen evidence of the heart stopping on the
6 ECGs you studied?

7 A Not in the ones from Missouri. It continued to beat
8 after the thiopental.

9 Q For the record, I am now showing Figure 3, Exhibit 42,
10 on the screen. What does this figure represent?

11 A This figure illustrates the effect of onset time to
12 95 percent probability of an effect as the heart function
13 decreases. More specifically, that the cardiac output
14 decreases.

15 Q And how do you know?

16 A I prepared this one as well.

17 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, I would like to enter
18 Exhibit 42 into evidence.

19 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

20 THE COURT: It will be received.

21 Q (By Mr. Berger) So would a reduction in cardiac
22 output delay the onset of thiopental?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Will the reduction in cardiac output delay loss of
25 consciousness?

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1 A Yes.

2 Q And will the reduction in cardiac output also delay
3 burst suppression?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Have you seen the timetables provided by defendant
6 Crawford to plaintiff's first interrogatories?

7 A Yes, I have.

8 Q Is it correct that these timetables represent that
9 each injection is typically given within a minute of each
10 other, or less?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And have you read Mr. Crawford's answers at his
13 deposition?

14 A Yes, I have.

15 Q And does he represent that Missouri injects the drugs
16 about as quickly as it can?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And have you seen the ECG reports from the last six
19 executions?

20 A Yes.

21 Q From these ECGs, can you usually tell when each drug
22 was injected?

23 A In five of the six it was pretty easy to tell.

24 Q And have you relied on the ECGs and these markings in
25 your analysis?

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1 A Yes, I have.

2 Q And have you read John Doe Two's interrogatory answer
3 stating that he or she marks on the ECG report when each
4 injection begins and when it ends?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Which is on page two, No. 17, of John Doe Two's
7 interrogatory answer.

8 A Yes. I was happy to read that because I already
9 assumed that was the case.

10 MR. BERGER: I believe this is already in
11 evidence.

12 Q (By Mr. Berger) And based on this testimony, these
13 ECGs, would you say that Missouri generally injects the
14 drugs extremely quickly?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Do you remember the Vernon Brown ECG?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q Based on the Vernon Brown ECG report, how long after
19 the thiopental was first injected did the potassium
20 chloride reach the veins?

21 A I believe it was 128 seconds.

22 Q In your medical opinion, with any dose of thiopental,
23 five grams or less, is it likely that burst suppression was
24 reached by the time that potassium chloride reached the
25 veins in the Vernon Brown case, based on those times?

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1 A I'm sorry. You said any dose less?

2 Q Yes. With any dose of thiopental five grams or less,
3 is it likely that burst suppression was reached, counting
4 in the cardiac -- the effects on cardiac output?

5 A No.

6 Q And from your analysis of the ECGs, is the Vernon
7 Brown timing pretty representative of the timing of the
8 injections in the other five -- the other four executions
9 for which we have records and markings on the ECGs?

10 A Yes, it was.

11 Q And if we look at defendant Crawford's timetables for
12 other executions for which we do not have the ECGs, are
13 some of the timings even faster?

14 A Yes. There were two that -- actually No. 7 and No. 8
15 were probably less than two minutes.

16 Q Let the record reflect I am now showing Figure 4,
17 Exhibit 43 on the screen. What is this, Dr. Henthorn?

18 A This is a graph showing when potassium is in the
19 veins, that's the shaded part, in relation to when -- the
20 probability of burst suppression occurring under different
21 conditions.

22 Q And how do you know what it is?

23 A I prepared this one.

24 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer Plaintiff's
25 Exhibit 43 into evidence.

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1 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

2 THE COURT: It will be received.

3 Q (By Mr. Berger) How much thiopental does this graph
4 assume?

5 A Five grams.

6 Q And what again does the box represent?

7 A This would be the time that thiopental was entering
8 the femoral vein.

9 Q And what does the left-hand side of the box then
10 represent?

11 A That would be when it first arrives in the femoral
12 vein.

13 Q So assuming that cardiac output is unchanged by
14 thiopental, what is the probability of thiopental achieving
15 burst suppression when the potassium chloride reaches the
16 veins in about one and a half minutes?

17 A It's approximately a 98 percent certainty.

18 Q And how can you see this on the graph?

19 A Well, that is where the left-hand part of the box, or
20 the left-hand edge of that box hits the solid line which
21 represents that cardiac output has no effect -- I mean,
22 thiopental has no effect on the cardiac output, and this
23 would be the probabilities of achieving burst suppression.
24 And as you can see, it's near the top of the box -- or the
25 line, so it's about 98 percent.

215

1 Q What are the chances that with a five-gram dose of
2 thiopental there would be no effect on cardiac output?

3 A I think it's virtually zero.

4 Q So if we assume that there is, say, a 25 percent
5 reduction on cardiac output so that cardiac output is 75

6 percent of the baseline, what are the chances that
7 thiopental would have reached burst suppression when the
8 potassium chloride reaches the veins in about a minute and
9 a half?

10 A That reduces it to -- it's now 75 percent.

11 Q And if we assume that there is a 50 percent reduction
12 in cardiac output, so that cardiac output is 50 percent of
13 the baseline, what are the chances that the thiopental
14 would have reached burst suppression when the potassium
15 chloride reaches the veins in a minute and a half?

16 A As you can see, these are very steep curves, and at
17 this point the probability is about two or three percent.

18 Q And if we assume that there's a 75 percent reduction
19 in cardiac output, so that cardiac output is 25 percent of
20 the baseline, what are the chances thiopental would have
21 reached burst suppression when the potassium chloride
22 enters the veins?

23 A It would be infinitesimally small.

24 Q And again, is it likely that there will be some effect
25 on cardiac output with a five-gram dose?

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1 A I think it's a virtual certainty.

2 Q With a five-gram dose would you expect that effect on
3 cardiac output to be big or small?

4 A I would expect it to be large.

5 Q So would you expect that the reduction in cardiac
6 output following a dose of that size would likely be
7 somewhere between 50 and 75 percent?

8 A It would be at least 50 percent, in my best medical

9 opinion.

10 Q And possibly more?

11 A And possibly more.

12 Q And assuming such a reduction in cardiac output, is

13 it likely that the thiopental will have achieved burst

14 suppression at one and a half minutes when the potassium

15 chloride reached the veins in Vernon Brown's execution?

16 A It would be very unlikely.

17 Q And once again, is the timing of the injection of

18 thiopental and potassium chloride in the Vernon Brown

19 execution typical of the timing of the other -- of the

20 injections in the other executions you have reviewed?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Is Figure 4 up on the screen, Exhibit 43, identical

23 to what was known as Figure 5 which was attached to your

24 expert report, representing the same thing?

25 A No.

217

1 Q What changed on it?

2 A Well, the main thing that changed was that it became

3 clear after reviewing the ECG records that the injection

4 time was not one minute as it had been on the record, on

5 the handwritten record, just writing the times that the

6 injection began and ended. I used those initially and it

7 was one minute.

8 When you actually look at the ECG it's almost

9 exactly 30 seconds. So I sped up the injection time for

10 these.

11 Q So does the new graph make your findings more

12 accurate?

13 A I believe they do.

14 Q And would it be fair to say that the new graph is more
15 in favor of the state than the old graph was?

16 A Yes, it is.

17 Q Now, what is the probability of burst suppression if
18 there is no change in cardiac output, in the new graph?

19 A I'm sorry?

20 Q Am I correct that you just said the probability of
21 burst suppression in the new graph, if there is no change
22 in cardiac output, is about 98 percent?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Do you remember what it was in the old graph?

25 A I think it was closer to 60 percent.

218

1 Q And in the new graph, what is the likelihood of burst
2 suppression if cardiac output is at 50 percent?

3 A It's two percent.

4 Q And what is the probability of burst suppression at
5 50 percent in the old graph?

6 A I believe it was also quite small, but I don't
7 remember the number.

8 Q But would it have been less than --

9 A It was less than two percent, yes.

10 Q And again, what is the probability of burst
11 suppression -- strike that. How likely is it that a
12 five-gram dose of thiopental will have a 50 percent effect
13 on cardiac output, or more?

14 A I think it's very likely.

15 Q Have you reviewed the chemical log provided by the
16 state?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Do you remember what amount of thiopental was
19 indicated for the Marlin Gray execution? Let me show it to
20 you. Do you remember -- in those last two executions how
21 much thiopental was used, according to the chemical log?

22 A 2.5.

23 Q And what effect will a reduced dose of thiopental have
24 on the time it takes for thiopental to reach burst
25 suppression?

219

1 A It will prolong the time.

2 Q And have you read the letter of the state admitting
3 that they used 2.5 grams?

4 A Yes.

5 MR. BERGER: Let the record reflect that I'm
6 showing opposing counsel Plaintiff's Exhibit 44.

7 Q (By Mr. Berger) Is this that letter, Dr. Henthorn?

8 A Yes.

9 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we move to admit
10 Plaintiff's Exhibit 44.

11 MR. PRITCHETT: I think it's already in the
12 record, but to the extent it needs to be admitted as an
13 exhibit we don't object.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 Q (By Mr. Berger) And you have already said that you
16 have reviewed portions of John Doe One's deposition?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And if we turn to that deposition, at page 21, he
19 says, "I'll get out five. I'll use 2.5." And at page 30,
20 he says, "I do remember when we used only 2.5."

21 Based on your understanding of John Doe One's
22 deposition testimony, has Missouri given a five-gram dose
23 of thiopental in any of the past six executions?

24 A No.

25 Q Can you tell how much thiopental he actually gave?

220

1 A No.

2 Q If we assume that he gave 2.5, let's -- let the record
3 reflect that the screen now shows Figure 5, which is
4 Plaintiff's Exhibit 45, which assumes a 2.5 gram dose. Can
5 you briefly describe what this is?

6 A This is very similar to the last graph. It shows
7 the -- when the potassium was in the vein in relation to
8 the probability of achieving an effect.

9 Q And how do you know what it is?

10 A I prepared this one.

11 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer Plaintiff's
12 Exhibit 45 into evidence.

13 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

14 THE COURT: Received.

15 Q (By Mr. Berger) And again, what amount of thiopental
16 does this figure assume?

17 A 2.5 grams.

18 Q So assuming this 2.5 grams of thiopental and that
19 cardiac output is unchanged by thiopental, what is the
20 probability of thiopental achieving burst suppression in

21 1.5 minutes?

22 A It's about 75 percent.

23 Q If we then assume 25 percent reduction in cardiac
24 output, what are the chances it would have gotten to burst
25 suppression at that point?

221

1 A It's about seven or eight percent.

2 Q And with a 50 percent reduction?

3 A It's less than one percent.

4 Q And with a 75 percent reduction?

5 A Again, it's infinitesimally small.

6 Q And is it likely that there will be some effect on
7 cardiac output with a 2.5 gram dose?

8 A Yes. This is still a very large dose. Again -- not
9 again, but these doses are not well-studied. Clinical
10 doses are well-studied and those produce a reduction in
11 cardiac output. So there is every probability that there
12 will be a substantial reduction in cardiac output from 2.5.

13 Q And roughly what change in cardiac output do you
14 consider most likely with a 2.5 gram dose?

15 A Based on what I have observed with thiopental in
16 the past I would say 50 percent. It's very likely, and
17 conservative.

18 Q And with any of those scenarios with reduced cardiac
19 output, is it likely that the 2.5 grams of thiopental here
20 would have achieved burst suppression at one and a half
21 minutes when the potassium chloride was injected -- entered
22 Vernon Brown's veins?

23 A No.

24 Q Let the record reflect the screen now shows
25 Plaintiff's Exhibit 46, which is Figure 6.

222

1 Please describe what this is.

2 A Almost identical to the last graph. It again shows
3 when the potassium is in the vein in relation to the
4 probability of effect.

5 Q And how do you know what this is?

6 A I prepared this one as well.

7 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we offer Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 46 into evidence.

9 MR. PRITCHETT: No objection.

10 THE COURT: It will be received.

11 Q (By Mr. Berger) And based on your reading of John Doe
12 One's deposition transcript, do you think he actually used
13 2.5 grams?

14 A I think it would be very difficult, based on his
15 description of what he was doing, to actually get the full
16 content of every syringe withdrawn and put into another
17 syringe, so I think it's probably less.

18 Q So if we assume a two-gram dose, what are the chances
19 that the thiopental would have achieved burst suppression
20 before the potassium chloride reaches the veins at 1.5
21 minutes?

22 A Again, with no change in cardiac output, the
23 probability has now fallen to just under 40 percent.

24 Q And with a two-gram dose, do you consider a change in
25 cardiac output likely?

223

1 A Yes.

2 Q And with a change in cardiac output, with a 25 percent
3 change in cardiac output, what would be the likelihood of
4 burst suppression?

5 A It's about three percent.

6 Q And with a 50 percent change?

7 A It's way less than one percent.

8 Q And with a 75 percent change?

9 A Again it's -- it has actually fallen to even more than
10 infinitesimal.

11 Q And what change in cardiac output would you expect to
12 be most likely with a two-gram dose?

13 A Again, I don't think it would be substantially
14 different from the 2.5 gram dose. I think it would be
15 in the neighborhood of 50 percent.

16 Q And is the dose of thiopental necessary to model the
17 onset effect of thiopental?

18 A Yes.

19 Q So if you don't know the dose, can you know the time
20 it takes effect?

21 A No. You will know that -- regardless of dose, you
22 will know when it reaches the arteries, but the next step,
23 which is the diffusion into the brain, is dependent on
24 concentration, so a bigger dose produces higher
25 concentrations so it would speed things up, and a smaller

224

1 dose would slow things down.

2 Q So assuming that whoever is mixing the thiopental does

3 not know exactly what amount he is mixing, can that person
4 know when the thiopental will take effect?

5 A It's unlikely.

6 Q And even if a person knows how much he's mixing, if
7 the full amount of the thiopental that has been mixed is
8 not delivered successfully into the person's veins, is it
9 possible to know when the thiopental will take effect?

10 A No.

11 Q Assume that the thiopental did not achieve burst
12 suppression and that a patient or an inmate suffered pain,
13 let's assume it's an inmate, how likely is it that a
14 participant in an execution would be able to see that pain?

15 A I think it would be unlikely.

16 Q What effect might thiopental have that could prevent
17 an onlooker from being able to see an inmate's pain?

18 A Well, already before the pain would arrive, they would
19 have been relaxed and their ability to respond would be
20 curtailed.

21 Q Will it be harder for a witness to see the pain if
22 they're looking through a window from another room?

23 A Yes, I believe so.

24 Q Would it be harder to see the pain if there's a sheet
25 covering the inmate?

225

1 A Yes.

2 Q And would it be harder to see the pain if there's a
3 venetian blind partially drawn over the window?

4 A Yes to that as well.

5 Q In making the models that we have just reviewed,

6 Dr. Henthorn, do you have to make certain assumptions?
7 A Yes.
8 Q Are these assumptions discussed in your expert report?
9 A Yes, they are.
10 Q Did you choose eight feet of tubing?
11 A Yes.
12 Q Why did you choose that amount of tubing?
13 A That was based on the report from the Department of
14 Corrections.
15 Q And did you choose seven and a half second mean
16 transit time to reach the patient?
17 A Yes.
18 Q And why did you choose seven and a half second mean
19 transit time?
20 A Well, the dead space, again from the report from
21 Missouri, was that the dead space of that eight feet of
22 tubing was 15 milliliters. So dividing the 15 milliliters
23 by two milliliters (sic) per second would give you a mean
24 time for injection would be 7.5.
25 Q And did you choose an injection speed of two cc's per

226

1 second?

2 A I did in these revised graphs, yes.

3 Q And why did you choose that injection speed?

4 A Well, because that's what Mr. Crawford said, first of
5 all. And second, if you look at the ECG and look at the
6 timing as marked from the beginning of the injection to the
7 end of the injection, it is remarkably close to the time of
8 two cc's per second. A 60 cc syringe is emptied in about

9 30 seconds.

10 Q And did you choose a 12-second mean transit time from
11 the femoral vein to the heart?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And why did you choose that?

14 A That was based on the diameter of the vena cava
15 and the length of the vena cava giving a volume of
16 approximately 600 cc's. And that half of the cardiac
17 output would be going through the vena cava. You have to
18 realize that the vena cava picks up speed as it gets closer
19 to the heart, so it would probably be less than half the
20 cardiac output at the beginning and more than half at the
21 end, but on average it should be about half.

22 Q And do you assume normal cardiac output of five liters
23 per minute?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Why?

227

1 A This is based on my own experiments. When we looked
2 at individuals very carefully in pharmacokinetic studies,
3 this was a resting male around 80 kilos has a cardiac
4 output at rest of approximately five liters per minute.

5 Q And you assumed about an 80, 82 kilogram healthy male
6 inmate?

7 A Yes. My experiment actually I believe was 82 and I
8 think Dr. Dershwitz is assuming 80 kilos. There would be
9 really no difference between the two.

10 Q And do you assume essential blood volume of 2.5
11 liters?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Why do you assume that blood volume?

14 A Approximately a quarter to a third or even half of the
15 blood volume can be in the thorax. And certainly when
16 someone is recumbent that number goes higher.

17 The other thing you have to understand is when
18 I am modeling thiopental, it's more than just the blood
19 volume. There would be an interaction of the drug. It
20 diffuses into the lung on its passage through the lung and
21 it would pick up an additional volume there, so there's an
22 additional 500 cc's.

23 Q So in your medical opinion, does Missouri's injection
24 times allow enough time for the thiopental to take full
25 effect before the potassium chloride enters the veins?

228

1 A No.

2 Q And in your medical opinion, do you think the lethal
3 injection procedure causes significant risk of unnecessary
4 pain?

5 A Yes, I do.

6 Q And if Missouri waited another two minutes after
7 injecting the thiopental before injecting the next drug,
8 could it substantially reduce the risk of pain?

9 A Very much so, yes.

10 Q And are there any drawbacks in waiting this additional
11 time to allow the thiopental to take effect?

12 A None that I can think of.

13 Q In your work as an anesthesiologist, do you place
14 central lines?

15 A Yes, I do.

16 Q And in your work as an anesthesiologist, do you make
17 decisions about whether to place a central line or
18 peripheral line?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Are you aware that Missouri injects these chemicals
21 through a femoral line?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Would you ever select a femoral line as your first
24 option for injecting these drugs if the peripheral veins
25 were not compromised?

229

1 A No, I would not.

2 Q Does the femoral line create the possibility of more
3 complications than the peripheral line?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Can these complications be painful?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Can some of these complications be very painful?

8 A I believe so, yes.

9 Q How often do these complications arise with femoral
10 insertions?

11 A I would say slightly less than 20 percent.

12 Q Do the drugs take effect much quicker if they are
13 injected into a femoral line rather than a peripheral line?

14 A No.

15 Q So does the femoral line injection make the thiopental
16 take effect more quickly than with a peripheral injection
17 so that burst suppression will be achieved before the

18 injection of the potassium chloride?

19 A No, not substantially.

20 MR. BERGER: One moment, Your Honor.

21 Let the record reflect that the photos from
22 Plaintiff's Exhibit 18 are on the screen.

23 Q (By Mr. Berger) Can you please describe what you see,
24 Dr. Henthorn?

25 A I believe this is a photo from the Johnston execution

230

1 and what I see is a line in the groin, in the right groin,
2 with quite a lot of blood on the field. If you notice
3 there's -- on the left there's a sponge that's almost
4 completely soaked, and it's soaked in bright red blood.
5 Also you note above the tip of catheter some bluish
6 discoloration and some swelling.

7 Q What do you think happened here, Dr. Henthorn?

8 A It's impossible to know for sure just by looking at
9 this one photo, but my best guess is that perhaps the
10 artery was punctured and the blood coming back was bright
11 red, and in a large amount, because the arteries are under
12 high pressure.

13 Q And what are you basing this view on?

14 A Experience, having seen arteries punctured in the
15 past.

16 Q Could this be painful?

17 A Yes, it can be painful.

18 Q Is this the kind of complication -- is this kind of
19 complication unusual with a femoral line insertion?

20 A I think this is one of the more common complications,

21 because the femoral vein and the femoral artery run right
22 next to each other. It's very difficult to always be
23 certain when you're placing a needle in the groin that
24 you're going to hit the right structure.

25 Q Is this kind of complication possible with a

231

1 peripheral line insertion?

2 A No.

3 Q Do you see a hematoma in this picture?

4 A Well, I believe so. As I say, just to -- above the
5 catheter insertion site there is some purplish
6 discoloration and some swelling.

7 Q What makes you think that's a hematoma?

8 A Well, it's right where you put the needle, so it would
9 be likely that this would be a hematoma and not something
10 else, because if there was a hematoma it would be right
11 there. It's also because -- what you usually see with a
12 hematoma is some discoloration under the skin and some
13 swelling. This seems to have both.

14 Q And in addition to the complications you have just
15 discussed as probable in the Johnston photo, what other
16 complications can arise from a femoral line insertion?

17 A Well, first of all, I want to say I'm not an expert on
18 femoral line insertion. Most of my insertions are higher
19 up in the neck or the subclavian. But as with any line
20 placement, there's the potential for hitting an artery and
21 causing a hematoma. There is potential for hitting the
22 vein and going through the back wall and causing a
23 hematoma. That can be what this is from as well. Less

24 likely would be hitting the femoral nerve. And as you can
25 also tell, we're very close, within an inch or two, of the

232

1 pelvis, and it's possible to place the needle into the
2 pelvic structure such as the bladder, et cetera.

3 Q And once again, how likely collectively are these
4 complications?

5 A I believe there's a paper in -- well, I have seen a
6 paper in the Journal of American Medical Association by
7 More - ray (phonetic spelling), and it's approximately one
8 in six.

9 Q And are these complications painful?

10 A Some of them can be. I mean, a hematoma is going to
11 cause pain just from the swelling alone.

12 Q And are some of them very painful?

13 A I have seen people require treatment of these
14 hematomas with painkillers. So I would say that's pretty
15 painful.

16 MR. BERGER: One moment.

17 No further questions, Your Honor.

18 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

19 Q Good afternoon, Doctor. My Name is Mike Pritchett.
20 I'm here representing the state in this case.

21 A Okay. Thank you.

22 Q I'd like to start out, if I could, with some areas
23 where I think you will agree with Dr. Dershwitz' position.
24 Don't you agree that the administration of five grams of
25 thiopental will produce unconsciousness in any human being

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1 for many hours?

2 A I would agree with the first part of the statement,
3 in virtually every individual. And I would take some
4 exception with the duration, if you're defining it based
5 on burst suppression vs. some lesser definition of
6 consciousness, unconsciousness, but otherwise, yes, for
7 a very long time.

8 Q Could you tell us how long you think burst suppression
9 would last with a five-gram dose of thiopental?

10 A Well, one way to approach that very quickly is knowing
11 the half-life of the drug is six hours and you're looking
12 at two decrements of half life. Of course, there's some
13 redistribution going on as well. So in my best opinion
14 without having performed the simulation, I don't have a
15 computer in front of me so I don't know, but I would say it
16 would be 45 minutes at least.

17 Q Wouldn't you agree also that a dose down even as low
18 as 1.67 grams will produce a state of deep unconsciousness
19 in almost all people?

20 A Yes, it would produce even burst suppression in almost
21 everyone.

22 Q And is it correct to say that you have no argument
23 with the affidavit that's been provided by Dr. Dershwitz
24 about the time frame of about four minutes after the
25 administration of the thiopental until -- well, through the

234

1 next five hours?

2 A Yes, except for the definition of unconsciousness.

3 That's going to affect the calculation slightly.

4 Q Okay. But as a general matter, the --

5 A As a general matter, he did a good job on that.

6 Q So your conclusion, I think, is that an administration
7 of five grams of thiopental will obtain burst suppression
8 after what amount of time? Let's assume your best guess of
9 50 degree cardiac output reduction.

10 A Well, again, I would like to refer to the graph, but
11 I'm going to say that it was just under -- around two
12 minutes.

13 Q Would you like to see the graph?

14 A That would be great. Thank you.

15 Q I'm referring to what I think is Figure 4.

16 MR. PRITCHETT: If we could either get a copy for
17 the doctor or call it up on the machine. It's the one
18 titled, I think, onset of thiopental effect, probability of
19 effect, 5.0 gram dose.

20 Q And we're looking at -- I'm looking at your view as to
21 when burst suppression, the 95 percent chance of burst
22 suppression, is likely to happen on your best guess with 50
23 percent cardiac output reduction.

24 A It looks like about a minute and 40 seconds.

25 Q And in order for us to trace that, we would go to the

235

1 line that equates to the 50 percent baseline, which is the
2 third one from the right?

3 A Correct.

4 Q And we would just follow up that line until we hit
5 95 percent on the left axis. Am I right?

6 A You're right.

7 Q Thank you. And then with the five-gram dose of
8 thiopental, we're presuming burst suppression would last,
9 did you tell us 45 minutes at least?

10 A At a minimum.

11 Q At a minimum?

12 A I think it was probably closer to Dr. Dershwitz'
13 calculations.

14 Q You have chosen burst suppression as the level of
15 unconsciousness that should be achieved before the
16 administration of potassium chloride, am I correct?

17 A Correct.

18 Q Burst suppression is a very deep state of
19 unconsciousness, isn't it?

20 A Yes. It's complete unconsciousness.

21 Q Isn't it true that burst suppression is even a deeper
22 level of unconsciousness than is achieved during -- of a
23 person undergoing surgical procedures?

24 A Yes. It can be reached at times, but it's not --
25 certainly isn't the target.

236

1 Q So in surgical procedures where a person is being cut
2 into, the target is not as low as burst suppression?

3 A Correct. But you have to realize that in that
4 situation there's an expert in anesthesia monitoring very
5 closely. In the absence of monitors or someone who is an
6 expert, I think a higher level is necessary.

7 Q Once you have reached burst suppression, which you
8 have indicated with your best estimate of the 50 percent

9 cardiac reduction occurring at somewhere around a minute
10 and I think you said -- somewhere between a minute and a
11 half and two minutes?

12 A Right.

13 Q Once you hit burst suppression, even under your own
14 definition of the appropriate state of consciousness, is
15 there any need at that point to have any monitoring of
16 the level of consciousness if the person is going to be
17 at burst suppression for the next 45 minutes to a few
18 hours?

19 A Well, what you would also need is some determination
20 that the effect is occurring, so you would need to see the
21 trajectory of the effect. So to be sure the drug has
22 reached the brain, you need to see some effect. Once you
23 have seen some effect, then I believe waiting the
24 appropriate amount of time would be reasonable.

25 Q So assuming the individual, the condemned prisoner,

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1 actually gets a five-gram dose, once you get burst
2 suppression, once the condemned prisoner gets to burst
3 suppression, there's no longer any need to monitor. It's
4 just a matter of realizing whether the inmate is at that
5 level?

6 A Correct. Because that would last a long time.

7 Q Do you have any reason to believe that in executions
8 in Missouri, whatever dose of thiopental has been given,
9 it's not fully being entered into the inmate's circulatory
10 system?

11 A I haven't seen evidence actually one way or the other.

12 Q Okay. So you wouldn't tell me -- you wouldn't argue
13 with me that it's not happening, but you couldn't tell me
14 you're sure it is happening.

15 A Exactly.

16 Q You have indicated that Dr. Dershwitz chose a level of
17 unconsciousness that I think you call the voice command
18 level.

19 A Correct.

20 Q Were you able -- did you read the testimony from the
21 trial at the end -- the first part of this trial at the end
22 of January from Dr. Dershwitz?

23 A I did, yes.

24 Q And an affidavit was presented. And is it your
25 recollection -- isn't it your recollection that his

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1 statements with regard to how long a person would be
2 unconscious would -- the person would be unconscious and
3 unable to experience pain?

4 A Correct.

5 Q So a level of unable to experience pain is a level
6 below voice command unconsciousness, isn't it?

7 A Maybe I answered that incorrectly.

8 Q Okay. Do you have a recollection of the framing of
9 those questions as to whether it was --

10 A Well, what I have a recollection of are his graphs,
11 and what he shows on the graphs is that the 50 percent
12 probability corresponds to the effect side concentration or
13 brain level that would be required to produce loss of voice
14 command. So I'm looking at the actual data he has in his

15 graph to form that opinion. I really wasn't thinking
16 exactly the wording that he said.

17 Q Okay. But we can rely on what the transcript says for
18 that, presumably.

19 In terms of being able to monitor the condemned
20 inmate, you gave us some opinions based on a couple of
21 still photographs. Were you able to have the opportunity
22 to see the videotape of the execution room that was taken a
23 few weeks ago?

24 A No.

25 Q One of the photographs you saw was looking through the

239

1 window kind of straight on at not an inmate but a person on
2 the bed.

3 MR. PRITCHETT: And if you wouldn't mind, I know
4 there's two photographs that you have used, still photos.
5 There was one looking straight through the window and then
6 there was one off to the side. Yeah, this photograph here.

7 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) That's looking straight down from
8 the top of the person's head through the window, correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And then the other photograph, if you wouldn't mind,
11 that's a side view, and I understand that from the still
12 photograph we really can't see very well, but isn't this an
13 angle from which the aspect of an individual in that bed
14 could be determined by a person looking at him?

15 A The aspect perhaps, yes.

16 Q Isn't that one of the things that an anesthesiologist
17 would do in assessing anesthetic depth?

18 A It's one of the very lowest things that we would use.

19 It's very unreliable.

20 Q But it is a step?

21 A It's a step. We use any information we can get.

22 Q You have had to make some assumptions, haven't you,
23 with regard to the effect of huge doses, two and a half to
24 five grams of thiopental, on human cardiac output?

25 A Yes.

240

1 Q Okay. Isn't it true that the magnitude of the effect
2 of these kinds of large doses of thiopental is something
3 that has not been well researched?

4 A Correct.

5 Q And the effect of these large doses is poorly
6 documented?

7 A Absolutely.

8 Q So isn't actually the degree to which the heart will
9 be affected in the minutes following a massive dose of
10 thiopental a matter of some speculation?

11 A Yes, and that's why I provided various curves.

12 Q Okay. And isn't it also true that the time it takes
13 for a massive dose of thiopental to begin to decrease
14 cardiac output is a matter of some speculation as well?

15 A Well, it would be the same -- the way I approached
16 this was that the material will be in the arteries for sure
17 by the time I started modeling at one minute.

18 And also I have had many occasions to have
19 patients on continuous cardiac output monitors and watch
20 what happens with clinical doses, and the changes begin at

21 45 seconds or a minute or so. So it's not unreasonable to
22 use that as a basis.

23 Q You're making some extrapolations, though, without any
24 hard data.

25 A Absolutely.

241

1 Q So at least to some degree your conclusions here with
2 regard to the amount of time it would take for thiopental
3 to diffuse through the brain is based on some speculation?

4 A Well, there would be some -- yes, there is some
5 speculation, but as I said, I have seen clinical doses do
6 this in healthy people. And also we can see from the
7 potassium chloride injection and when it starts to have an
8 effect on the circulation. It's in the right ballpark.

9 Q Now, next I'd like to look at a couple of the figures
10 that you have done and if you would bear with me. The
11 numbers of the figures have changed a bit from the initial
12 report you gave so it's going to take me a minute to try to
13 sort out which is which.

14 What was Figure 6, assuming a 2.5 gram dose of
15 thiopental, I think is Figure 5 now. If we could call that
16 up, please.

17 Even with a dose of thiopental at the 2.5 gram
18 dose reduces cardiac output to 25 percent of the baseline
19 of normal, doesn't your graph show that a 95 percent chance
20 of burst suppression still occurs at something just over
21 two and a half minutes?

22 A Oh, okay. Yes.

23 Q And did you do, and I don't know that this was

24 introduced, did you do an approximation of a 1.67 gram dose
25 of thiopental?

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1 A Yes, I did.

2 Q Do you recall when burst suppression on that occurred
3 with regard to the maximum reduction of 75 percent of
4 normal?

5 A No, not specifically, but I would assume it would be
6 later than even two and a half minutes. What I believe it
7 was very close to was that maximum concentration had to be
8 reached for a dose in that range, so -- when the peak
9 effect occurs with thiopental, so I'm guessing it's very
10 close to three minutes.

11 Q Okay. Still something short of three minutes, though?

12 A Probably, yes.

13 Q I guess since we do have this as an exhibit, the
14 2.0 gram dose, 95 percent burst suppression --

15 A Go to the next one.

16 Q Even at the maximum effect it might have a 75 percent
17 reduction, we're still hitting 95 percent with a two-gram
18 dose short of three minutes, aren't we?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Would it be possible to track the effect of
21 thiopental, a large dose of thiopental by means of the
22 EKG strips you've seen?

23 A The EKGs, no. Well, I answered very rapidly and said
24 no, but one of the things you can see when there's a
25 cardiac effect of thiopental is an increase in the heart

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1 rate as it is compensating for a decrease in cardiac
2 output, but it's not reliable. You'll see it sometimes but
3 not others. But I do recollect seeing that on one or two
4 of the inmates.

5 Q Would that compensate, a more rapid heart beat, for
6 the suppression of the function?

7 A Exactly. Cardiac output is a function of stroke
8 volume, which is the force of the contraction.

9 Q If the heart sped up as a result, the heart rate
10 increased, would that alter your conclusions and your
11 figures?

12 A No. It would indicate to me there was a reduction
13 in cardiac output, there was an attempt by the body to
14 compensate. It probably can't compensate for something
15 that large, but it was trying. It detected it.

16 Q Are you aware of a recent execution that occurred in
17 North Carolina in which the condemned prisoner was
18 monitored by means of a BIS monitor?

19 A I was made aware of that by Mr. Berger.

20 Q And can you tell us what a BIS monitor is?

21 A It's a bispectral indexed spectroscopy, I believe.

22 Q What are they used for, generally?

23 A They're used during anesthesia to monitor depth of
24 anesthesia.

25 Q Is it a scale 0 to 100?

244

1 A It is, but it's a nonlinear scale.

2 Q Okay. By that, I understand it makes sort of an

3 S-curve?

4 A Well, that, and I guess the other thing to say, it's a
5 nonparametric, and what I mean by that, a value of 30 is
6 not half the value of 60.

7 Q I understand.

8 A Okay.

9 Q At what level in surgery is targeted on a BIS monitor?

10 A Well, it would vary based on the stimulus being used.

11 Q Let's say a hernia operation.

12 A We probably would be in the 40 or 50 range.

13 Q Does burst suppression equate to a number on the
14 BIS monitor?

15 A Not really. Although there is some question of
16 whether it can recognize a flat line EEG. When zero pops
17 up it might mean that there's an isoelectric EEG, but it's
18 not designed for that.

19 Q Are you aware of the readings of the BIS monitor after
20 the thiopental was injected into the inmate in North
21 Carolina?

22 A No.

23 Q If it had been reported that the BIS monitor dropped
24 to near zero by the time the thiopental and the following
25 flush was fully administered, would that cause you to

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1 question some of the assumptions you have made and your
2 conclusions?

3 A No, because I would have to see what the timings of
4 those injections were. It's very possible a slow
5 injection, over two minutes, would make perfect sense.

6 Q Have you reviewed, as far as you know, all the expert
7 reports that have been generated in this case, both by the
8 defense and by the plaintiff?

9 A No, I haven't seen Dr. Heath's or Dr. Johnson's.

10 Q Have you seen a report of Dr. Sri Melathil?

11 A No.

12 Q Are you aware that his view was a decline in the level
13 of thiopental in the brain is quite rapid and his concern
14 was the diminishment of thiopental in the brain instead of
15 the onset of the thiopental?

16 A I wasn't aware of that. I can understand where that
17 comes from because that's from clinical teaching and
18 clinical doses. I think, yes, there would be a very rapid
19 drop-off. If you look at my Figure 1, if you would look at
20 that, I think you'll see the reason for it. And -- but
21 basically what's going to happen is that concentrations are
22 going to flow across a gradient. And initially during the
23 onset, the arterial concentrations are much higher in the
24 tissue. Drugs goes into the tissue including the brain.
25 As the drug distributes to various body tissues and is

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1 metabolized, it will start flowing back, and that's what
2 removes the effect.

3 However, if that flow-back starts at a very high
4 concentration, you'll still be unconscious even though that
5 flow is out of the brain and into the blood.

6 Q So huge doses like we're talking about will last --

7 A He's right, but without him doing those calculations
8 he's probably a little in the dark.

9 Q So the effect of a massive dose, again somewhere
10 between 45 seconds to hours?

11 A 45 minutes to hours.

12 Q Excuse me. 45 minutes. Thank you. 45 minutes to
13 hours.

14 A Uh-huh.

15 Q You were also referred to a photograph of the femoral
16 catheter in Mr. Johnston at his execution. I don't know if
17 you mentioned it in testimony. In your report you noted
18 the brightness of the blood. Couldn't that be an effect of
19 the imaging --

20 A Yes.

21 Q -- of the photograph?

22 A Could be.

23 Q And wouldn't blood, even venous blood, once it hits
24 oxygen in the air, become redder than it is inside the
25 body?

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1 A It could, but you would see gradations depending on
2 its depth in the sponge.

3 Q And the bluish area you noted in the photograph of
4 Mr. Johnston, couldn't the coloring be also an effect of
5 the photograph imaging program that was used?

6 A It could be. I'm not an expert on these things so, I
7 mean, in aggregate, as I said, those things suggested to me
8 that's what happened.

9 Q Your level of certainty, though, it sounded like was
10 not very great just from looking at the picture; is that
11 correct?

12 A I would say it's -- yeah, I would say it's about
13 50/50, in my mind, looking at the photograph.

14 Q Is it impossible to determine from the photograph
15 whether there might have been an insertion into an artery
16 in Mr. Johnston's case?

17 A That's correct, it is impossible to tell exactly where
18 that insertion was made.

19 Q You noted a paper with regard to femoral vein access
20 that set out a 17 percent complication rate with regard to
21 central venous access. Was it just femoral vein access?

22 A It looked at all of them and it categorized the risk
23 according to where.

24 Q Was the 17 percent complication rate for femoral
25 access?

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1 A I believe it was.

2 Q Does that complication rate include complications that
3 would have resulted from persons new to the procedure and
4 inexperienced in the placement of the lines?

5 A I would have to go back and check the methods very
6 carefully to be sure, but it may have been at a teaching
7 hospital and it may have happened that way, yes.

8 Q As far as you know, are there any papers reporting
9 complication rates with regard to experienced physicians
10 who have made femoral IV access a regular part of their
11 practice?

12 A No, that's not my area of expertise.

13 Q You indicated early in your testimony that a problem
14 with delivery of thiopental into the body so we get the

15 full effect of it, one thing could be an impact of
16 restraints on the body which is possible with an
17 execution. Would the restraints have an effect if it's
18 peripheral access through the arm, assuming straps across
19 the torso?

20 A It could, yes.

21 Q Wouldn't that restraint effect be less with femoral
22 access?

23 A It might. Would depend on where the other restraints
24 were and how tight they were. If they were across the
25 abdomen it could compress the vena cava.

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1 Q Would the effect of a bit of compression on the vena
2 cava be less as a percentage of outflow than compression of
3 say a peripheral vein?

4 A Certainly peripheral veins are easier to compress.

5 Q With regard to potential complications and any IV
6 access, isn't migration of the catheter a problem; its
7 leaving the vein that it's meant to be inserted into?

8 A It's a very rare complication.

9 Q Isn't it more likely to happen in a peripheral access
10 than it is in a femoral central line access?

11 A Again, this is not an area of great interest to me and
12 I haven't read the literature on that so I can't give you a
13 heads-up answer.

14 Q You noted a complication in your report being
15 potential delivery of the drugs into subcutaneous tissue
16 rather than into the vein.

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q Isn't that kind of complication less likely to happen
19 with femoral access?

20 A Well, yes and no. I have seen many instances where
21 because of where the femoral vein is and where the central
22 circulation is, you can't always observe extravasation, so
23 it could be happening but you don't see it. Certainly with
24 a peripheral if it happens, you know it's happening. You
25 can see it.

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1 Q But you're not aware of the differences and the
2 likelihood of it happening peripheral vein vs. central
3 vein?

4 A I can't even imagine someone setting out to study
5 that. That would be a tough question to try to collect
6 data on and be fair.

7 Q The output of a femoral IV is closer to the heart than
8 the peripheral access, isn't it?

9 A Would you restate that?

10 Q I'll try. It wasn't a very good question. The
11 catheter in a femoral IV, where it has the output where the
12 drugs come in, isn't that area closer to the heart than
13 where the drugs first enter the bloodstream in a peripheral
14 IV?

15 A The answer to that would be not necessarily, because
16 what we're looking at is time. The flow is less in the
17 arm, but the volume is much greater in the vena cava. So
18 the time it takes is the -- is the volume divided by the
19 flow. So both factor in.

20 Q And those factors work different ways?

21 A We have done many studies where we've given drugs
22 peripherally and if it has a good flush behind it, it
23 actually can centralize, if you will, the drug.

24 Q Doesn't that kind of occur automatically with central
25 venous access through the femoral vein?

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1 A Yes and no. Not necessarily, because there was no
2 baseline infusion going here, so it was totally reliant on
3 the syringe. Whereas if it was given into a free-flowing
4 IV, that's not only going to bring it into the circulation
5 quick, it's going to push it up the circulation. So my
6 answer is a little equivocal because I'm not a hundred
7 percent sure that you can say one way or the other, not
8 knowing all the facts.

9 Q Do you insert femoral IVs on occasion?

10 A Very rarely.

11 Q What's your understanding as to the method by which a
12 physician would determine where the vein is? Isn't there
13 an anatomical landmark, the femoral artery?

14 A There would be the same as we do for internal jugular
15 catheterization of the neck. The old way of doing things
16 was to feel the artery and then go adjacent. In the case
17 of the femoral vein, it's just medial.

18 Q It's just medial?

19 A Uh-huh.

20 Q In other words, it's next to --

21 A Next to.

22 Q -- the femoral artery?

23 A Right. So if you had your finger on the femoral

24 artery you would reduce your chances of hitting the femoral
25 artery and increase your chances of hitting the femoral

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1 vein, although I will say that many places now are moving
2 towards ultrasound imaging, so there's a greater degree of
3 certainty.

4 Q Is that true of -- you said many places. Is that true
5 of every medical facility?

6 A No.

7 Q And the femoral vein is on the opposite side of the
8 femoral artery -- excuse me. The femoral nerve is on the
9 opposite side of the femoral artery than the femoral vein
10 is?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Isn't it true that femoral IVs are commonly inserted
13 into awake and unsedated patients?

14 A In my experience, they are usually sedated.

15 Q Okay. Nephrologists, isn't it true they commonly use
16 femoral vein IV access for kidney patients who haven't yet
17 gotten the shunt or the fistula, whatever it's called, for
18 common -- for periodic dialysis?

19 MR. BERGER: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the
20 scope.

21 MR. PRITCHETT: I disagree, Judge. I think it
22 goes to the testimony we have had with regard to --

23 THE COURT: Objection is overruled.

24 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you, Judge.

25 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) Nephrologists use femoral IV

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1 access at least on occasion for new patients going on
2 dialysis, don't they?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And isn't it common that those femoral IVs are placed
5 for dialysis with local anesthetic but without sedation?

6 A I don't have any direct knowledge of that. I'm not
7 with them when they place them.

8 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you very much, Doctor. I
9 appreciate it. That's all I have at least for the moment.

10 And thank you for allowing me to use your high
11 tech equipment.

12 MR. HELLMAN: Sure thing.

13 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BERGER:

14 Q I have a few questions for you, Dr. Henthorn.

15 Are all of your graphs based on the assumptions
16 that the full dose of the amount considered will make it
17 into the venous system?

18 A Yes, they are.

19 Q So if some of the prepared dose did not make it into
20 the veins, would the graph conclusions hold true?

21 A No.

22 MR. PRITCHETT: Objection. I think this is
23 beyond the scope of the direct and cross.

24 THE COURT: Well, I don't think it's outside the
25 spirit of either. Objection is overruled.

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1 Q (By Mr. Berger) And if in fact less than the prepared
2 dose made it into the veins, what effect would that have on

3 when the thiopental takes effect?

4 A Well, it would depend on the percentage. If you
5 consider a reasonably close percentage, or -- of the dose,
6 then it would only slow it down. If it was much smaller,
7 you might not get the effect you're looking for.

8 Q And are all the opinions you are giving here given to
9 a reasonable degree of medical certainty?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Why is burst suppression appropriate for executions
12 even when it's not always used for surgery?

13 A The reason is that since there is no one monitoring
14 the onset of anesthesia, there is the possibility that when
15 something painful happens, such as injecting potassium
16 chloride, that there will be movement, there could be a
17 reaction. And I think it's very important to be able to
18 say that this reaction did not involve consciousness. It
19 could be simply a reflex lower in the system.

20 Q In surgery are you also concerned with the patient
21 waking up?

22 A Yes.

23 Q If you were not -- if you were concerned only about
24 pain and not about waking a patient up during surgery,
25 would burst suppression be the level of anesthesia one

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1 would want to use? In other words, in the execution
2 setting, do those factors render burst suppression more
3 appropriate?

4 A Well, I think the process is very similar. I think
5 the difference is there is no one monitoring to say whether

6 or not this is conscious or not conscious. If there is
7 burst suppression, there's no consciousness.

8 Q And without monitoring the depth of anesthesia, can
9 you be certain that the inmate will be properly
10 anesthetized?

11 A I don't believe so, no.

12 Q Is there such a thing as certainty that drugs are
13 delivered successfully?

14 A I don't -- I don't believe so, no.

15 Q And is this lack of certainty one of the reasons why
16 one needs to monitor the delivery of the drugs and the
17 depth of anesthesia?

18 A Oh, absolutely. If you look at the ASA -- that's our
19 society's recent guidelines on awareness, the first thing
20 to consider is are the drugs being delivered the way you
21 think they are, are your infusions working. Is the gas on,
22 if you want -- if you're using that. So I think that is
23 always on our mind, because it does happen.

24 Q Can you properly judge anesthetic depth based on the
25 view that you saw through the window in those figures?

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1 A No.

2 Q When Mr. Pritchett was examining you, you said that
3 the aspect is a step in monitoring anesthetic depth. Is
4 that step enough to monitor anesthetic depth?

5 A No, it's not.

6 Q In discussing his graphs, Dr. Dershwitz stated, quote,
7 "So in a typical experiment where one is giving medication
8 to try to determine if a person is conscious, the person

9 would be asked to perform a simple task. If they cannot
10 perform the task, they are deemed as unconscious." What
11 does that tell you about the measure of consciousness used
12 by Dr. Dershwitz in his graphs?

13 A Well, it indicates that is the end point that he was
14 modeling was loss of the voice command.

15 Q Can one feel pain at that level?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Then in the transcript Dr. Dershwitz says, "When one
18 considers the very, very large dose and the long duration
19 of the effects that occurs when one is given five grams of
20 thiopental, the effect is complete, total inability to
21 interact with the environment or perceive one's environment
22 for a very long time."

23 Assuming successful delivery into the
24 circulation, Dr. Henthorn, do you agree?

25 A Well, to a certain point he's absolutely right. I

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1 think the point that we -- what's really disturbing here
2 is the onset time. That seems to be just overlooked
3 completely in these Missouri executions. The timing is so
4 rapid that there's no time for that to happen. But if you
5 give it enough time, then I would say Dr. Dershwitz'
6 conclusions are correct.

7 Q But at the level of consciousness used by
8 Dr. Dershwitz, that is inability to correctly respond to
9 verbal commands, can people feel pain?

10 A Yes, but you have to -- he was -- he selected -- he's
11 doing simply the very thing -- something very similar to

12 what I'm doing, which is simulating the pharmacokinetics,
13 and he's selecting a blood level that is less than the one
14 I'm selecting. But in either case with a five-gram dose
15 both brain levels are achieved.

16 Q But they would not be -- would they be achieved
17 immediately?

18 A No.

19 Q And would the level that he is selecting take effect
20 quicker than the level you are selecting?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And if the level he has selected has taken effect but
23 the level that you have selected has not yet taken effect,
24 can a person experience pain?

25 A Absolutely.

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1 Q Why do you --

2 THE COURT: Mr. Berger, it sounds like we are
3 getting back into redirect again. Let's stick with the
4 cross and wrap this up.

5 MR. BERGER: Okay, Your Honor.

6 Q (By Mr. Berger) Why do you select 50 to 75 percent as
7 the most likely reduction in cardiac output?

8 A Because this fits with anything in the literature.
9 It also fits with what I have observed when I have had
10 continuous monitors of cardiac output. And in fact,
11 Dr. Dershwitz basically believes the exact same thing.

12 Q And in your clinical practice, do smaller doses of
13 thiopental also have an effect on cardiac output?

14 A Yes, they do.

15 Q Have you tested the extrapolations you make on the
16 scientific community, the extrapolations you make in your
17 model that Mr. Pritchett questioned you about?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And have you revised your conclusions over the years
20 as you understand it better?

21 A Oh, absolutely, yes.

22 Q Dr. Henthorn, Mr. Pritchett asked you about the BIS
23 monitor. Is the BIS monitor a reliable indicator of deep
24 unconsciousness?

25 A It is not -- the literature does not support that it

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1 is reliable.

2 Q What are some of the problems of the BIS monitor?

3 A It does not predict what it is meant to predict, which
4 is awareness. It's -- it's useful. Some people believe
5 it's useful, but it's not an absolute measure, and for that
6 reason it was not included in the recent ASA guidelines
7 awareness.

8 Q Dr. Henthorn, is it possible for an anesthesiologist
9 or a pharmacokineticist who has not done the calculations
10 or the modeling that you have done to know when thiopental
11 will take effect?

12 A Well, they can rely on their empirical knowledge, but
13 I think when you're dealing with dose -- that's one of the
14 reasons you do pharmacokinetics is so that when you are
15 presented with a dose or a drug administration scheme that
16 you haven't performed, you can reasonably come up with what
17 will happen. It's predictive.

18 Q Dr. Henthorn, Mr. Pritchett asked you some questions
19 about the photo of Mr. Johnston. Was your view that this
20 is a hematoma based just on the color of the blood?

21 A No.

22 Q Was it based on a number of factors?

23 A Yes.

24 Q What were those factors?

25 A It was the proximity -- it was the blue discoloration

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1 under the skin. There was swelling in the skin and it was
2 proximate to the insertion site.

3 Q Would you ever choose to deliver these drugs through
4 the femoral vein when peripheral access is available?

5 A No.

6 Q Based on your review of the Missouri execution
7 records, does potassium chloride enter the veins at a
8 minute and a half?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And would thiopental likely have taken effect yet,
11 based on any of the doses John Doe One says Missouri uses?

12 A No.

13 MR. BERGER: One moment, Your Honor.

14 No further questions, Your Honor.

15 MR. PRITCHETT: I think one, Judge.

16 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

17 Q We have talked about voice command level of
18 unconsciousness and burst suppression level of
19 unconsciousness. Is there some level of unconsciousness in
20 between those two poles, let's call them, where the person

21 who is receiving the thiopental will not feel pain?

22 A Probably there would be, but it's a gray area. You
23 don't know unless there's someone there monitoring. That's
24 my point.

25 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you.

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1 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, may I ask one question
2 in response?

3 THE COURT: Go ahead.

4 FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BERGER:

5 Q Dr. Henthorn, if a patient or an inmate is not at
6 burst suppression, is it possible for them to feel pain?

7 A Yes.

8 MR. BERGER: Thank you.

9 MR. PRITCHETT: Nothing further, Judge.

10 THE COURT: We have heard that one a couple
11 times.

12 Thank you, Doctor. You can step down.

13 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

14 THE COURT: It's my understanding that other than
15 the Doe witnesses, this is plaintiff's case. Is that
16 correct?

17 MR. HELLMAN: Those are our witnesses who are
18 present, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Then we'll resume
20 tomorrow at 9 o'clock and the defense will have an
21 opportunity to have its witnesses present and ready to go.
22 Okay?

23 MR. PRITCHETT: Yes, Judge.

24

25

(Adjourned to Tuesday, June 13, 2006)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION

MICHAEL TAYLOR,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	Case No.
vs.)	05-4173-CV-S-FJG
)	
LARRY CRAWFORD, et al.,)	
)	JUNE 13, 2006
Defendant.)	

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TRANSCRIPT OF BENCH TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE FERNANDO J. GAITAN, JR.
U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

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1 TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2006

2 THE COURT: Ready to go?

3 MR. PRITCHETT: Yes, Your Honor. Ready for me to

4 call my witness, Judge?

5 THE COURT: Certainly am.

6 MR. PRITCHETT: I call Dr. Mark Dershwitz to the

7 stand, please.

8 MARK DERSHWITZ, called as a witness on behalf of the

9 Defendant, being first duly sworn, testified:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

11 Q Good morning, Doctor.

12 A Good morning.

13 Q Would you state your name for the record, please.

14 A Mark Dershwitz.

15 Q What's your occupation, Dr. Dershwitz?

16 A I'm an anesthesiologist and faculty member at the
17 University of Massachusetts.

18 Q And have you testified already in this case at an
19 earlier stage?

20 A Yes, I have.

21 Q Just briefly tell us what your degrees are, if you
22 would, please.

23 A I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry and then
24 obtained my medical degree as well as a Ph.D in
25 pharmacology.

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1 Q Where did those degrees come from?

2 A My graduate degree is from Oakland University in
3 Rochester, Michigan, and both my MD and Ph.D are from
4 Northwestern University.

5 Q Did you supply a copy of your CV at your earlier
6 testimony that we provided into evidence?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Now that we have reconvened this trial, additional
9 discovery has occurred. Have you had the opportunity to
10 review that additional discovery that's been provided by
11 both sides in this case?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And did this review include the post-remand discovery
14 responses of both Director Crawford as well as the John

15 Does?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And did it also include a review of the deposition of
18 Dr. John Doe One?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So are you aware that the dose of thiopental used at
21 the last several executions in Missouri was not five grams
22 as we understood in January?

23 A Yes.

24 Q How, if at all -- excuse me. What is your
25 understanding of the amount of thiopental that was actually

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1 given at the last several executions?

2 A I believe it was 2.5 grams.

3 Q How, if at all, does the administration of 2.5 grams
4 of thiopental the last few executions impact your opinions
5 regarding executions in Missouri?

6 A By decreasing the dose from five grams to 2.5 grams,
7 the probability of consciousness increases by a tiny and
8 minuscule amount. Other states use as little as two grams
9 of thiopental, and even in that situation the likelihood of
10 consciousness during the period of time that an execution
11 requires is a tiny fraction of one percent.

12 Q What's the key factor, in your opinion, regarding the
13 humaneness of executions in Missouri in particular and then
14 throughout the country in general?

15 A Well, in my opinion for an execution to be humane an
16 adequate dose of hypnotic agent like thiopental has to be
17 administered prior to the paralytic or the potassium

18 chloride. And in the other states in which I have
19 performed calculations I would say that probably the
20 minimum acceptable dose would be 1.5 grams, and anything
21 above that is associated with diminishing likelihood of
22 consciousness.

23 Q Did your review of the new discovery in this case
24 alter your opinions that you gave back in January with
25 regard to the drugs used in Missouri and the dosages as

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1 we now understand them?

2 A Well, I redid the calculations, and changing the
3 dose from five grams to 2.5 grams has a minuscule and not
4 clinically relevant effect on the probability of
5 consciousness throughout the duration of time that an
6 execution requires.

7 Q Did your review of the new discovery in the case alter
8 your opinions as given back in January with regard to the
9 use of the femoral catheter as a means of administration of
10 the drugs?

11 A No.

12 Q Can you explain why?

13 A Well, since the thiopental is given after the femoral
14 catheter is placed, the dose of thiopental itself has no
15 meaningful effect on the placement of the femoral catheter.

16 Q In reaching your conclusions as expressed in your
17 earlier testimony, what definition of unconsciousness were
18 you using?

19 A The definition of consciousness that I typically use
20 is that which is used as a standard in the field of

21 anesthesiology when looking at the time course of the
22 production of unconsciousness during a clinical anesthesia,
23 and the end point is whether or not the person is capable
24 of consciously processing a verbal command. And so,
25 therefore, if the person is told raise your right arm or

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1 raise your left leg, if they follow that command
2 appropriately they are deemed conscious. If they are
3 unable to follow that command, and the assumption is that
4 they are motivated to -- would be motivated to follow the
5 command if they could, if they could not follow that
6 command they would be deemed unconscious.

7 Q Why do you use this definition of consciousness vs.
8 unconsciousness, ability to respond accurately to verbal
9 commands?

10 A It is the most common end point used in research on
11 consciousness and unconsciousness in anesthesia. And, for
12 example, it is the end point that was used in the
13 development of the depth of anesthesia monitors that are
14 becoming more commonly used in anesthesia practice.

15 Q We'll get to that in a bit, but what's the name of the
16 monitor you're referring to?

17 A One of them is called the bispectral index monitor or
18 BIS monitor, but there are a number of other monitors made
19 by other companies also.

20 Q Because you use a definition of consciousness vs.
21 unconsciousness that concluded a person who can -- let me
22 back up and rephrase that.

23 When you used the BIS definition of consciousness

24 vs. unconsciousness, does that mean that you concluded that
25 the person who has received thiopental remains at that

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1 level of consciousness?

2 A No. That is the point at which they would lose
3 consciousness. And of course, consciousness can become
4 much deeper and have other end points, but that is a
5 readily measured end point. And for the purposes of
6 providing clinical anesthesia, it's a very clinically
7 meaningful end point, because in our practice we want to
8 make sure that the person is asleep, unable to process
9 information, which would mean in a clinical way they would
10 be unable to form a memory, which of course we would
11 consider to be very desirable. The inability to form a
12 memory would be very desirable in anesthesia.

13 Q So given a dose of thiopental at the level of 2.5, or
14 five grams if it makes a difference both ways, how quickly
15 is a person moving from the level of unconsciousness,
16 unable to respond accurately to voice commands, how quickly
17 does a person move from that stage to a deeper level of
18 unconsciousness?

19 A It actually happens very rapidly. The amount of
20 thiopental that it takes the average person to lose
21 consciousness is approximately 200 to 300 milligrams. And
22 once 200 to 300 milligrams are placed intravenously in the
23 body, loss of consciousness occurs typically in a matter of
24 20 to 30 seconds. As the dose is increased, the depth of
25 consciousness as well as the duration of unconsciousness

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1 continues to progress.

2 Q You said that at a level of two to 300 milligrams
3 of thiopental, it takes about I believe you said around
4 30 seconds?

5 A 20 to 30 seconds from the time 200 to 300 milligrams
6 reach the peripheral circulation through an intravenous
7 catheter.

8 Q How is it you are aware of that conclusion?

9 A Well, first of all, that is based on more than twenty
10 years of clinical experience of myself, as well as the
11 experience of many, many anesthesiologists, as well as
12 clinical studies that have been done using many different
13 measures of the depth of consciousness. Before we had
14 readily available EEG monitors, one of the ways that
15 patients were deemed to be unconscious is they would be
16 given, for instance, a syringe or a pencil to hold and told
17 hold on to this as long as you can, and when they dropped
18 it they were deemed to be unconscious. That was a
19 technique that was used, for instance, in the 1960s and
20 1970s.

21 And using that end point, and also using a
22 typical dose of the hypnotic agent, consciousness is lost
23 typically in 20 to 30 seconds from the time the drug
24 reaches the IV catheter.

25 Q Is there a fairly common medical practice that also

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1 confirms your view, from a practical point of view, that
2 loss of consciousness occurs in 20 to 30 seconds?

3 A Typically if we are inducing general anesthesia,
4 typically we wish to confirm that the patient is asleep
5 before giving, for instance, a paralytic drug or performing
6 a noxious stimulation, and clinically we may apply
7 observational techniques like speaking the person's name
8 and asking them to open their eyes for instance, or giving
9 them a command like take a deep breath. We are often
10 telling them to breathe deeply before they fall asleep, and
11 when they stop doing that volitionally, that's another way.
12 And then we can look for reflexes, like we take our finger
13 and gently stroke their eyelash and see if they still have
14 what we call a lid reflex and that's anormal response that
15 a person has to blink when their eyelash is stroked.

16 Q Is there a practice, though, in which general
17 anesthesia is induced and it's induced very quickly and
18 there is essentially no monitoring of the anesthetic depth?

19 A Yes.

20 Q What is that?

21 A That's called a rapid sequence induction, and in a
22 situation where we are concerned about the risk of
23 aspiration, which would mean passage of the abdominal
24 contents back into the throat and then going down the
25 trachea into the lung, certain patients are at higher risk

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1 for this passive regurgitation and aspiration. Those
2 patients include patients who are having anesthesia who
3 have not been properly fasted; patients who have certain
4 anatomic abnormalities like a hiatal hernia; patients who
5 have a history of esophageal reflux; patients who have

6 increased intra-abdominal pressure perhaps due to a tumor,
7 all of these people are at high risk for aspiration.

8 And during the period of time after they lose
9 consciousness and before we secure their airway with an
10 endotracheal tube, that is a period of time of great
11 vulnerability for aspiration to occur. So in order to
12 decrease this window of opportunity for aspiration to
13 occur, we perform what's called a rapid sequence induction.

14 And in that scenario we give the hypnotic agent,
15 like thiopental, followed by a paralytic agent immediately,
16 without assessing depth of anesthesia, followed by the --
17 a passage of about 30 seconds which is how long it takes
18 the paralytic agent in this case to work, and then the
19 insertion of the laryngoscope to visualize the airway and
20 then placement of the endotracheal tube.

21 So in the situation of a rapid sequence
22 induction, from the time we first begin administering the
23 hypnotic agent --

24 Q And what dose is typically used in the rapid sequence
25 induction of the hypnotic agent?

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1 A If we were using thiopental as a hypnotic agent, a
2 typical dose would be 300 to 400 milligrams, and it would
3 take an average ten seconds to administer the thiopental,
4 five seconds to administer the paralytic agent, or less.
5 Waiting 20 to 30 seconds for the paralytic agent to begin,
6 and since this particular paralytic agent causes widespread
7 muscle twitching, we know when the paralytic agent is
8 working because it's very easily seen visually. At that

9 point, we immediately put in the laryngoscope to visualize
10 the airway and put the endotracheal tube in.

11 So in this scenario we are instrumenting the
12 airway, which is very, very uncomfortable, well under a
13 minute after the thiopental administration was first
14 given. And based upon, you know, my extensive clinical
15 experience as well as the clinical experience of
16 essentially everybody who gives anesthesia, the likelihood
17 of awareness during this procedure is very, very small.

18 Q And we're talking about a time period between the
19 administration of the thiopental to the introduction of the
20 laryngoscope, how long between those two end points?

21 A Under a minute. Probably closer to 45 seconds.

22 Q And is there essentially any kind of monitoring of the
23 patient during the course of that time?

24 A Well, we would of course continue to monitor their
25 electrocardiogram and their heart rate and their oxygen

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1 level because those are standard things that we monitor in
2 everybody. But as far as any attempt to monitor the depth
3 of anesthesia in a rapid sequence induction, that is not
4 done. And the assumption is made that the initial dose of
5 the hypnotic agent, like thiopental, is adequate to achieve
6 unconsciousness for the duration of the placement of the
7 endotracheal tube.

8 Q And I think this should be obvious, but that
9 assumption is one that has been confirmed at least in
10 your experience and the experience of your colleagues?

11 A Yes. It is certainly the standard description of how

12 to perform a rapid sequence induction in our standard
13 textbooks.

14 Q Is the rapid sequence induction an uncommon procedure?

15 A No, not at all. It would be the standard way of
16 providing anesthesia for essentially everybody who is
17 having emergency or unscheduled surgery because most of
18 those patients are not properly fasted, and people who
19 complain of things like a hiatal hernia or gastro-
20 esophageal reflux, that represents a significant fraction
21 of the population. So people who undergo rapid sequence
22 induction, it's not the majority of anesthetics but it's a
23 significant minority.

24 Q Would you say it's a process that happens every day in
25 hospitals?

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1 A Yes, every day in essentially every hospital in which
2 endotracheal anesthesia is provided.

3 Q What's your understanding, from your review of the
4 documents in this case, as to the level of consciousness,
5 unconsciousness that was used by Dr. Henthorn in reaching
6 his conclusions about when the second and the third drug
7 should be administered in an execution circumstance?

8 A My understanding is that he used an EEG end point that
9 he called burst suppression. And in further reviewing his
10 written materials, I believe he was using a definition of
11 burst suppression that was equivalent to a suppression
12 ratio of 50 percent, meaning that 50 percent of the time
13 the EEG had flat line and 50 percent of the time the EEG
14 had typical waves.

15 Q In your medical judgment, is that the proper level to
16 be thinking we need to get to, that is needed to get to in
17 an execution circumstance when we get to the second and the
18 third drug?

19 A Well, this level of anesthesia in which we have what's
20 called a suppression ratio of 50 percent is far in excess
21 of what is needed in clinical anesthesia. Now, certainly
22 with the doses of thiopental that are employed in a lethal
23 injection, ultimately not only are you going to reach burst
24 suppression, you're going to reach a complete flat line, a
25 completely isoelectric EEG.

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1 But at the point in time in which you can
2 reliably perform something uncomfortable and be convinced
3 that the person is not going to experience any pain or
4 suffering will occur much earlier, because one does not
5 need to go to an end point of burst suppression to prevent
6 the perception of noxious stimuli. And, in fact, when we
7 do clinical anesthesia for surgery, if we were monitoring
8 the patient with an EEG, which is something that, for
9 instance, I regularly do, the end point of burst
10 suppression is an unnecessarily deep level of anesthesia.
11 It's not harmful to the patient, but it is associated with
12 a prolonged wake-up at the end of the case. In other
13 words, it means that I'm not providing an efficient
14 anesthetic.

15 So a level of unconsciousness that is higher
16 than the point at which one reaches burst suppression is
17 still consistent with adequate surgical anesthesia and

18 would be certainly associated with the inability to
19 perceive any noxious stimulus, as for example during a
20 judicial execution.

21 Q Is the level of unconsciousness, burst suppression
22 as used by Dr. Henthorn, a much deeper level of
23 unconsciousness than that that's targeted in surgery?

24 A Yes.

25 Q You mentioned the bispectral index and the S is for

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1 the -- the BIS monitor, what does BIS stand for?

2 A Well, BIS is a shortened term for bispectral.

3 Q Okay. The bispectral index monitor. What is this
4 monitor built to measure?

5 A This is a monitor that is designed to facilitate using
6 EEG monitoring by anesthesiologists who are typically not
7 well-trained in the interpretation of complex EEG waves.
8 So the monitor consists of applying electrodes to the
9 forehead that acquire EEG waves from the brain. The EEG
10 signal is then processed by a computer, and although the
11 EEG waves are displayed on the screen, a person who is not
12 well-versed in their interpretation does not need to rely
13 on their appearance or pattern to use the monitor.

14 The monitor then displays a number between zero
15 and a hundred which is used to correlate with the
16 probability of unconsciousness. And the relationship
17 between the actual BIS value and the probability of
18 unconsciousness is a complex curve. It's called a sigmoid
19 curve. But clinically, anesthesiologists know that if they
20 target the anesthetic depth to a BIS value of between 40

21 and 60 they know, based upon a huge body of clinical data,
22 that the probability of consciousness during the surgery is
23 minuscule.

24 Q So for surgery the BIS monitor is targeted at 40 to
25 60?

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1 A Correct.

2 Q Burst suppression as used by Dr. Henthorn, what level
3 is that? What number on the scale, approximately, would
4 that be?

5 A Well, first of all, the appearance of any burst
6 suppression occurs as a BIS value of 40. And a 50 percent
7 suppression ratio, which as I described is what I believe
8 the end point he was using where we have a 50 percent flat
9 line, 50 percent EEG waves, that corresponds to a BIS value
10 of approximately 15 to 20, approximately.

11 Q I'd like to show you what's been labeled Defendant's
12 Exhibit 2 and I have already provided -- let me hand this
13 to you.

14 MR. PRITCHETT: And, Judge, I could give you a
15 copy if you would like to follow along.

16 THE COURT: Yes, if you would.

17 Thank you.

18 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) What is Exhibit 2, Defendant's
19 Exhibit 2?

20 A This is actually an exhibit from one of the papers
21 that I have published. I was a participant in one of the
22 early studies in which the algorithm underlying the BIS
23 monitor was developed, and this is some data from that

24 paper. And so on the X axis, we have the BIS value and on
25 the Y axis we have probability of response.

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1 Q Before you go any further, you prepared this document?

2 A Yes. This is from a paper in which I am the coauthor.

3 Q And you have described what it is.

4 MR. PRITCHETT: I'd offer Defendant's Exhibit 2
5 in evidence for illustrative purposes.

6 MS. ANDERS: No objection.

7 THE COURT: Be received.

8 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you.

9 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) Now, if you could explain for us
10 the meaning of the chart, and particularly I think it would
11 be helpful to talk about the relationship between the
12 probability of response vs. the BIS number read-out.

13 A So on the X axis we have the BIS value and on the
14 Y axis we have the probability of response, which in this
15 case again was properly and accurately following the
16 command like raise your right arm, raise your left leg.
17 And as you can see, the curve is shaped in a sigmoid in
18 which as the BIS value proceeds from 40 through the mid
19 50s, essentially the probability of response or the
20 probability of consciousness is very tiny.

21 And then after a point in the mid to high 50s,
22 the curve takes a rapid upturn, and by the time the BIS
23 value is in the high 70s, almost everybody is conscious.

24 Now, in the same experiment we also determined
25 whether or not the patient would have recall. And the way

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1 that was determined, immediately following giving the
2 patient the command to raise your right arm, raise your
3 left leg, they were also told something like John, I want
4 you to remember the word table. John, the word table is
5 very important. Please remember it. And then after the
6 experiment was over, they were asked to recall the words
7 that they were told.

8 And as you can see, there's a separate curve
9 which plots the probability of recall vs. the BIS value.
10 And these two curves are separated by approximately 15 to
11 20 BIS points on the X axis. The reason that clinicians
12 have chosen to target a BIS of 40 to 60 for clinical
13 anesthesia is that even though 15 -- approximately 15
14 percent of the population may have some degree of
15 consciousness at a BIS of 60, the probability of recall is
16 still extremely low. And it is thought that awareness
17 under anesthesia and the absence of recall is probably not
18 harmful.

19 The reason that a BIS value of 40 is chosen as
20 the lower limit in clinical anesthesia is because anything
21 below that is thought to be unnecessarily deep and is
22 thought to be associated with a prolonged awakening at the
23 end of the case.

24 Q Thank you for the description, Doctor.

25 In your medical judgment, does a BIS monitor

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1 reliably measure the depth of consciousness?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And why do you say that?

4 A Well, it's borne out by a number of clinical trials
5 that have been published so far on thousands of patients.
6 Like any clinical test, it is not perfect. There are
7 certain people in whom it may not work well, especially
8 those with underlying abnormalities in their EEGs, but in
9 the vast majority of people it is a reliable clinical
10 monitor and has made our ability to deliver anesthesia
11 better and safer.

12 Q Are you aware of the use of a BIS monitor in a recent
13 execution in North Carolina?

14 A Yes, I am.

15 Q And what is your understanding of the read-out, the
16 impact of the use of thiopental as measured by the BIS
17 monitor at that execution?

18 A In the protocol that North Carolina applied, the
19 execution team placed a BIS monitor on the patient or on
20 the inmate before the beginning of the injection sequence.
21 And the protocol has built into it a pause at the
22 conclusion of the administration of the flush solution
23 following thiopental. And at this point in the protocol
24 the physician and nurse who were monitoring the BIS monitor
25 would then give the go-ahead to the execution team to

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1 proceed with the administration of pancuronium and then
2 potassium chloride. And the protocol mandated that the BIS
3 value was to be below 60 prior to the administration of the
4 second and third drugs. And the physician and nurse who
5 were monitoring the BIS monitor had the authority to order

6 additional thiopental had the person not reached a BIS
7 value of 60 in a reasonable amount of time.

8 In fact, in that execution there was no pause
9 that was required because by the time the flush solution
10 had completed being injected, the BIS value was zero and
11 the EEG was flat line. So this is the lowest measurable
12 level of consciousness that one can achieve medically
13 because one cannot measure any depth of consciousness below
14 the complete cessation of electrical activity in the brain.

15 Q What's the dose of thiopental that was used in
16 North Carolina on this occasion?

17 A Three grams.

18 Q How long did it take the BIS monitor to drop to zero
19 after the beginning of the administration of the
20 thiopental?

21 A Well, the BIS value dropped continuously after the
22 thiopental started going in. It took approximately between
23 a minute and a minute and a half to complete the entire
24 injection sequence of the thiopental and the flush
25 solution. And prior to the completion of the flush

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1 solution, the BIS value had already reached zero and the
2 electrical activity of the brain was already flat line.

3 Q Is that actual experience in North Carolina
4 consistent with Dr. Henthorn's conclusions regarding the
5 time needed for thiopental to result in burst suppression?

6 A I think that his predictions are resulting in an
7 unnecessarily long time to the point at which burst
8 suppression will occur.

9 Q And that's supported in part by the North Carolina
10 example?

11 A It's supported by the North Carolina example, and as I
12 said, it's also supported by many, many years of clinical
13 experience among many anesthesiologists who do rapid
14 sequence induction without having their patients awake or
15 have recall during the placement of the endotracheal tube.

16 Q You have had a chance to examine Dr. Henthorn's
17 modeling, I think?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And have you determined that there is a mistake or an
20 incorrect assumption in the analysis?

21 A I'm not sure I would phrase it as a mistake, but there
22 is an assumption with which I do not agree.

23 Q What is that assumption?

24 A Can we look at that figure so I could have it in front
25 of me?

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1 Q Yes.

2 MR. PRITCHETT: What the doctor is asking for is
3 what I think was Plaintiff's Exhibit 43. 43, Figure 4.

4 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, we object on the grounds
5 that this wasn't covered in Dr. Derschwitz' expert report.

6 MR. PRITCHETT: I think the doctor did indicate
7 that he had looked at Dr. Henthorn's report and considered
8 that it did not accurately reflect what would occur.

9 MR. BERGER: Your Honor, Dr. Derschwitz' report
10 didn't give any bases for what that -- you know, what that
11 would be. It said with no detail at all what his attack

12 would be on these models.

13 MR. PRITCHETT: It says the doctor's assumptions
14 are based -- the predictions are unscientifically sound and
15 are based upon assumptions that result in an over-lengthy
16 predicted time between the beginning of the thiopental
17 administration and the loss of consciousness.

18 MR. BERGER: I think it said they may, isn't that
19 right?

20 MR. PRITCHETT: They may be based.

21 MR. BERGER: That wouldn't have given us adequate
22 notice to think about and deal with Dr. Dershwitz'
23 conclusions.

24 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.

25 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) Did you consider in your report,

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1 in your review of this case, the onset time of the
2 effectiveness of thiopental to put a person at a sufficient
3 level of unconsciousness so that it would be appropriate to
4 administer the second two drugs in an execution?

5 A Yes, I did.

6 Q And how did you take account of that in your analysis?

7 A Well, I had to work under various scenarios. First of
8 all, in the graphs that I submitted prior to my testimony
9 in January I basically assumed that the five grams of
10 thiopental would be in 200 milliliters of volume because
11 that is the volume that we typically use clinically and I
12 used a one milliliter per second injection time. And in
13 that scenario the probability of consciousness at the time
14 that the second drug would be administered is a minuscule

15 fraction of one percent. And that number is specified in
16 my report. I don't remember how many 9s after 99 percent
17 it is, but it's a tiny number.

18 I now understand that that assumption was
19 probably not accurate in terms of how the thiopental was
20 mixed and administered.

21 Q How do you understand the thiopental has been mixed
22 and administered in Missouri now?

23 A In the recent executions my understanding is that when
24 2.5 grams were used, the smallest volume of diluent that
25 could be achieved as far as getting the drug into solution

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1 was used. And that the injection was probably completed in
2 a minute or less. Even in that scenario, the probability
3 of consciousness at the time the second drug would begin to
4 be given is still a tiny fraction of one percent.

5 Q If five grams of thiopental was administered at an
6 execution, and let's assume that it's actually brought into
7 the body, is there any need for a monitoring of the
8 anesthetic depth of the condemned prisoner, in your view?

9 A I don't think it's necessary.

10 Q And can you tell us why not?

11 A Because it is inconceivable that there's any human who
12 could possibly remain awake after such a large dose of
13 thiopental being properly administered into a working
14 intravenous catheter.

15 Q Would the same be true at a somewhat lower dose of
16 thiopental, say 2.5 grams?

17 A Yes. And in fact, I have testified elsewhere that

18 even doses as low as 1.5 grams will provide a high enough
19 probability of unconsciousness so that, in my opinion, an
20 execution would be humane.

21 Q Based on your clinical experience, based on the North
22 Carolina experience and the recent execution, what do you
23 conclude with regard to the effective onset time of the
24 administration of, say, five grams of thiopental?

25 A Well, as I have said before, loss of consciousness in

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1 the typical human occurs after the successful delivery of
2 approximately 200 to 300 milligrams of thiopental. And so
3 the delivery of increasing doses acts to decrease the level
4 of consciousness as well as to increase the duration of
5 unconsciousness.

6 However, I also have to mention that at these
7 large multi-gram doses, duration is not a meaningful term
8 because although I could predict that the duration of
9 unconsciousness would last for hours, and I believe
10 Dr. Henthorn confirmed that in his calculations, in reality
11 if we do not support the circulation and ventilation of the
12 person, the person will die from decreased oxygen delivery
13 to, you know, peripheral tissues, so duration is not in my
14 opinion a very meaningful term to discuss in this context.

15 I think everyone agrees on both sides of this
16 issue that if several grams are successfully administered,
17 the person will remain unconscious for a period of time far
18 in excess of that which is required to complete a typical
19 execution.

20 Q Stepping back from the durational component to the

21 initial effective onset, how long it takes the thiopental
22 to reach a level at which an individual will be
23 unconscious, a five-gram dose will reach, in your view,
24 that level of unconsciousness after approximately what
25 time?

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1 A Well, first of all, unconsciousness will be achieved
2 once the first two to 300 milligrams circulate, and that
3 will take, you know, typically 30 seconds to 45 seconds in
4 the average person. And so as increasing amounts of
5 thiopental are given, from the person's perspective who is
6 receiving the drug nothing is different because once
7 unconsciousness is achieved, the depth of unconsciousness,
8 although perceptible to a clinician who is looking at an
9 EEG, is not perceptible to a person receiving the drug.
10 And so once the first few hundred milligrams circulate,
11 which typically takes 30 to 45 seconds, the person is
12 unconscious and they will remain unconscious for quite a
13 period of time after the rest of the dose is given.

14 Q Are you aware of scenarios in the induction of general
15 anesthesia when an anesthesiologist in an ordinary medical
16 practice is not at the edge of the bed of the patient
17 receiving the anesthesia?

18 A It does happen occasionally. One scenario that I
19 could envision, because this has happened to me, when we
20 provide care for a patient undergoing certain procedures
21 like an MRI scan, typically the anesthesia providers are
22 located in an adjacent room and all of our equipment is
23 located in the adjacent room because our equipment is not

24 typically compatible with a strong magnetic field in an MRI
25 scanner. And so a scenario in which I can envision this

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1 happening is -- and I should tell you, first of all, the
2 vast majority of patients who need MRI scans do not need
3 anesthesia. The vast majority of people could properly go
4 into the scanner and lie there still and undergo their scan
5 without any problem.

6 When they ask an anesthesiologist to become
7 involved it's typically in a critically ill patient or in a
8 patient who for whatever reason is unable to hold still or
9 be cooperative. And sometimes we will provide intravenous
10 sedation so that the person is sleepy but not unconscious.
11 Sometimes we deliberately induce general anesthesia to
12 render the person completely unconscious. And sometimes,
13 and this has happened at my experience, where we attempted
14 to provide intravenous sedation, partway through the
15 procedure the radiologist said the patient is either moving
16 too much and then we make the decision to go from sedation
17 to general anesthesia, and we may do that remotely, meaning
18 I give additional medication from my point of observation
19 in the control room approximately 15 feet away from the
20 patient and have them make the transition from sedation to
21 general anesthesia.

22 Q And how are you able to, in this situation, administer
23 additional anesthesia to the patient who is in the MRI
24 machine?

25 A Typically we're giving the anesthetic medications

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1 intravenously so I would tell the infusion pump to give an
2 additional and higher dose.

3 Q I'm at a much more basic level. How does it get from
4 where you are to the patient?

5 A Through 15 feet or so of intravenous tubing.

6 Q I'd like to change topics here and talk about
7 potassium chloride for a second. Without use of
8 anesthesia, would the administration of potassium chloride
9 cause pain in an individual when it reaches the heart?

10 MS. ANDERS: Objection, Your Honor. It's not
11 covered in the expert report.

12 THE COURT: We can't have both of you objecting.
13 Only one of you is covering this witness and you need to
14 make up your mind which one it is.

15 Objection will be overruled.

16 A First of all, whether or not potassium chloride harms
17 the person or causes pain on injection is dependent upon
18 the concentration and the cumulative dose. So, for
19 example, we routinely give dilute potassium chloride to
20 patients as part of our routine intravenous fluids. When
21 the concentration of potassium chloride is high, it could
22 cause irritation to veins and cause pain. When the
23 cumulative dose of potassium chloride is very high, it
24 will cause the heart to stop and for a few seconds before
25 consciousness is lost the person will experience pain in

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1 the chest that is similar to what a person experiences when
2 they're having a heart attack.

3 Q So without anesthesia, when potassium hits the heart,
4 and I'm not talking about the administration and getting to
5 the heart yet. When it gets to the heart, how long will
6 consciousness last, approximately?

7 A Well, if we assume that when the potassium chloride
8 reaches the heart, the heart stops --

9 Q And I'm talking about a dose like we use in
10 executions.

11 A So when hundreds of milliequivalents are given, when
12 that potassium chloride reaches the heart and the heart is
13 monitored with an electrocardiogram, electrical activity in
14 the heart stops almost immediately. And so the heart will
15 stop beating and circulation will cease.

16 Typically when circulation ceases consciousness
17 lasts, and again in an unmedicated person, approximately
18 ten seconds, because the brain has essentially no
19 significant oxygen or energy reserves. And during that
20 ten-second period with the heart not receiving any blood,
21 the person would experience angina pain similar to the pain
22 that a person is having when they're having a heart attack.

23 Q So if I understand correctly, without anesthesia when
24 a huge dose of potassium chloride gets to the heart it
25 would render -- it would cause some pain comparable to a

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1 heart attack?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And last for ten seconds at most?

4 A Yeah. The typical person loses consciousness about
5 ten seconds after cessation of circulation.

6 Q So in that scenario, Doctor, is it accurate to say the
7 pain would last the five to ten seconds of the cessation of
8 circulation?

9 A Approximately.

10 Q I'd like to turn now to femoral IV access. Can you
11 describe for us advantages to the use of femoral IV access
12 over peripheral IV access?

13 A I think in general one could say that a femoral IV
14 would be more reliable in terms of it being less likely to
15 migrate to a place where it's not supposed to be, like
16 outside of the vessel. And it is located closer to the
17 central circulation so that the medication or anything
18 given through the femoral catheter is going to reach the
19 heart a little more quickly. And since the goal of giving
20 intravenous medication is to make sure that it is induced
21 in the vein and not somewhere else. Although peripheral
22 IVs tend to be very reliable when properly placed, I would
23 say femoral IV is very, very reliable. So it just
24 increases the reliability, and the likelihood of failure is
25 decreased.

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1 Q What about with regard to an incorrect insertion of
2 the catheter that would lead to the delivery of drugs
3 instead of into the vein into subcutaneous tissue; which,
4 the peripheral or femoral, is more likely to avoid that
5 complication?

6 A Certainly hitting the femoral vein is easy because
7 it's huge in the typical person, so once the catheter is in
8 place it's very easy to check that it is intravascular

9 because one can readily withdraw blood from it, or through
10 it. So confirmation of it being in the right place is
11 easy. And once it's there, it tends to stay put.

12 Q How would you compare peripheral access vs. femoral
13 access with regard to the chance of perforation or rupture
14 or leakage of the vein?

15 A Well, in both cases it's small, but with a femoral
16 catheter it's even smaller because the vessel itself is
17 larger, has a thicker wall, is stronger, it's harder to
18 perforate, et cetera.

19 Q So in general, would it be fair to say that drugs
20 administered through a femoral IV access are more likely
21 to be delivered into the vein as we expect to do than with
22 regard to a peripheral IV?

23 A Well, again very slightly increased reliability
24 because even a peripheral IV properly placed has a very
25 high degree of reliability, but that degree is increased

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1 ever so slightly more by having it in the femoral vein.

2 Q We have had testimony in the case about an article in
3 the Journal of the American Medical Association regarding a
4 17 percent complication rate for femoral IV access. Are
5 you aware of that article?

6 A I actually read it.

7 Q What type of patients were being studied in regard to
8 that article that reached the 17 percent complication rate?

9 A Well, all of these people were critically ill and in
10 the intensive care unit.

11 Q And what significance does that have with regard to

12 whether they would be more likely to have complications or
13 less likely to have complications?

14 A Well, first of all, although the authors did not
15 specify specific risk factors, one of the characteristics
16 of many, many patients in intensive care units is their
17 decreased ability to coagulate blood. So many patients in
18 ICUs are deliberately anticoagulated. And in addition,
19 many patients have a decreased ability to clot blood simply
20 because of their underlying disease, like if they have
21 sepsis. Sepsis is associated with a decreased ability to
22 clot. So it's not the least bit surprising that they would
23 have a high incidence of hematoma because they're sticking
24 these catheters in people who have a decreased ability --
25 many of whom have a decreased ability, you know, to clot,

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1 just based on the fact that they're intensive care
2 patients.

3 Similarly, patients who are in the intensive care
4 unit, many of them have low blood pressure. That's why
5 they're there. And a patient with low blood pressure is
6 going to have weaker peripheral pulses. And in my
7 experience, it is a little harder to locate the landmark,
8 which is the femoral artery, which should have a very
9 strong pulse. And in some critically ill patients, the
10 patients do not have a strong pulse because they're
11 critically ill.

12 Q Did the report, at least as far as can be told, look
13 at complication rates of physicians with all levels of
14 experience?

15 A Well, one of the noteworthy things that the paper
16 commented on, it was done at eight hospitals in France, and
17 although they didn't specify which was which, two of the
18 hospitals were noted to have a significantly increased or
19 higher complication rate than the other six. And although
20 I certainly can't say this with any certainty, one possible
21 explanation is that at the two hospitals that had higher
22 complication rates, the people doing the procedures may
23 have been less experienced. For instance, they may have
24 been residents or fellows in training.

25 Q The complications that were reviewed in this article,

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1 did that include complications that would not even manifest
2 themselves for a length of time, say covering days?

3 A One of the major things that the paper discussed was
4 the infection rate, and of course an infection that is
5 visible to a physician would take hours to days to manifest
6 itself after the placement of the catheter.

7 Q How long is a femoral catheter typically left in in a
8 medical situation, a medical practice?

9 A It could be weeks and weeks and weeks. For instance,
10 lots of patients who have femoral catheters for dialysis,
11 the femoral catheter is kept in while waiting for their
12 surgical dialysis access to mature.

13 Q And how long, in your understanding, is the femoral IV
14 catheter useful in an inmate being executed?

15 A It's typically a matter of minutes.

16 Q In your clinical experience, what's the likelihood of
17 damage to a femoral nerve that's caused as a result of an

18 attempt to achieve femoral IV access, femoral venous
19 access?

20 A Well, thankfully it's never happened to me, and I view
21 the likelihood of hitting the femoral nerve to be
22 particularly remote.

23 Q And why is that?

24 A Because the landmark for placing a femoral venous
25 catheter is the femoral artery which is the strongest pulse

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1 in the body, and although the femoral nerve is indeed
2 located just adjacent to the femoral artery, so is the
3 vein, but they're on opposite sides. So as long as one is
4 making the injection on the proper side of the artery, the
5 likelihood of hitting the nerve is, in my mind,
6 unbelievably remote.

7 Q With regard to possible puncture of the femoral artery
8 as opposed to the femoral vein, what's your experience as
9 to the likelihood of that complication occurring?

10 A Well, first of all, the femoral artery sometimes is
11 contacted, but when the femoral venous catheter is placed,
12 the typical procedure involves using what's called a finder
13 needle first. And a finder needle, depending on the
14 manufacturer and the kit, is typically a .22 or .25 gauge
15 needle, which is a small, a small needle. And one probes
16 with this needle to make sure that one is in the right
17 place. And it's typically pretty easy to tell the
18 difference between being in the vein and being in the
19 artery because the arterial blood is bright red and the
20 venous blood is not. And the arterial blood pulses at high

21 pressure and the venous blood does not.

22 If one accidentally goes into the femoral artery
23 with a .22 or .25 gauge needle, then one could apply
24 pressure for a few seconds and there will be essentially no
25 bleeding. And then one also knows that if they have gone

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1 into the artery, they need to move over a little bit more
2 to get into the femoral vein.

3 Once the femoral vein is properly entered with
4 the small needle, typically .22 or .25 gauge, then that
5 needle is removed and a second needle is inserted in the
6 same site and in the same direction. That's typically an
7 .18 gauge needle, and it is that needle through which the
8 wire is then placed and then the catheter itself is
9 threaded over the wire.

10 Q So in your clinical experience, what's the
11 significance of, when it does happen, going into the
12 femoral artery rather than the femoral vein as it's being
13 inserted?

14 A It's generally not a big deal at all. We have all hit
15 the femoral artery on occasion and I have never had a
16 complication that required intervention, personally.

17 Q And I think you said the solution, the action to take
18 is to put pressure --

19 A Correct.

20 Q -- on the puncture site, I guess?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And how long?

23 A Depending on the size of the hole, but with a .22 or

24 .25 gauge finder needle, if one applies pressure for a
25 minute or two in a person, a normal person, the hole will

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1 clot and bleeding will not occur.

2 Q What's the likelihood, in your clinical experience,
3 that a hematoma that results from an attempted femoral
4 access will be clinically significant?

5 A Well, sometimes there will be some blood leaking out
6 around the catheter, and when the catheter is in the
7 femoral vein, normal venous pressure is just a few
8 millimeters of mercury, so even if some blood leaks out,
9 because it's leaking out into a closed space, a process
10 called tamponade will occur whereby the pressure in the
11 enclosed space will then exceed the pressure in the vein
12 and the bleeding will stop. So if somebody is going to get
13 a hematoma from a femoral venous catheter, it's more likely
14 to occur in somebody who is anticoagulated or has some
15 other abnormality like that. But in a normal person,
16 significant hematoma formation from a femoral venous line
17 is not typical, and I can't remember ever needing to take
18 care of a patient who came to the O.R. whose hematoma was
19 due to femoral venous catheterization.

20 Q There's been some testimony in this case from
21 Dr. Johnson that a typical step, a standard step in the
22 insertion of a femoral IV by means of the Seldinger method
23 is to poke the needle through the vein and into the bone
24 that lies beneath the vein.

25 In your experience, is going through the vein

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1 and hitting the bone a usual and intended event in the
2 insertion of a femoral catheter?

3 A Well, it's not the way I do it and it's not the way I
4 teach my residents to do it. The way I do it is I insert
5 first a finder needle to locate the site and the
6 approximate depth of the vein and then remove that needle
7 and insert the .18 gauge needle. And as soon as I achieve
8 venous blood flow, with the tip of the needle in the middle
9 of the lumen of the vein, I then thread the wire and remove
10 the needle.

11 So I'm not saying it's impossible to perforate
12 the back wall of the vessel or hit the bone, but it is
13 certainly not deliberate on my part and it's certainly not
14 something, the way I would teach other people to do it.

15 Q Is the injection of potassium chloride into the
16 femoral vein less likely to be a painful process than
17 injection of potassium chloride through a peripheral vein?

18 A Yes, I believe so, although in clinical medicine we
19 don't use potassium chloride quite as concentrated as is
20 used during a lethal injection. It is commonplace to
21 administer potassium chloride at a concentration that would
22 not be recommended peripherally. So the particular
23 concentration of potassium employed when it's used in
24 my hospital therapeutically is 0.4 milliequivalents per
25 milliliter. That would be 20 milliequivalents in a volume

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1 of 50 milliliters. That solution is not permitted in my
2 hospital, and in other hospitals with which I have been

3 associated, that's not permitted to be given through a
4 peripheral IV. It has to be given through a central vein,
5 and through a central vein at that concentration patients
6 do not experience pain.

7 Q And why is it less likely to have pain and in this
8 case not pain at all from the administration of potassium
9 chloride in a femoral vein vs. a peripheral vein.
10 Physiologically, what's going on that makes it less
11 painful?

12 A When it's going into a femoral vein or the subclavian
13 vein or other large vein that's near the central
14 circulation, the blood flow is much higher than in the arm
15 in terms of the milliliters per second that are flowing
16 past that point in the vessel. And the volume in which the
17 medication is being diluted is much greater. So it's the
18 actual concentration of the potassium chloride that hurts.
19 And so once the potassium chloride is diluted, it's going
20 to hurt less. And it's going to be more readily and more
21 rapidly diluted when it is placed into a central vein as
22 compared to a peripheral vein.

23 Q Are you aware of any jurisdictions in the United
24 States that have chosen femoral IV access as the standard
25 for executions besides Missouri?

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1 A My understanding is the federal government also uses
2 the femoral venous route as its preferred route.

3 Q Are you aware of any class of physicians that would
4 commonly obtain femoral IV access with the use of local
5 anesthesia only?

6 A Yes. In my experience and the hospital in which I
7 work now, as well as in other hospitals with which I have
8 been affiliated, although surgeons sometimes bring patients
9 to the operating room for placement of some types of
10 catheters, nephrologists, who are the specialists who deal
11 with patients with chronic renal failure, they're the ones
12 who are often consulted when a patient is needing dialysis,
13 and surgeons may be asked to perform surgery to create a
14 permanent and long-lasting dialysis access. But typically
15 from the time the surgeon does the operation to the time
16 that it's ready to be used is measured as weeks or months.
17 And in the meantime temporary dialysis catheters are often
18 inserted by nephrologists. It's typically a bedside
19 procedure, and it's typically done with local anesthesia to
20 provide comfort and no sedation whatsoever.

21 Q I believe you said that's at least a fairly common
22 practice at the medical facilities that you're familiar
23 with?

24 A Yes. Temporary dialysis catheters are placed by
25 nephrologists in my institution all the time. These

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1 patients don't come to the operating room. They don't go
2 to the recovery room afterward. They don't get sedation.
3 And, you know, this is not considered by the nephrologist
4 or by the patients to be a particularly noxious procedure.

5 Q So in your view, is the use of femoral IV access for
6 the administration of lethal chemicals in the case we're
7 here for today a reasonable choice to be made?

8 A I think it is a reasonable option, balancing the

9 advantages and disadvantages of all the different options.

10 MR. PRITCHETT: I think I am at an end, or near
11 an end, Judge. If I could have a moment to consult with
12 cocounsel.

13 Just briefly, Judge.

14 Q The low doses that are typically used in a surgical
15 procedure, do those have an effect on cardiac output?

16 A You're speaking of low doses of thiopental?

17 Q Yes. Thank you. Sorry. I did not specify that.

18 A The typical dose of thiopental, a few hundred
19 milligrams, may drop the blood pressure by a small amount,
20 but it typically does not affect the cardiac output to a
21 meaningful degree as far as the circulation time.

22 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you very much, Doctor.

23 That's all I have for you at this time.

24 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. ANDERS:

25 Q Good morning. Have you published anything on

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1 thiopental?

2 A I have published a fair number of chapters about
3 general anesthetic, intravenous anesthetic, in review books
4 and, for example, in one of the major standard textbooks of
5 anesthesiology that is in the process of being revised I
6 have a chapter on intravenous anesthetic which certainly
7 includes an extensive discussion of the pharmacology of
8 thiopental. I have also written about it and its use in
9 other chapters I have written elsewhere.

10 Q So textbook chapters, you rely on other sources for
11 that; is that correct?

12 A Typically, yes.

13 Q You cite other sources. Have you published any human
14 studies on thiopental in peer review journals?

15 A No.

16 Q And I believe that Dr. Henthorn has done extensive
17 research and studies in thiopental, particularly the onset
18 of thiopental, the onset time; is that correct?

19 A Yes. He and I have done very similar work. His work
20 on thiopental is very similar to my work on propofol, which
21 is another hypnotic.

22 Q Have you ever received a grant to study thiopental?

23 A No.

24 Q And would you seek out Dr. Henthorn's judgment if you
25 had a question about the onset of thiopental particularly?

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1 A Well, his work on the rapid and early circulation of
2 thiopental is one of the sources that I have considered, as
3 well as the work of others.

4 Q And I believe you stated in your expert report that
5 the graphs you've done in this case are based on the work
6 by Dr. Henthorn; is that correct?

7 A A portion of the consideration is based upon his work
8 as well as the work of others. I did not rely on the
9 kinetic set based solely on one person's work because I
10 wanted to make sure it was more extrapolatable to the
11 general population. But I certainly did include
12 consideration of his published work.

13 Q What other published works did you rely on?

14 A Another lab that has done a fair bit of work on

15 thiopental is the lab at Stanford and Doctors Stanski and
16 Shafer and Mada are amongst the authors who published
17 extensively on the kinetics of thiopental.

18 Q And where was the data that was relied on published?
19 Is there an article you can cite?

20 A Off the top of my head I would say it was probably in
21 the Journal of Anesthesiology or at least some of the
22 papers were in the Journal of Anesthesiology, but I'd have
23 to go back and look again.

24 Q Do you remember about when those papers were
25 published?

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1 A Late '80s, early '90s approximately, I believe.

2 Q And I believe you testified previously that in this
3 case, that -- and this is on page 32 of the transcript, the
4 detailed -- I quote, "The detailed kinetic and dynamic
5 predictions that I made for thiopental rely on
6 state-of-the-art studies that were performed on human
7 volunteers." So I take it you were referring to Dr.
8 Henthorn's article and the Stanski article as well; is that
9 correct?

10 A Yes, both of them published lots of things in human
11 volunteers.

12 Q And I believe that Dr. Henthorn's article that you
13 cited specifically was published in 1989; is that correct?

14 A In clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, yes.

15 Q And I think you just testified that the Stanski and
16 Shafer articles were also about the late '80s or early
17 '90s?

18 A They were contemporaneously published within a year or
19 two of each year.

20 Q So do you consider data from 1989 to be
21 state-of-the-art in this field?

22 A Yes, simply because since thiopental was essentially
23 abandoned in anesthesia use in the early '90s, people
24 stopped doing high-level research on thiopental and chose
25 to explore other drugs like propofol.

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1 Q Are you aware of whether Dr. Henthorn has continued
2 publishing on thiopental?

3 A He may have. I can't cite any papers off the top of
4 my head beyond the early '90s.

5 Q Would you be surprised if I told you that Dr. Henthorn
6 has received eleven years of grants to study thiopental and
7 that has continued into the past few years?

8 A No, that wouldn't surprise me at all, but the area in
9 which he is studying is not exactly the same as which he
10 did in the late '80s and early '90s.

11 Q I see. So I believe you testified that it's not
12 necessary to monitor anesthetic depth assuming a five-gram
13 dose or 2.5 gram dose of thiopental is successfully given;
14 is that correct?

15 A Yes. And my understanding is that people --
16 anesthesiologists on both sides of this issue have agreed
17 that the successful delivery of this large dose of
18 thiopental will result in a humane execution.

19 Q And I believe -- well, let me ask you. When you did
20 your graphs back in January for this case and you

21 testified, did you assume that a five-gram dose of
22 thiopental would be successfully given into the
23 circulation?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And that turned out to be false, didn't it?

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1 A No.

2 Q Why not?

3 A I have no evidence that the catheter malfunctioned or
4 that the medication was not delivered into the central
5 circulation.

6 Q What is your understanding of the intended dose of
7 thiopental in the past five executions in Missouri?

8 A Well, now I understand. The intended dose was five
9 grams and the delivered dose was 2.5, grams and as far as
10 I know, there's no reason to think that the delivered dose
11 was not delivered successfully into the central
12 circulation.

13 Q And are you able to tell definitively from the
14 documents in this case and the testimony, deposition
15 testimony of John Doe One, precisely how much thiopental
16 was given on a particular occasion?

17 A Well, I believe he said it was 2.5 grams resulting
18 from the preparation of five 500-milligram injection kits.

19 Q And are you certain about that?

20 A I'm as certain as he was when he testified to that
21 point.

22 Q Are you aware of discrepancies in the chemical log
23 with respect to how many vials of thiopental were checked

24 out and precisely how much thiopental was given?

25 A I have read references to that and I have to admit I

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1 don't understand what is going on there.

2 Q Have you reviewed the chemical log yourself?

3 A No.

4 Q And I believe you stated that you made an assumption
5 with respect to the amount of diluent, is that correct,
6 back in January?

7 A Correct. I assumed that the solution to be injected
8 would be 2.5 percent, which is that concentration that is
9 clinically used.

10 Q And that assumption turned out not to be correct in
11 terms of the facts in this case?

12 A That appears to be the case.

13 Q And did you also make an assumption with regard to the
14 injection times in Missouri?

15 A Well, originally I assumed that the five grams would
16 be injected at the rate of one milliliter per second.

17 Q And that turned out not to be correct?

18 A Correct.

19 Q And if there's a leakage to the connection between the
20 tubing and the catheter -- a partial disconnect, could that
21 be undetected in an execution?

22 A Anything is possible. However, once the IV tubing is
23 put together, in my experience, I have a very difficult
24 time imagining a disconnect just happening, because the
25 pieces screw together. But I will concede that anything

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1 is possible.

2 Q Are you aware of whether the execution team in
3 Missouri can observe the catheter site?

4 A I don't know if they can actually see the catheter
5 site itself.

6 Q So you don't know whether there's a sheet covering it
7 or not?

8 A I believe that there is a sheet covering the inmate
9 and they can see parts of the IV tubing and can't see all
10 of it.

11 Q If I told you that the sheet went up to the inmate's
12 neck and came fully down both sides of the bed, would you
13 have an opinion as to whether they can see the catheter
14 site?

15 A They probably can't see the catheter site itself.

16 Q If 80 percent of the drugs leaked at some point
17 through the tubing or the catheter site, how much
18 thiopental went into the body?

19 A Well, if the intended dose was five grams and
20 80 percent of it leaked, then only one gram would reach
21 the patient.

22 Q And do you agree that one gram of thiopental is an
23 insufficient dose for chronic drug addicts?

24 A Well, first of all, it's inconceivable to me that an
25 inmate on death row is currently using illicit drugs. So

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1 if a person has a remote history of drug abuse but has been
2 clean for years, then they are expected to respond normally

3 to a dose of thiopental. I would say, though, that in my
4 opinion, one gram of thiopental is probably not an adequate
5 dose for a judicial execution in anybody. But I don't
6 think that a former drug addict is any different from
7 anybody else, assuming they have not been able to use
8 illicit drugs while confined in the penitentiary.

9 Q So you don't think the fact that somebody who is a
10 chronic drug addict particularly would render one gram of
11 thiopental an insufficient dose?

12 A As I said, in my opinion, one gram is not an adequate
13 dose for a judicial execution. If a person has a prior
14 history of drug use but has been clean for years, they
15 don't respond differently than somebody who has never
16 had a history of drug abuse. And so for a person to be
17 considered different, I would want to see evidence that
18 they continued to use in the recent past, which I would
19 think would be very difficult to imagine in an incarcerated
20 inmate. But if you showed me evidence to the contrary,
21 then I would consider it.

22 Q So you say that one gram would be, in your view,
23 insufficient for a judicial execution. Would it be
24 insufficient to ensure that a drug addict were sedated,
25 just taking out the execution situation?

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1 A Well, certainly a gram of thiopental is going to
2 sedate everybody to some degree or another because the drug
3 is a sedative. It's going to cause loss of consciousness
4 in a substantial fraction of people. In my opinion, the
5 percentage of the population that would be reliably

6 rendered unconscious by one gram is not high enough for a
7 judicial execution. But I'm saying this not with regard to
8 drug addicts. I'm saying this with regard to everybody in
9 the population.

10 Q So if I told you that John Doe One, the physician, in
11 his deposition, page 12, stated that, "I was quite aware
12 that one gram in chronic addicts was an insufficient dose
13 to ensure that they would be sedated," would you disagree
14 with that statement?

15 A I think it depends on your definition of a drug
16 addict. If the person was using up until the recent past,
17 that's one type of patient. But a person who has been
18 forced to be abstaining from drugs because they're
19 incarcerated is a completely different type of patient.

20 THE COURT: Why don't we take a brief recess
21 here, about ten minutes or so.

22 And I will remind you, Ms. Anders, that you do
23 have a limited amount of time. You may, at your peril, not
24 get to critical issues to cover in this examination.

25 We'll stand in recess.

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1 (Recess)

2 Q (By Ms. Anders) Just to go back to a previous
3 question briefly, Dr. Derschwitz. If the intended dose of
4 thiopental is 2.5 grams and 80 percent of it leaks, how
5 much thiopental would enter the circulation?

6 A I think 500.

7 Q 500 --

8 A Milligrams.

9 Q Milligrams. So I think -- I believe you testified
10 that in a rapid sequence induction you skipped the testing
11 of anesthetic depth because of a medical indication?

12 A Yes.

13 Q So is it fair to say that you don't skip the testing
14 of anesthetic depth all the time with every patient?

15 A No. We assess the depth of anesthesia if it's
16 medically indicated and we don't if it's medically
17 contraindicated.

18 Q And I believe you testified about the medical
19 indications of a rapid sequence induction. Those involved
20 the person not having properly fasted, things like that; is
21 that correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Is it fair to say that most of those situations are
24 emergency situations?

25 A No, because a huge proportion of the population has

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1 symptoms of acid reflux and so people with that symptom are
2 also at higher risk for aspiration so those are people who
3 we would do rapid sequence induction also.

4 Q So it's specific medical issue that requires you to do
5 rapid sequence induction?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And what is the medical indication of lethal
8 injection?

9 A Lethal injection is not a medical procedure.

10 Q So why is it -- are there medical factors involved in
11 an execution that require as a medical matter the use of

12 something like a rapid sequence induction?

13 A Well, I'm not sure I can answer the question because
14 from start to finish it's not a medical procedure so I
15 can't say that only a fraction of it is or is not.

16 Q Is it necessary to induce general anesthesia in an
17 execution?

18 A It's necessary to provide unconsciousness.

19 Q And providing unconsciousness using an anesthetic, is
20 that a medical procedure?

21 A Again, when it's ordered by the State I do not
22 consider it a medical procedure.

23 Q But the same actions are taken, the same drug, medical
24 drug is used or a drug that is used in medicine; is that
25 correct?

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1 A Well, the drug is the same. I won't say that the same
2 actions are taken, but I would say of course the
3 medications are used -- that are used are also typically
4 used in clinical medicine.

5 Q So unconsciousness is induced in an inmate through the
6 use of medication?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And so in that process, what justifies taking the
9 increased risk of not monitoring anesthetic depth?

10 A That's not for me to decide.

11 Q I believe you discussed the BIS monitor briefly. If
12 you give a conscious person a large dose of a paralytic
13 drug like pancuronium, what will happen to the BIS value?

14 A As far as I know, no one knows because it's never been

15 studied. Certainly one of the parameters that goes into
16 the BIS value is the degree of muscle tone in the frontalis
17 muscle, which is the muscle in the forehead, so the BIS
18 value will drop to some indeterminate -- by some
19 indeterminate degree if you paralyze someone awake, but
20 as far as I know, that experiment has never been done.

21 Q So you're not aware of a study in which that actually
22 -- the use of a paralytic drug with a BIS monitor actually
23 was studied?

24 A I am unaware of a study in which a human was given a
25 large dose of a paralytic drug with no sedation and had

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1 their BIS measured concurrently.

2 Q So if the BIS monitor -- if the BIS value goes down
3 upon the administration or after administration of
4 pancuronium, can it provide an accurate measure of
5 consciousness after the pancuronium is administered?

6 A Absolutely, because it will drop like a rock after the
7 thiopental is given.

8 Q After the thiopental is given, yes, but after the
9 thiopental is given and after the pancuronium is given can
10 you trust its accuracy at that point?

11 A Absolutely, because that's how we use it in clinical
12 medicine. Almost all of our patients -- a significant
13 fraction of our patients under clinical anesthesia are also
14 paralyzed and the BIS monitor works very reliably.

15 Q Is the BIS monitor the only monitor that you use to
16 measure anesthetic depth?

17 A Of course not.

18 Q What other monitors do you use?

19 A We may use clinical factors like observation by the
20 anesthesia team as well as observation by the surgeon.

21 Q And is using a BIS monitor alone to monitor anesthetic
22 depth, is that something that anesthesiologists generally
23 do?

24 A Not during surgery.

25 Q During any procedure requiring general anesthesia?

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1 A Well, I can't think of any procedure that requires
2 general anesthesia where nothing else is done later. But
3 another corollary might be in patients who are mechanically
4 ventilated in intensive care units and are not undergoing
5 surgery, the BIS monitor is commonly applied there to
6 titrate the sedation to an adequate depth of sedation or
7 loss of consciousness. So in that scenario, the only
8 procedure that's being performed is mechanical ventilation,
9 and the primary end point to which the sedating medication
10 is being titrated is the BIS value. So in that scenario it
11 is the primary monitor when it's chosen to be used in an
12 intensive care unit.

13 Q And that's not a situation in which the patient is
14 subjected to painful stimulus; is that correct?

15 A Well, having an endotracheal tube is painful.

16 Q Do all anesthesiologists use a BIS monitor during
17 general anesthesia?

18 A Of course not.

19 Q And should they?

20 A In my opinion, yes, and I have written that. With the

21 caveat that there are some subset of patients in whom the
22 monitor is not appropriate, but I have written several
23 review articles in which I advocated the use of the BIS
24 monitor routinely in general anesthesia except when it was
25 medically impossible.

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1 Q And are you aware that the American Society of
2 Anesthesiologists has issued a document stating that the
3 BIS monitor is not the general standard of care?

4 A Well, that's actually not what they said. They
5 recommended that the BIS monitor be considered on a
6 case-by-case basis and that clinicians are free to choose
7 to use it when they wish. And they also recognized that
8 there are certain subsets of the population for whom a
9 higher risk of awareness is possible.

10 Q They also stated that the BIS monitor is not indicated
11 for sole use because there are other important measures of
12 anesthetic depth; is that correct?

13 A During surgery, that's true. That's actually not the
14 case when it's used in the intensive care unit, but the ASA
15 policy statement did not address the use in the ICU.

16 Q And I believe you testified that the injection time
17 for thiopental in North Carolina is between 1 and 1.5
18 minutes is that correct?

19 A That's an approximation.

20 Q Do you know how many seconds precisely the injection
21 takes in North Carolina?

22 A No, I do not.

23 Q Do you know how many seconds it takes to inject the

24 thiopental in Missouri?

25 A No, I do not.

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1 Q Isn't it true that if thiopental is injected
2 relatively slowly, it may have taken effect in the brain by
3 the time the injection is complete?

4 A The speed of the injection is less relevant than how
5 long it takes to get the first few hundred milligrams in,
6 and when one is using a concentrated solution it does not
7 take very long to get two or 300 milligrams into the
8 circulation. How fast the overall syringe plunger is
9 pushed is not terribly meaningful to this discussion.

10 Q And the solution which the thiopental is mixed in
11 Missouri, it's very concentrated; is that correct?

12 A I believe the intent is to make it as concentrated as
13 is achievable.

14 Q So if the solution is extremely concentrated and the
15 drug pushed quite quickly, do you have -- can you be
16 certain whether the North Carolina execution is comparable
17 to Missouri in terms of injection speed and the
18 concentration of thiopental?

19 A I actually think that it's probably not a meaningful
20 difference because what's truly critical is the point at
21 which we go from having no thiopental to let's say
22 approximately 300 milligrams of thiopental. And in the two
23 scenarios that you described we're still talking about a
24 difference of only a few seconds. So, therefore, it is not
25 a clinically meaningful difference.

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1 Q But you're not sure how great that difference is; is
2 that correct?

3 A I don't know exactly. I don't know a lot of things
4 exactly. But we're talking about a matter of just a few
5 seconds; a few being a small number.

6 Q Did you see the BIS monitor read-outs from the Brown
7 execution?

8 A I was not there.

9 Q So on what source are you basing your assertions about
10 the BIS monitor in North Carolina?

11 A The information was provided to me by the Attorney
12 General's Office.

13 Q Did you at that point see the BIS monitor read-outs?

14 A I told you I was not there. The material -- the
15 information was provided to me by the Attorney General's
16 Office.

17 Q And did you bring with you today any of the
18 information that was provided to you by the AG's Office?

19 A No. Well, I actually do have a copy of the e-mail on
20 my computer.

21 Q So you have an e-mail from the AG's Office?

22 A Yes, I do.

23 Q And would you rely on that in a medical situation?

24 A I would rely on it in a judicial execution situation,
25 which is obviously, in my opinion, not a medical situation.

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1 Q Do you know Dr. Henthorn?

2 A Very well. We were medical school classmates.

3 Q Do you believe he's a reasonable person?

4 A I sure do. He's also capable of making a mistake
5 sometimes, as we all are.

6 Q He knows more about the onset time of thiopental than
7 you do; is that correct?

8 A Not anymore.

9 Q Have you received any funding to study the onset of --

10 THE COURT: Let's not get into argument with the
11 Doctor. Let's move on. Your time is limited.

12 Q (By Ms. Anders) So is there a debate about the onset
13 time of thiopental in the medical community?

14 A There is now.

15 Q So this is a situation which reasonable doctors can
16 disagree; is that correct?

17 A And I will be interested to see how much he disagrees
18 once he realizes the mistake that he made.

19 Q Are you certain that he's wrong?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Have you performed his models yourself?

22 A Not in as great detail, but I discovered a flaw in an
23 assumption on which the rest of his calculation is based.

24 Q I believe you testified about an MRI situation where
25 you maintain general anesthesia from a remote location; is

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1 that correct?

2 A Yes.

3 Q In that situation, do you ever induce general
4 anesthesia in an awake patient from a remote location?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And when do you do that?

7 A As I said, it happens occasionally in the MRI
8 environment.

9 Q And the patient starts out awake?

10 A Correct, awake but sedated. And then the decision was
11 made to switch from sedation to general anesthesia in the
12 middle of the procedure and then I alter my anesthetic
13 dosing so that the patient proceeds from a sedated state to
14 an unconscious state.

15 Q How many times have you done this?

16 A A few. I can't remember exactly. It's not common,
17 but it's certainly happened to me.

18 Q Do you have any idea how many times in the past six
19 months?

20 A I can't put a number on it. It's a small number.
21 It's in single digits, but I can't tell you exactly.

22 Q In those situations was the patient already intubated?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And that means the patient was already heavily
25 sedated; is that correct?

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1 A I guess it depends on your definition of heavily
2 sedated. They were not heavily sedated. They were sedated
3 to the point that they were comfortable but awake so they
4 could follow commands.

5 Q I believe you stated that being intubated is a fairly
6 painful procedure, correct?

7 A Correct, but sedation per se does not mitigate the
8 pain. We would provide analgesics for pain relief and

9 sedation for comfort.

10 Q And did you monitor anesthetic depth when you used
11 general anesthesia in those patients?

12 A Actually the BIS monitor is not compatible in an MRI
13 environment so I can't use it in that environment.

14 Q Did you use any other monitor to measure anesthetic
15 depth?

16 A No, I didn't. But may I add something. The patient
17 stopped moving and the radiologist told me it was -- the
18 conditions were adequate for -- to proceed. So I used that
19 as a reasonable end point.

20 Q I believe you testified before that a typical clinical
21 concentration of potassium is about .4 milliequivalents per
22 milliliter, correct?

23 A That is the concentration that we use when we're
24 delivering a large amount to a central vein. The
25 concentration that would be delivered to a peripheral vein

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1 is much lower.

2 Q Thank you. And do you know what the concentration of
3 potassium used in Missouri is?

4 A I believe it's two milliequivalents per milliliter.

5 Q How much higher is that than .4 milliequivalents per
6 milliliter?

7 A Well, it's two versus point four.

8 Q So it's quite a bit higher?

9 A Slightly higher.

10 Q So a two to one ratio versus a four to one ratio; is
11 that correct?

12 A No, it's -- the concentration that Missouri uses is
13 2 milliequivalents per milliliter. The highest
14 concentration that I'm aware of any hospital using is 0.4
15 milliequivalents per milliliter. So it's a difference 1.6
16 milliequivalents per milliliter.

17 Q Right. But in terms of the concentration, how many
18 times -- let me ask it this way. How many times greater
19 concentration is 2 milliequivalents per milliliter than .4
20 milliequivalents per milliliter?

21 A That question doesn't make sense to me. The highest
22 concentration used clinically, as far as I'm aware, is .4
23 milliequivalents per milliliter. The concentration used in
24 Missouri is two milliequivalents per milliliter, so that is
25 a difference of 1.6 milliequivalents per milliliter. It's

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1 1.6 milliequivalents per milliliter higher in the judicial
2 execution in Missouri than the highest concentration used
3 in a hospital, of which I'm aware.

4 Q And is the concentration of two milliequivalents per
5 milliliter ever used in a clinical setting?

6 A Not that I'm aware of.

7 Q Has any research been done on it?

8 A I wouldn't know.

9 Q So you don't know whether two milliequivalents per
10 milliliter concentration would hurt in the femoral vein; is
11 that correct?

12 A If it did hurt it would hurt a lot less in the femoral
13 vein than it would hurt peripherally, and my suspicion is,
14 knowing the other highly-irritating drugs that are given

15 centrally, that as far as I'm aware, no medication that
16 hurts peripherally hurts when it's given centrally.

17 Q Do you know what the concentration of the potassium
18 would end up being in the femoral vein assuming that 240
19 milliequivalents were injected within a minute?

20 A It would depend on blood flow. It's a complicated
21 calculation. I can't do it in my head, but it depends on
22 blood flow.

23 Q Can you estimate the blood flow?

24 A Not in my head.

25 Q Okay. So then you're not sure what the concentration

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1 of potassium would be in the femoral vein if it were
2 injected --

3 A It would be very high, but I can't tell you exactly
4 what it is.

5 Q So in your opinion should lethal injection for
6 execution be performed using a femoral vein catheter rather
7 than a peripheral IV?

8 A I believe that that is a public policy decision that
9 should be made by those responsible, balancing the benefits
10 and the risks. It's not my job to decide what is, quote
11 unquote, better. I would make every effort to describe the
12 advantages and disadvantages, the risks and benefits, and
13 let those responsible for making the decision make the
14 decision.

15 Q And I believe you testified that a femoral vein has a
16 very -- quote, I believe this is a quote, has a very slight
17 increased degree of reliability as opposed to peripheral IV

18 access.

19 A Yes.

20 Q So -- and you believe that peripheral IV access is
21 also reliable?

22 A Yes, but it is also deemed unreliable by some of your
23 experts, so when one balances the benefits vs. the risks,
24 the increased reliability of a femoral venous catheter is
25 worth considering based upon some of the statements that

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1 your own experts have made.

2 Q If a peripheral IV were placed by a board-certified
3 surgeon, do you believe it would be reliable?

4 A I think an IV placed by anybody with any significant
5 amount of experience is probably reliable.

6 Q So if both types of IV access are medically reliable
7 in your view, what are the medical indications for using
8 femoral access?

9 A Well, in my experience when I use a femoral IV it's
10 typically because either we do not have access to the upper
11 extremities or the neck because of the nature of the
12 patient's condition, or, for example, in certain trauma
13 patients we want to have a reliable IV below the diaphragm
14 as well as having reliable IV access above the diaphragm.

15 Q So is it fair to say you don't routinely use femoral
16 catheterization as your first choice method in inducing
17 anesthesia?

18 A Well, it depends on the nature of the patient. With
19 certain trauma patients it's definitely our first choice
20 for IV catheterization. But I will tell you that's a small

21 fraction of the over-all population. But depending on the
22 person's presentation, the femoral IV catheter might very
23 well be the preferred and initial site for IV placement.

24 Q So whether the femoral IV is the preferred initial
25 site for placement depends on the patient; is that correct?

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1 A In a clinical scenario, that's my experience.

2 Q How many femoral venous catheters have you placed in
3 the last year?

4 A I have no idea. I don't keep track of these things.

5 Q Do you know how many you placed in the last month?

6 A No.

7 Q Can you estimate?

8 A No. It's -- it's not something that I keep track of,
9 nor could I tell you how many Big Macs I ate in the last
10 month. They have about the same level of importance to me.

11 Q Would you say that you put in femoral lines
12 frequently?

13 A I guess it depends on your definition of frequently.
14 I work in a major trauma center so it happens. Sometimes
15 the surgeons or emergency department surgeons or emergency
16 department doctors get to the patient before the anesthesia
17 team and they may have secured the femoral line before I
18 do, or my team does. But it's certainly something that we
19 use with some regularity.

20 Q I see. With some regularity. So would you be
21 surprised if I told you that somebody who performs femoral
22 catheterization all the time, thousands of times in their
23 career, sees a 10 to 20 percent over-all complication rate

24 in their clinical practice?

25 A I think it's very important that, first of all, one

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1 define complication and one also define the purpose for
2 which the catheter is inserted. I can certainly tell you
3 that when femoral catheters are put in long-term for
4 dialysis patients, nobody would agree that there's a 20
5 percent incidence of complications, because it just doesn't
6 happen.

7 Q And if an artery were punctured in the course of
8 femoral catheterization, would the hematoma be bigger than
9 just a venous puncture?

10 A Assuming that the hole was the same size in the
11 arterial venous puncture, more blood would leak out through
12 the artery until tamponade is achieved than from a vein
13 because the pressure is higher.

14 Q I see. And I believe you testified that the
15 appropriate treatment is to use pressure to stop the
16 bleeding?

17 A Yes.

18 Q So you would disagree that the appropriate treatment
19 from an arterial puncture is to allow the -- allow the
20 puncture to bleed until the blood is naturally stopped by
21 the pressure?

22 A First of all, I would apply pressure and between
23 pressure and the blood's normal clotting ability, the hole
24 generally seals in a matter of seconds, or a minute or
25 two. Also, again, dependent upon the size of the hole,

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1 there may be continued leakage. Sometimes it's
2 imperceptible to the person standing there whether or not
3 there's continued leakage, and it typically does end up
4 sealing itself after a period of time due to the tamponade
5 effect.

6 Q About how much blood would be -- do you have any idea
7 about how much blood would come out before it sealed
8 itself?

9 A It depends on so many variables - the site, the exact
10 site at which it's punctured and the physical make-up of
11 the patient - that I cannot even begin to estimate how much
12 blood could be present in a hematoma there.

13 Q So you have no way of knowing in the abstract how
14 serious that kind of hematoma would be?

15 A Certainly it depends on your definition of serious.
16 If you define serious as life-threatening, that's very
17 difficult to imagine.

18 Q So you have no way -- then let me rephrase. You have
19 no way of knowing how painful a hematoma might be from an
20 arterial puncture, in the abstract?

21 A Well, if I was concerned that the person were in pain
22 I would ask.

23 Q Are some people relatively resistant to the effects of
24 thiopental?

25 A There are some people who require slightly greater

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1 doses than others and the most common reason would be the
2 co-administration of concurrent medications or the frequent

3 ingestion of alcohol.

4 Q So does that relative resistance have anything to do
5 with metabolizing thiopental?

6 A No, because in the context of a judicial execution,
7 which takes a few minutes, metabolism is a completely
8 unimportant and irrelevant parameter.

9 Q So if I told you that John Doe One stated in his
10 deposition, Page 27, quote: "The extra gram" -- or "One
11 gram of thiopental will cause 90 percent of the population
12 to be unconscious. The extra gram is for that small
13 percentage of drug addicts that had excessive drug use.
14 They produce enzymes in the liver that allows them to
15 metabolize pentothal at a much more rapid rate," would you
16 agree or disagree with that statement?

17 A Well, it depends upon two things. First of all, it
18 assumes that the person has been recently and regularly
19 using drugs, and second of all, it assumes that their abuse
20 drug is something that does produce liver enzymes. But if
21 both of those things were true, then that's a true
22 statement.

23 Q But I believe you just said before that metabolism of
24 pentothal is not a relevant factor in determining
25 consciousness.

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1 A Metabolism per se does not affect the probability of
2 consciousness or the time to awakening when large doses of
3 thiopental are used in a judicial execution.

4 Q Is thiopental best described as a sedative or an
5 anesthetic?

6 A Pharmacologically we describe it as a sedative
7 hypnotic drug meaning that at low doses it produces
8 sedation and at high doses it produces hypnosis. Now, to a
9 pharmacist, hypnosis means loss of consciousness. It
10 has nothing to do with what they do in nightclubs. It's a
11 pharmacological term meaning loss of consciousness.

12 Q So at high doses thiopental has hypnotic properties?

13 A No. In the context of producing unconsciousness it
14 can produce an anesthetic state.

15 Q So you disagree with the statement that thiopental has
16 no anesthetic properties whatsoever?

17 A I think that that is misstated as far as being
18 linguistically correct.

19 Q So if I told you that John Doe One stated that, you
20 would feel that was incorrect?

21 A Well, I read his deposition and I disagree with that
22 statement.

23 MS. ANDERS: If I could have a moment, Your
24 Honor.

25 Q (By Ms. Anders) Is mixing the thiopental difficult?

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1 A No.

2 Q And I think you actually testified that it was not
3 difficult; is that correct?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q So if I told you that John Doe One stated, "I am the
6 one that always mixes the pentothal because it's very
7 difficult for someone who is not used to this to accomplish
8 it." You disagree with that statement?

9 A I think it depends upon a person's background and
10 training, but certainly most people who are intelligent can
11 be taught to mix up a drug like thiopental properly. It's
12 not intuitively obvious how to do it when you're handed the
13 materials, but I don't think training somebody to do it is
14 difficult.

15 Q And you think a board-certified surgeon would have the
16 expertise to mix thiopental properly?

17 A I would hope so.

18 Q Does propofol have to be administered through a
19 continuous infusion?

20 A Propofol? We are switching to propofol now?

21 Q Just a question.

22 A I just want to make sure. Propofol can be given by
23 bolus or by infusion, either way.

24 Q So you disagree with the statement that it requires a
25 continuous IV infusion?

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1 A I think in that context, propofol is much shorter
2 acting than thiopental, so if one wants a prolonged effect
3 one would give repeated boluses or a continuous infusion
4 for a prolonged effect.

5 Q Thank you.

6 MS. ANDERS: Nothing further, Your Honor.

7 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

8 Q Early in the cross-examination you were asked whether
9 or not the amount of the thiopental that was given in the
10 last few executions was what you presumed it to be in your
11 modeling, your charts, when you testified in January.

12 A Yes.

13 Q And I believe you indicated that the dose of
14 thiopental that was actually given was less, 2.5 instead of
15 five grams.

16 A Yes.

17 Q And I believe you also testified that the amount of
18 the diluent was different than what you had assumed in
19 making your initial analysis in this case that you provided
20 testimony on in January.

21 A Yes.

22 Q And the amount of diluent was reduced to less than
23 what you had assumed back in January.

24 A Yes.

25 Q And the rate of administration was also different than

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1 what you had assumed in your initial analysis; is that
2 correct?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And the rate of administration was greater than what
5 you had thought.

6 A Yes, the time to complete the administration was less.

7 Q Despite all those differences, the decrease in the
8 thiopental, the decrease in the diluent, the increase in
9 the administration rate of the drug, does that have any
10 meaningful -- does that make any meaningful difference in
11 your conclusions that you testified to in January?

12 A No, because these changes result in changes in
13 probabilities of consciousness that are extremely tiny to
14 begin with, and if we change one very tiny number to

15 another very tiny number, in my opinion it makes no
16 meaningful scientific difference in whether or not the
17 execution meets what most people would consider the
18 definition of humaneness, meaning a very high probability
19 of unconsciousness.

20 Q Did I hear you testify as part of the
21 cross-examination that you saw no clinical difference
22 between the use of the execution process in Missouri and
23 that that was used in North Carolina in the recent
24 execution with the BIS machine?

25 A Yes. Missouri has recently used 2.5 grams, which is

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1 slightly different from the three grams that they use in
2 North Carolina, and the time to administer may be a little
3 different. In Missouri the 2.5 grams is dissolved in a
4 much lower volume of diluent than they use in North
5 Carolina. However, in North Carolina the three grams,
6 although it is dissolved in the usual clinical
7 concentration, result in a much larger volume. And the
8 way that it's administered in North Carolina is to have
9 two executioners each with a syringe each injecting
10 simultaneously into an IV so that the overall speed of
11 completing the injection does not seem to be different by
12 more than a few seconds at most between North Carolina and
13 Missouri, as far as I can tell.

14 Q You were also asked in cross-examination whether you
15 were -- and I think this is close to a quote -- certain
16 that Dr. Henthorn's analysis was wrong.

17 A I think that his analysis --

18 Q Before you -- does that pretty adequately, accurately,
19 summarize your testimony?

20 A I am certain that there is an assumption on which his
21 analysis is based that is flawed.

22 MR. PRITCHETT: Judge, I know you sustained the
23 objection to the discussion of what that assumption was in
24 the direct portion of the testimony. I think the door has
25 been open now and I would ask the opportunity to explore

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1 that with the witness.

2 MS. ANDERS: I object, Your Honor. We have had
3 absolutely no notice of what this might be. We haven't had
4 a chance to ask our expert about it, and we haven't been
5 able to depose Dr. Derschwitz on his views.

6 THE COURT: I don't see that the
7 cross-examination put that in any better posture, so
8 objection is overruled -- or sustained rather.

9 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) You were also asked towards the
10 end of your cross-examination about Dr. Doe's testimony
11 that thiopental is not an anesthetic, and you disagreed as
12 a general matter with that conclusion.

13 A Yes.

14 Q Does that clinical either difference of opinion or
15 mistake, however it should be described, does that have a
16 clinical -- does that make a clinical difference in this
17 case?

18 A Well, in my opinion as long as Dr. Doe succeeds in
19 properly providing an adequate dose, which is, in my
20 opinion, at least 1.5 to two grams of the thiopental,

21 properly delivered to the IV, it will have no meaningful
22 effect on the conduct of a judicial execution. And so the
23 fact that he made some pharmacological mistakes in his
24 deposition does not contradict his statements about how
25 much thiopental he says he gave, and the amount that he

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1 said he gave was adequate to conduct a humane execution.

2 Q And then I think very nearly at the close of your
3 cross-examination you were asked about how difficult it is
4 to mix thiopental, and we understand that it is a fairly
5 simple process. What's your understanding, if you have
6 one, of why Dr. Doe was having difficulty with mixing the
7 thiopental in the execution context?

8 A My understanding from his deposition is that when
9 Missouri formerly used a five-gram single dose container of
10 thiopental, he was able to dissolve that five grams of
11 thiopental in an amount of diluent that would fit in a
12 60 millimeter syringe.

13 Subsequently, the State has procured the
14 thiopental as 500 milligram injection kits, which is
15 actually the standard preparation that we use at my
16 hospital, and he then said that he was unable to put five
17 grams in 60 milliliters of diluent. I think there's two
18 possible explanations that make pharmacological sense about
19 why this difference may have occurred. First of all, we
20 know that thiopental is more soluble in water than it is
21 in saline so one possibility is the preparation that was
22 formerly used came with water as the diluent and the
23 current preparation could have saline as the diluent

24 because depending on the manufacturer from which the
25 thiopental is procured some use water and some use saline.

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1 So that is a systematic change that may have occurred,
2 although I can't say that for certain, but it is a
3 possibility.

4 The other possibility is because the manufacturer
5 intends that the medication be prepared as a 2.5 percent
6 solution, there's no reason for them to make any
7 manufacturing efforts to make it soluble at a higher
8 concentration. And so it is possible that from one
9 manufacturer to the other the crystalline structure of the
10 medication itself is such that it was not soluble at the
11 higher concentration as compared to the lower
12 concentration.

13 For example, thiopental is not soluble at
14 neutral pH. In order to get it into solution, the pH
15 has to be elevated to approximately 11. Now, if one
16 manufacturer had it at 10 and a half and the other
17 manufacturer had it at 11 and a half as buffered in the
18 solid state, there would be an enormous difference in
19 maximum solubility. Yet, in both cases they meet FDA
20 requirements for clinical use of 2.5 percent. So it's
21 not the least bit surprising to me that there were
22 differences in the behavior of batches from different
23 manufacturers.

24 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you, Doctor.

25 MS. ANDERS: Just a couple question, Your Honor.

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1 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. ANDERS:

2 Q How much training did you undergo to become an
3 anesthesiologist?

4 A Well, if one starts with college, I have a degree in
5 chemistry which most medical students have a bachelor's
6 degree before entering medical school. Then I did four
7 years of medical school. And then an internship, two years
8 of residency, and a two-year research fellowship. In
9 addition, I also have a Ph.D in pharmacology which has been
10 very useful to me as an anesthesiologist, which took an
11 additional four and a half to five years.

12 Q So would you say that inducing anesthesia, general
13 anesthesia, is a complex process?

14 A Inducing general anesthesia is actually pretty easy.

15 Q So it's really not necessary to have all that
16 training?

17 A Well, it depends on the scenario. What's hard is to
18 wake the patient up. But putting people to sleep, I'm not
19 trying to be facetious, putting people to sleep is actually
20 relatively easy. Keeping them stable and alive and waking
21 them up again is the hard part.

22 Q Is monitoring the anesthetic depth of a paralyzed
23 patient, is that complex?

24 A Clinically that could be very complex. That's one of
25 the reasons why some of the new monitors have become very

1 helpful to some of us.

2 Q Are you aware of whether John Doe One uses the diluent

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3 in the package that comes from the manufacturer?

4 A I'm assuming he does, because there's no description
5 that he acquires a diluent from another source.

6 Q But you don't know for sure; is that correct?

7 A Well, again, he describes using what's in the kit and
8 the kit in which the 500 milligram dose comes, he describes
9 having two separate containers, one container with powder
10 and one container with diluent and he's mixing them
11 together, so I have to conclude that he's using the diluent
12 that comes in the kit. And as I said, depending on which
13 manufacturer supplies the medication, some manufacturers
14 use water and some manufacturers use saline.

15 Q And you can't say for sure why the thiopental didn't
16 dissolve; is that correct? I understand that you gave a
17 couple of possibilities, but --

18 A I can't say for sure which of the two examples was
19 more important. It's possible that both were operative,
20 but I don't know for sure.

21 MS. ANDERS: Nothing further, Your Honor.

22 MR. PRITCHETT: No further questions from the
23 defense, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you, Doctor.

25 MR. PRITCHETT: Call Terry Moore to the stand,

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1 please.

2 TERRY MOORE, called as a witness on behalf of the
3 Defendant, being first duly sworn, testified:

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

5 Q Would you state your name for the record, please.

6 A Terry W. Moore.

7 Q What's your position, Mr. Moore?

8 A I'm the director of the Division of Adult Institutions

9 with the Missouri Department of Corrections.

10 Q So the Division of Adult Institutions is a subagency

11 of the Department of Corrections?

12 A Yes, sir, it is.

13 Q When did you become the director of the Division of

14 Adult Institutions?

15 A August 1st, 2005.

16 Q Do you have a role in the execution process as used

17 by the Department of Corrections in Missouri?

18 A Yes, sir, I do.

19 Q To your understanding, who is the person with the

20 authority to set the method of execution in Missouri within

21 the confines of state statute and case law?

22 A The director of the Department of Corrections.

23 Q Do you recall testifying in this case back in January?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Did you state at that time that your understanding --

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1 what your understanding was as to the dosages of the drugs

2 that were administered in the lethal injection in Missouri?

3 A Yes, sir, I did.

4 Q And with respect and in particular to the sodium

5 pentothal, at that time what was your understanding of the

6 amount of sodium pentothal administered in executions in

7 Missouri?

8 A Five grams.

9 Q Have you since found out that less than five grams of
10 sodium pentothal has actually been given at the last
11 several executions?

12 A Yes, sir, I did.

13 Q How were you able -- how did you find that out?

14 A As a result of some of the discovery in this
15 particular case, and I was advised by our attorney and I
16 think it was May 18th that I was told.

17 Q Who is it that you understand made the decision to
18 alter the dose of thiopental?

19 A The physician involved.

20 Q Or sodium pentothal. The physician. What's your
21 understanding as to the amount of the drug that was
22 administered in the last several executions?

23 A 2.5 grams.

24 Q As far as you know, did the doctor act on his own, at
25 his own discretion, in reducing the dosage?

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1 A Yes, sir, that is correct.

2 Q What's your understanding as to why the doctor thought
3 he had the authority to alter the dose on his own?

4 A Well, he's been involved in the execution process with
5 the state of Missouri for many years and it's my
6 understanding that he thought that based upon his medical
7 knowledge that he had the duty and responsibility to make a
8 decision based upon the goals of the Department of
9 Corrections to do an execution that is quick and as humane
10 as possible.

11 Q Had the doctor been involved in the execution process

12 in the state of Missouri for some time?

13 A Yes, sir, he has been.

14 Q And had his recommendations, his thoughts as to how
15 the process should work, have they been relied upon by the
16 Department over the course of time, as you understand it?

17 A Yes, they have been.

18 Q Now that we have learned that, in the last several
19 executions, there was a 2.5 gram dose as opposed to a five
20 gram dose of sodium pentothal used, what's your view as to
21 that situation?

22 A Well, it should never have occurred and I hate that it
23 did, but I can understand why the doctor made the decisions
24 that he made, once again, based upon his medical knowledge,
25 his involvement in the process, and also him wanting to

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1 make sure that the Department of Corrections completed
2 their goal. And I think that the 2.5 was adequate in being
3 administered and to keep the offender sedated and
4 unconscious during the process and that the ones that I
5 have been involved with, they have gone very smooth.

6 Q Are you aware of any changes that are planned by the
7 Department of Corrections to firm up the procedure and to
8 ensure that proposed modifications in the procedure are
9 referred to the director, for the director's decision?

10 A Yes, sir, I am.

11 Q As general matter, what is planned by the Department
12 of Corrections in this regard to firm up the process?

13 A To come out with a more detailed, more direct policy
14 and procedures dealing with the execution process that will

15 delineate the amount of dosage that are supposed to be
16 used, the sequence in which they are to be given, and that
17 any changes that are to be made are to be in the sequenced
18 amount and so forth and will be approved by the Department
19 of Corrections before they're done.

20 Q Does that document, directive, policy, whatever you
21 want to call it, has that been drafted as of this time?

22 A No, sir, it has not.

23 Q Have certain determinations been made as to what the
24 contents of that directive will contain?

25 A Some of them have, yes, sir.

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1 Q And --

2 THE COURT: Why is all of this relevant to this
3 procedure, Mr. Pritchett?

4 MR. PRITCHETT: Judge, I think it's relevant to
5 show the court that we understand that there was a
6 deviation, an aberration from the process as described
7 before, and actions are being taken so that it doesn't
8 happen again, so that the Department of Corrections can be
9 confident that the process will be as described.

10 THE COURT: Okay. I still don't think it's
11 relevant, because it's in court now, that issue is going to
12 be ultimately decided by this court and this court is
13 probably going to fashion something, if it deems it
14 appropriate, that may or may not be consistent with the
15 Department of Corrections, and at some point in time if
16 that occurs the court will have to look at what the
17 Department does. But in terms of what it's doing now,

18 other than what you have just stated, is not relevant to
19 me. But proceed.

20 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you, Judge.

21 THE COURT: You have your time.

22 MR. PRITCHETT: And I really do not intend to
23 belabor the point. I just wanted to get the expectations
24 out into the record and in front of you, and in the spirit
25 of not belaboring it I think we'll talk about the details

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1 of the process with the director in his testimony.

2 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) Are there also plans under way,
3 though, to attempt to ensure that the requirements of any
4 policy that is developed will actually be carried out?

5 A Yes, sir, there is.

6 Q And what are those?

7 A Each one of the individuals that's involved in the
8 process will have consultation, go through the policy, and
9 once the policy is over with, we'll have a -- kind of like
10 a debriefing, auditing team, and then we'll go back through
11 to make sure everything was done the way it was supposed to
12 be done, that procedures were followed.

13 Q And will emphasis be placed on what decisions are
14 matters that have to be referred to the director and what
15 decisions are matters of discretion to certain individuals?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Do you have knowledge as to the lighting as it exists
18 in the execution support room, the room where the persons,
19 the doctor, the nurse and John Doe stand?

20 A Yes, sir.

21 Q Before the execution is actually under way, what is
22 your understanding as to the lighting in that room?

23 A All of the lights are on and it's very bright.

24 Q Are the drugs prepared while the lights are on and
25 sufficiently bright to be able to see?

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1 A Yes, sir, they are. About one hour before the
2 execution is scheduled.

3 Q Okay. Are the drugs then -- the syringes laid out in
4 any particular manner?

5 A Yes, sir, they are.

6 Q And what manner is that?

7 A They are laid out in the sequence in which they will
8 be administered.

9 Q When it's time to begin administration of the drugs,
10 is there a change in the lighting in the execution support
11 room?

12 A Yes, sir, there is. It is decreased.

13 Q Do you know why that is?

14 A It is to ensure that the reflective window operates
15 properly.

16 Q Is there -- is it dark? Is it too dark to be able to
17 see the medications, the drugs that have been laid out at
18 that time?

19 A It is dark, but they can still read the names on the
20 syringes, the names that have been printed on the syringes.

21 Q Is it sufficient to do the work of the persons that
22 are administering the drugs?

23 A Yes, sir, it is.

24 THE COURT: Are you back there when this is
25 happening, Mr. Moore?

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1 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I'm not.
2 Q (By Mr. Pritchett) There's also been some reference
3 to the experience level of particularly John Doe Three and
4 John Doe Five. Are John Doe Three and John Doe Five
5 particular individuals, or is this a designation for some
6 class of duty within the prison?
7 A They are particular individuals.
8 Q Does John Doe Three have experience in the
9 administration of the lethal drugs?
10 A Yes, sir.
11 Q Can you tell us what that experience is?
12 A I don't know the exact number but many, many, many
13 executions, for several years.
14 Q So he's been involved in the process as a participant
15 for some time?
16 A That is correct.
17 Q And are you aware of John Doe Five's level of
18 experience?
19 A John Doe Five has been involved in at least the last
20 five.
21 Q And has he taken part in the process with John Doe
22 Three?
23 A That is correct, yes, sir.
24 Q And is John Doe One, the doctor, also present at the
25 time?

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1 A Yes, sir.

2 Q And is it your understanding that before John Doe Five
3 actually took part in an execution there was some practice
4 in the process?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you. That's all I have,
7 Mr. Moore.

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. BERGER:

9 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Moore.

10 A Good morning.

11 Q You said in prior testimony in this case that Missouri
12 injected five grams of thiopental, right?

13 A That is correct, yes, sir.

14 Q And you believed this to be true at the time you said
15 it, didn't you?

16 A Yes, sir, I did.

17 Q But that's not what happened, is it?

18 A From the records and from what I have been told, no,
19 that did not occur. Not in the last four I think it is.

20 Q But you don't mix the thiopental, do you?

21 A No, sir, I do not.

22 Q So at the time you testified in January you couldn't
23 have known that five grams weren't going to be used, could
24 you have?

25 A No, but I think if you look at my testimony I think I

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1 said to the best of my knowledge, because I think Mr. Simon
2 even asked me the question about what do you mean by the

3 best of your knowledge, and I had to explain where my
4 knowledge came from.

5 Q But so based on your level of knowledge, it wasn't
6 your fault that the wrong amount was stated.

7 A No, sir, it was not.

8 Q You mentioned a moment ago the goals of the execution
9 procedure. What are those goals?

10 A It's basically to ensure that a humane and quick
11 execution occurs once the order has been issued by the
12 Missouri Supreme Court.

13 Q And how do you prioritize those goals?

14 A I don't know that it's necessarily prioritized as
15 quick or humane either way.

16 Q If there were to be a difference between carrying out
17 a quick execution and an humane execution, would you assign
18 different levels of priority to those competing goals in
19 the event that they were to diverge?

20 A Humane.

21 Q Are these goals recorded anywhere?

22 A Not that I'm aware of.

23 Q Have you discussed these goals with John Doe One?

24 A I personally have not, no, sir.

25 Q Your position is the director of Adult Institutions;

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1 is that correct?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And part of your responsibility is to oversee the
4 execution procedures, right?

5 A It is in one of the institutions in which I'm the

6 director of the superintendent of that particular
7 institution. It's actually the responsibility of the
8 director of the Department of Corrections.

9 Q I see. Where is your office?

10 A In Jefferson City.

11 Q But the execution facility is in Bonne Terre, right?

12 A That is correct, yes, sir.

13 Q How many miles away is that, about?

14 A 140.

15 Q Now, do you travel that distance and attend every
16 execution?

17 A Since I have been the director of the Division of
18 Adult Institutions, yes, sir.

19 Q And do you intend to continue to attend each execution
20 as long as you remain in that position?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q So what are your responsibilities when you're at an
23 execution on execution night?

24 A I have a checklist of things that I do and such things
25 as to verify that the drugs have been mixed, that they're

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1 ready to go, that the stretcher is in place and then the --
2 I end up actually leading the state's witnesses to the
3 state witness viewing room, stay there with them and then
4 announce to them as the procedure occurs, and then lead
5 them back out once the procedure is completed.

6 Q I see. So you spend -- is it correct that you spend
7 some time in the execution support room and some time in
8 the witness rooms?

- 9 A No, that is incorrect.
- 10 Q I'm sorry. Where are you when the actual execution is
11 taking place?
- 12 A In the state witness viewing room.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A I am not in the support room, the actual execution
15 support room.
- 16 Q Are you ever in the support room prior to the
17 commencement of the execution?
- 18 A No.
- 19 Q Are you trained in anesthesia?
- 20 A No, sir, I am not.
- 21 Q Are you trained in pharmacology?
- 22 A No, sir, I am not.
- 23 Q Are you trained in pharmacokinetics?
- 24 A No, sir.
- 25 Q Are you trained in femoral line insertions?

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- 1 A No, sir.
- 2 Q Do you have any medical training?
- 3 A Other than the normal CPR, first-aid, that type stuff,
4 no.
- 5 Q So for the executions you have attended, do you stand
6 anywhere near John Doe One when he mixes the chemicals?
- 7 A No, sir, I do not.
- 8 Q Do you stand near him when he inserts the femoral
9 catheter?
- 10 A No, sir.
- 11 Q And am I right you don't stand behind John Doe Three

12 and Five when they inject chemicals?

13 A That's correct.

14 Q And do you watch John Doe Two and Five fill in the
15 chemical logs?

16 A No, sir, I do not.

17 Q And even if you were with John Doe One when he were
18 mixing the chemicals, would you understand what you were
19 seeing?

20 A Not unless I was trained, no, sir.

21 Q And if John Doe One were to recommend or implement
22 particular injection times, would you know whether that
23 creates a significant risk of pain?

24 A No, sir.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Berger, I think you're over-

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1 emphasizing an answer -- or questions, the answers which we
2 know already. Let's go on to something pertinent and
3 different, please.

4 MR. BERGER: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

5 Q (By Mr. Berger) Isn't it true, Mr. Moore, that you
6 need to rely on John Doe One to mix the chemicals properly?

7 A John Doe One and then also the nurse.

8 Q Can the nurse tell John Doe One what to do?

9 A The nurse can offer an opinion, make suggestions.

10 Q Is your understanding -- based on your understanding,
11 who is in charge of the mixing process?

12 A The doctor.

13 Q And based on your understanding, who has made the
14 decisions about dosage, particularly on the evenings when

15 there has been some difficulty mixing the thiopental?

16 A The doctor.

17 Q And you rely on John Doe One for all the other medical
18 decisions that need to be made with the timing of the
19 executions and the placement of the femoral line and so on;
20 is that correct?

21 A Once again, John Doe One and the nurse.

22 Q And you have testified that you rely on John Doe One's
23 representation as to whether the EKG machine is set, right?

24 A Yes, sir.

25 Q Do you accept the proposition that the safety of a

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1 given medical procedure depends on the manner in which it
2 is undertaken?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Do you accept the proposition that the safety of a
5 given medical procedure depends on the qualifications and
6 judgments of the person or persons administering it?

7 A Education and training, yes, sir.

8 Q Did John Doe One ever tell you, prior to your
9 testimony, that he was giving less than five grams?

10 A No, sir, he did not.

11 Q Did he ever tell you he was having trouble mixing the
12 thiopental?

13 A No, sir, he did not.

14 Q Did he ever tell you that he was dyslexic and had
15 difficulty with numbers?

16 A No, sir, he did not.

17 Q Did he ever give you an opinion on the relative

18 advantages of femoral access as compared with peripheral
19 access?

20 A We did have an overall broad discussion about that
21 topic.

22 Q What did he say?

23 A The emphasis was that the flow of the drugs would go
24 better through the femoral vein catheter than if it was a
25 peripheral.

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1 Q Did you talk about how much pain each of the two
2 procedures would have relative to each other?

3 A No, sir, we did not.

4 Q Did you talk about the possible medical complications
5 that could arise with each procedure?

6 A No, sir.

7 Q Did you talk about anything else other than the flow
8 of drugs?

9 A Not that I recall, no, sir.

10 Q On --

11 THE COURT: Mr. Berger -- when did you have this
12 discussion, Mr. Moore, with John Doe One?

13 THE WITNESS: It was at one of the executions.
14 Probably October 2005.

15 THE COURT: Excuse me.

16 MR. BERGER: Thank you, Your Honor.

17 Q (By Mr. Berger) On page 89 of his deposition
18 transcript John Doe One says medical errors are committed
19 by someone performing a procedure for the first time. Does
20 this sound right to you?

21 A I would say there is a possibility of that, yes, sir.

22 Q So to the extent -- John Doe One also says that any
23 doctor who has performed any procedure more than ten times
24 will never make in a error. Does this seem right to you?

25 A Will never make an error?

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1 Q Yes, Mr. Moore.

2 A No, sir, that does not seem correct.

3 Q In your judgment, do you feel comfortable employing or
4 contracting with someone to take part in medicalized
5 procedures who believes this to be the case?

6 A I have confidence in his capabilities.

7 Q Would it change your mind to find out that his view on
8 that and many other significant issues connected with this
9 procedure were widely rejected by many or most doctors?

10 A I would say that it's something that we definitely
11 need to have a detailed, thorough discussion about.

12 Q Would a statement like the one I just quoted to you
13 raise questions in your mind about John Doe One's judgment?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Have you spoken with John Doe One over the past few
16 weeks during this litigation about his continued
17 participation in executions in Missouri?

18 A No, sir, I have not.

19 Q At page 62 of his deposition transcript, John Doe One
20 discussed his authority vis-a-vis the director of prisons.
21 He said, "He's relying on me to keep him looking good." Do
22 you think the inconsistencies in dosage reflect well on
23 Missouri's Department of Corrections?

24 A I don't know what he's referring to when he says to
25 keep him looking good. If I knew what the context of his

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1 statement was, then --

2 Q If he were to mean that part of the doctor's role in
3 this process is to help things go smoothly so that the
4 Department looks good and it looks like they're carrying
5 these things out in a systematic manner and in a way to
6 ensure a painless, humane death, do you think that the
7 inconsistencies reflect well on the Department of
8 Corrections?

9 A It does not reflect well, and once again, you know,
10 I'm sorry that it happened, but we need to ensure that it
11 doesn't happen again, and that's the reason we're in the
12 process of formulating additional new policies.

13 Q As you formulate those additional policies, will you
14 be in touch with John Doe One?

15 A Yes, we will.

16 Q Based on what's happened already and what has been
17 said in this litigation, do you have confidence in John Doe
18 One's competence to carry out executions in Missouri?

19 A Yes, I do.

20 Q So you intend to continue to allow John Doe One to
21 keep his position in the execution procedure; is that
22 correct?

23 A I won't be the final authority to make that decision.

24 Q What factors -- will you play a role in that decision?

25 A Yes, sir, I will.

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1 Q What are the factors that you would weigh in that
2 decision?

3 A Advice from other medical experts, what direction we
4 get from the courts.

5 Q Have you been in touch with other medical experts?

6 A Other than reading some of the information that has
7 come across to me as a result of this particular case, no,
8 I have not.

9 Q Do you intend to get in touch with other medical
10 experts about John Doe One's competence and professional
11 judgment?

12 A We will have an over-all staff team meeting of those
13 people who are currently involved in the process, the top
14 managers of the Department of Corrections, and we will lay
15 out a strategy as to what we are going to do from this
16 point forward.

17 Q Would John Doe One be at that meeting?

18 A John Doe One could be at some of the meetings.

19 Q But you don't imagine he would be at all of them?

20 A Depends on what the discussion is about.

21 Q Would you have any other doctors at that meeting?

22 A There could be.

23 Q But there would not definitely be other doctors at
24 that meeting?

25 A We haven't laid out what our strategy is going to be.

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1 Q How could you assess John Doe One's competence in that
2 meeting -- what would you rely -- strike that. What would

3 you rely on during that meeting to assess John Doe One's
4 competence were there not other doctors in the room at the
5 time?

6 A I guess a lot of it just depends on the context of the
7 meeting itself, what that particular meeting is about and
8 what concerns that are raised about his competency, and at
9 that point we would decide then whether to continue to have
10 this particular physician or a particular discussion
11 related to what needs to change.

12 Q So that would be based --

13 THE COURT: Mr. Berger, how much more time are
14 you going to take with this examination?

15 MR. BERGER: Not much, Your Honor. Perhaps five
16 more minutes.

17 THE COURT: You have three.

18 MR. BERGER: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 Q (By Mr. Berger) So am I correct that would then be
20 based certainly on the information that's come to light
21 during the course of this litigation and possibly input
22 from other doctors?

23 A Yes, sir, that would be part of it.

24 Q Was it frustrating to find out after the fact that you
25 had misrepresented the dose to this court?

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1 A It was frustrating. It was disappointing. But here
2 again, based upon the information that I had at the time I
3 did not misrepresent myself to the court.

4 Q And didn't you just testify that this should never
5 have occurred?

6 A This should never have occurred, being the doctor
7 should not have reduced the amount of dosage without
8 getting the authority to do that by the director of the
9 Department of Corrections.

10 Q But it's correct that -- isn't it true that John Doe
11 One assisted with the writing of the interrogatories on
12 which you base your view somewhat? Let me rephrase that.
13 It's correct that if you did continue to use John Doe One
14 in executions, you would still be putting your trust in
15 him; is that right?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q Would you feel comfortable that you could 100 percent
18 guarantee that the procedure would be followed as you
19 instruct?

20 A Once we lay out the additional policies, have
21 discussions with him, yes, sir.

22 Q Wouldn't you have some lingering reservations about
23 using him based on his misrepresentations?

24 A No. Once we lay out the policy and have a discussion
25 with him.

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1 Q Mr. Crawford is the director of the Department of
2 Corrections; is that correct?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q And you say he's working on a directive ordering that
5 five grams be administered and other things; is that
6 correct?

7 A That's correct.

8 Q And you fully intend to comply with that directive to

9 inject five grams; is that correct?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q So you wouldn't have any objection to this court
12 entering an order requiring the state to, for instance,
13 inject five grams, would you?

14 MR. PRITCHETT: Objection, Your Honor. I think
15 it's in a way seeking a legal conclusion, and also
16 infringing upon what the court chooses to do.

17 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

18 You have one minute to wrap it up.

19 Thirty seconds.

20 Q (By Mr. Berger) Are still relying on the same people
21 you did in January when you said that the amount of
22 thiopental is now five grams?

23 A That is correct, with the addition of Dr. Dershwitz.

24 MR. BERGER: No further questions.

25 Thank you, Your Honor.

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1 Thank you, Mr. Moore.

2 MR. PRITCHETT: Defense has no additional
3 questions, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 THE WITNESS: Thank you, sir.

6 THE COURT: How many more witnesses do you have?

7 MR. PRITCHETT: One.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Crawford.

9 MR. PRITCHETT: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Why don't we take a short lunch break
11 and then finish up with Mr. Crawford.

12 MR. PRITCHETT: I don't think he'll take much
13 longer than Mr. Moore. You have told me it's pretty much
14 irrelevant to you what the plan is, but I'd like to get it
15 in the record.

16 THE COURT: I understand that, but I'm saying
17 this is kind of after the fact now. It's interesting to
18 know that they're going to do something, but all the
19 details of it doesn't do anything for me at this point.

20 MR. PRITCHETT: Okay.

21 THE COURT: Do you think he's going to be about
22 15 minutes or so; is that what you're saying?

23 MR. PRITCHETT: 15, 20.

24 THE COURT: Let's still take a break until 12:20
25 and then we'll resume.

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1 MR. PRITCHETT: Very good.

2 MR. BERGER: Thank you, Judge.

3 (Lunch Recess)

4 MR. PRITCHETT: I call Larry Crawford to the
5 stand, please.

6 LARRY CRAWFORD, called as a witness on behalf of the
7 Defendant, being first duly sworn, testified:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

9 Q With you state your name, please.

10 A First name Larry, last name Crawford.

11 Q Mr. Crawford, what's your position?

12 A I'm director of the Missouri Department of
13 Corrections.

14 Q When did you become the director of the Missouri

15 Department of Corrections?

16 A Early January 2005.

17 Q What's your role in the execution process?

18 A Overall I have responsibility for the execution
19 process, important policy, and the carrying out of the
20 execution process.

21 Q Are you the person who has the authority to set the
22 method of execution within the dictates of Missouri statute
23 and case law?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you make decisions with regard to execution methods

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1 all by yourself?

2 A No.

3 Q Can you describe for us a bit, please, the process you
4 go through in order to make decisions with regard to the
5 lethal injection process in particular?

6 A When I came to the Department in early 2005, of course
7 the lethal injection process was one of the things that I
8 looked into, that I was given information about after I
9 asked. And I met with my executive-level staff as well as
10 experienced folks that had been working in that execution
11 process, and even went to the -- after we had met and
12 talked about and I looked over some of the protocols, that
13 we even traveled to Potosi at that time, is where we have a
14 correctional institution and I took a walk-through, a tour
15 of the process at Potosi.

16 Q Did you take into consideration advice that you
17 received from your executive staff in reaching decisions

18 with regard to the lethal injection process?

19 A I do -- I do with that as well as most other
20 decision-making. It's a large Department. We have over
21 10,000 employees, and there's a lot of expertise within the
22 Department and there's a lot of specialized mission that we
23 must carry out, so I depend on my legal counsel and my
24 executive staff and others for advice, and then in my
25 decision-making.

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1 Q With regard to executions, do you rely on medical
2 advice from anyone?

3 A Oh, yes.

4 Q Who is that, how we have been describing this
5 individual in this proceeding?

6 A I have spoken with the experienced members of our team
7 that have been involved, directly involved in the
8 executions, and I have asked questions, been given
9 information about the process, about how it works, about
10 the human factor. And I want to make clear that there's a
11 lot more to this execution process than what we have been
12 talking about in court for two days, the actual injection
13 process. There's a lot of security, a lot of other
14 employees and planning involved, movements that night and
15 preparation before, so I mean as a whole, I have had a lot
16 of discussion about that.

17 Q Do you also consult with the individual identified in
18 this proceeding as Dr. John Doe One?

19 A Yes, I have.

20 Q Once you get advice from the folks that you need

21 advice from, that you want advice from, who makes the final
22 decision with regard to executions?

23 A I do, within what's legal in the law.

24 Q Absolutely. Did you find out recently that less
25 sodium pentothal had been given in recent executions than

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1 you originally expected?

2 A Yes.

3 Q What had been your expectation as to the amount of
4 sodium pentothal that had been given?

5 A Five grams. It's my understanding that five grams of
6 sodium pentothal had been given in all the executions
7 during my tenure, and at least some time before that.

8 Q And recently, what different amount of sodium
9 pentothal have you found out has been given in recent
10 executions?

11 A I found out it had been reduced, and I believe two and
12 a half grams had been given in some of the prior
13 executions.

14 Q Who do you understand made the decision to reduce the
15 dose?

16 A The doctor, John Doe One.

17 Q Is that a matter that you should have been informed
18 about before Dr. Doe made the decision to reduce the dose?

19 A Yes. When I first became aware of that, I was
20 extremely concerned and disappointed, particularly that we
21 had provided wrong information in a court proceeding, was
22 particularly disappointed that I wasn't made aware of a
23 change being made by the doctor.

24 As more information came to light and I have
25 learned more about this process, and I'm still concerned,

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1 but I have discovered some reasons why now that the doctor
2 may have made the decisions he made, but I should have been
3 notified.

4 Q What's your understanding as to the reasons the doctor
5 acted on?

6 A The difference in the packaging of the drugs didn't
7 allow him to use the amount that had been used, and
8 possibly -- possibly his understanding that a lesser amount
9 had been ordered in some other states, that it may have
10 been more appropriate, and putting those two factors
11 together allowed him to make the decision of what he
12 thought was best at that execution.

13 Q What's your understanding as to how Dr. Doe came to
14 the conclusion that he would be able to alter the dose on
15 his own?

16 A He has had a lot of history with the state of Missouri
17 and maybe -- and in the execution process. He was
18 consulted when -- back when there was little knowledge --
19 less knowledge, I think, about lethal injection, and there
20 isn't a lot of experts in this field, it's not a medical
21 field, a medical procedure, and so he had put a lot of
22 effort in working this. And other directors have depended
23 on him heavily I think to provide a constitutional, humane
24 execution, and I think he's taken that very seriously and
25 feels that he has successfully been able to deliver, as

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1 does the Department and the people that I have talked to in
2 the Department, on the executions before I became director,
3 feel like he has done a very good job and successfully
4 completed that mission.

5 Q Other than the aspect of the question you should have
6 been informed of the decision to reduce the level, what's
7 your view as to the reduction -- what's your understanding
8 as to the reduction of the dosage from five grams to 2.5
9 grams?

10 A Well, in my first understanding of any drugs or the
11 combination of drugs that we gave going back to my first
12 month or two, my first months with the Department of
13 Corrections, the way it was described to me is that the
14 sodium pentothal was given in a dosage that was twelve
15 times the amount normally given in an operating room, a
16 surgical-type setting when sodium pentothal was used daily
17 as a drug. And that, in my mind, because I had to get a
18 feel for this whole process, the first, the beginning was
19 the drug that rendered you unconscious and that number
20 twelve stuck in my mind, five grams, and so that came --
21 when I learned of the two and a half grams I immediately --
22 half of five is two and a half, I went to six times the
23 amount. And it was my understanding, and I think in my
24 prior deposition, you know, I believed that both rendered
25 you in such a full state of unconsciousness to still

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1 complete the mission. But that didn't excuse the fact that
2 it changed and without the records and without my

3 knowledge.

4 Q Are you planning to make any changes now with regard
5 to the execution process to firm up the way that it's done?

6 A Yes, I do.

7 Q Is there a directive or an order already issued?

8 A No. We normally have, I think always have 30 days'
9 notice by the court when to set an execution. There are --
10 time has been taken up some with the court proceedings and
11 a myriad of other things that are going on in the
12 Department. I have begun discussions with legal counsel,
13 other folks within the Department on how we should issue
14 this directive, and I have said very firmly and quickly
15 that we were going to put together a team and come forward
16 with a defined -- a fairly defined protocol so that this
17 didn't happen again and to set out the procedure definitely
18 what discretion there would be, the areas of discretion.
19 And also on the recordkeeping end. So we're just going to
20 make this process better and there will be a directive
21 forthcoming on that.

22 Q Have you already made some determinations as to what
23 you expect this forthcoming directive to look like?

24 A Only in general terms, that we will pull together
25 the people that are involved as well as John Doe One and

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1 come -- and there will be a clear understanding of the
2 process, notifications, and we will reach an agreement that
3 that's what we will follow, absent any order of the court
4 before then.

5 Q What's your expectation as to the amount of sodium

6 pentothal that is going to be provided under the proposed
7 directive?

8 A Five grams, I guess mixed in a 60 cc solution would be
9 my full intentions of what will happen in the directive.

10 Q Given the packaging issues that the doctor needs to
11 know, is there going to be some leeway with regard to
12 whether or not the five grams of pentothal are going to be
13 administered in one 60 cc syringe?

14 A Yes. If it's not able to be delivered in a single
15 syringe, which may be preferable, but if it's not it could
16 be administered in more than one syringe but it will be,
17 absent any further -- a different order, five grams in a
18 60 cc solution in one or more syringes followed with a
19 flush.

20 Q Okay. Is there going to be any amount of flush
21 mandated?

22 A No. I have thought that through and talked to some
23 folks because I believe there is some discretion that
24 should be allowed for the best practices that would be the
25 amount of flush necessary to clear the lines and clear the

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1 drug. I expect that will probably be about 30 cc's,
2 approximately. But there would be discretion on the staff
3 on that, 30 cc's or half of a 60 cc syringe that's
4 currently being used.

5 Q After the flush that follows the sodium pentothal,
6 what's the expectation as to the next drug?

7 A The next drug would be pancuronium bromide. It would
8 be 60 milligrams mixed in a 60 cc solution, also followed

9 by a flush with discretion, but very similar to the first
10 drug, about the other half, approximately, of that 60 cc
11 syringe.

12 Q And then with regard -- after the second flush, the
13 flush following the pancuronium what's expected to follow
14 that?

15 A The third drug would be the potassium chloride,
16 240 milliequivalents in 120 cc solution followed by a flush
17 that will be more than enough to clear the lines and more
18 likely to be the 60 cc syringe, the full amount.

19 Q Under the directive as you're conceiving it, will the
20 dose -- will the drugs themselves, the order of the drugs
21 and the doses be items that can be changed at any one
22 else's discretion besides yours?

23 A No.

24 Q What's the expectation as to the means of
25 administering the drugs into the inmate's body as you're

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1 expecting the directive to be?

2 A I expect that while the first choice would be the
3 femoral vein, would not limit it to that because there
4 could be circumstances where that might not be available or
5 appropriate, but that would be a preference. But there
6 would be discretion on the doctor.

7 Q Is that something that would require preapproval to
8 change the access from femoral access to some other access
9 if the doctor believed it appropriate?

10 A No, he could make that judgment on that execution. I
11 would have discussions and expect if this was going to be

12 an ongoing change, that we should have that discussion, or
13 it became a priority rather than an option.

14 Q Is it your intent that this proposed directive will be
15 unalterable in the future?

16 A No. I couldn't, in any good judgment, set something
17 this important and cast something in stone. My mind would
18 always have to think there could -- things could happen.
19 Drugs could no longer be on the market. There could be new
20 information. Of course there could be court orders. There
21 could just be a myriad of things that could happen. But
22 probably in the next -- in the near future I wouldn't
23 expect any of those things to change. They would be the
24 same, because Missouri does have good experience. In
25 talking -- in my talking with the state witnesses, with my

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1 own employees that have been active in those, I believe the
2 process has worked and it's worked well. So I would
3 anticipate continuing with the process that I just
4 mentioned unless there was some reason that really was
5 necessary or a good reason to deviate or change.

6 Q And if there were a reason to change, who would decide
7 whether there was a good reason to make that change or not?

8 A Ultimately it would be me, and again I would not make
9 those kind of changes on just my own -- on my own without
10 consultation with more than one person.

11 Q What plans are expected to be made to ensure that once
12 this directive is prepared, to see that it's carried out?

13 A I plan to invoke an auditing process, change the
14 recordkeeping that we presently have, and have a quick

15 auditing process the day following. Actually I guess it
16 would be the same day because the execution normally
17 happens shortly after midnight, but considering a normal
18 workday starts at 7:30 a.m. inside an institution, that we
19 would have an auditing process. For some time at least in
20 the future I would have that information sent directly to
21 me so that I could look over it and feel comfortable with
22 not only the execution that happened and the recordkeeping,
23 but also the process of auditing -- the auditing process,
24 and it will probably come through the director of Adult
25 Institutions to me also until I was confident with it that

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1 I could delegate that as it should be.

2 Q Are there any plans as to how you would expect to let
3 the persons that are involved in the execution process know
4 that this directive is coming out and what's imposed,
5 what's discretionary?

6 A Yes, it will be in writing, but we will have a meeting
7 face-to-face with my staff and medical staff, John Doe One.

8 Q And will it be emphasized what is discretionary and
9 what is nondiscretionary, what requires your preapproval to
10 change?

11 A Yes. As I set out, and John Doe One, he or she, the
12 doctor will need to agree to that, and I have every reason
13 to believe that they will.

14 MR. PRITCHETT: One moment, please, Judge.

15 Thank you, Mr. Crawford. That's all that I
16 have.

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HELLMAN:

18 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Crawford.

19 A Good afternoon.

20 Q So it's correct that you have ultimate authority for
21 all aspects of the execution procedure in Missouri?

22 A Under the constitution and law, I believe so, yes.

23 Q You spoke about the review process when you came on
24 board as director of corrections. You said you met with
25 your executive staff to learn about the procedure. Did

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1 that staff include any doctors?

2 A No.

3 Q Did you consult any doctors in learning about the
4 medical aspects of the execution procedure?

5 A No. I don't have -- I mean, I actually have a doctor
6 on my executive staff, but I didn't -- I don't think I can
7 say that I consulted with him directly about the injection
8 process and the things that you are interested in. I did
9 consult with him about other parts of the execution
10 process.

11 Q Thank you. So then you didn't consult with John Doe
12 One as a doctor regarding the medical aspects of the
13 execution procedure?

14 A No, I did not.

15 Q In your deposition which took place on May 23rd, you
16 said you had no plans to review Missouri's execution
17 procedure unless new information came forward. Is the
18 directive that you've been talking about today the product
19 of new information?

20 A Yes, I think so.

21 Q And what is that information specifically that's
22 motivated you to issue this directive, or plan to issue
23 this directive?

24 A Well, it's the continuing information that I have
25 learned about the packaging of the -- the change in the

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1 packaging in the material and some of those challenges.
2 The recordkeeping, and just the new information that has
3 actually become available through some of the court
4 proceedings and some of the discovery. I know you
5 mentioned May 26th, but I believe during those
6 interrogatories I told you I would look at -- I would
7 continue to look at this, I would process that information
8 and make an appropriate decision. And that's what I'm
9 continuing to do, since on May 26th I had very little time
10 to -- I had a short period of time to understand any of
11 these things, and I had not talked with John Doe One.

12 Q Have you talked to John Doe One since the deposition
13 that took place?

14 A Yes, I have.

15 Q And could you describe that conversation?

16 A He called me actually. This was I think after his
17 deposition, and probably wanted to reassure me that he had
18 a constitutional -- the Department's best interest in mind,
19 that he had always been focused on a humane execution, and
20 gave me information about I guess sort of his level, some
21 of his level of experience, which was great, in this
22 process, and that he was willing to continue to do the good
23 job he'd been doing and work with me as needed.

24 Q Did you find him credible in this conversation?

25 A Yes. And I have spoken to him in other conversations

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1 and a lot of times they were more of a waiting and more of
2 a casual conversation, not about the medical side of this.
3 So I have sort of gotten to know him over a period of time
4 so I can judge him from that more than just this one
5 conversation. I have known him to be very bright,
6 professional, articulate, and quick, very quick.

7 Q You mentioned a directive in your testimony, and I
8 understand that the court has made a statement about that
9 so I'll be very brief in my questions regarding it. Have
10 you formally adopted this directive?

11 A No, I have not.

12 Q What day will the directive be adopted?

13 A I couldn't answer that question because I don't know
14 as of today, but it will be before we have an execution
15 set.

16 Q So then you wouldn't execute Mr. Taylor before issuing
17 this directive?

18 A Oh, no.

19 Q And why not?

20 A Because I want -- I want to assure that the process is
21 better and I want to assure that we know distinctly the
22 amount of drugs that are going to be administered and in
23 good order and have that recordkeeping process in place.

24 Q Do you think Missouri is ready to undertake executions
25 today not having this directive in place?

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1 A We couldn't undertake it today. I believe there is
2 always 30 days, we have 30 days' notice. In fact, my
3 schedule is normally checked by the Supreme Court. They
4 will check our schedule before they set the date, or give
5 us some tentative dates, so I don't know that that's
6 pertinent. I will say I have faith that we have done
7 constitutional and humane executions, the ones that I have
8 had experience with.

9 Q Let me try to ask my question a different way. If
10 there were a hypothetical prisoner for whom the 30-day
11 period had lapsed or passed such that he could be executed
12 today by law, do you believe Missouri would be ready to
13 conduct that execution today not having the directive in
14 place that you have talked about?

15 A If -- if you -- if we were going to do that today, and
16 I suppose you mean 12:01 midnight tonight, I would quickly
17 put together that protocol that I mentioned earlier, the
18 procedure and the protocol, would have a meeting with my
19 team, but we are getting hypotheticals here that we could
20 find everybody and get them there by midnight tonight and
21 there weren't going to be all the other barriers, legal
22 barriers to an execution. But, yes, I think with what we
23 have in place we could do the same good job, maybe even
24 better, because -- because I could put that together that
25 quickly. Now, I'd rather have more time to do something of

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1 this magnitude, and I think I will have that time.

2 Q I'll just try to make my point clear so I'm coming

3 across. Let's assume that the directive wasn't able to be
4 put in place and the execution was going forward today,
5 would you -- do you believe Missouri would be ready to
6 handle an execution, go forward with that execution absent
7 the directive?

8 A We are charged under law to do the execution so if
9 you're telling me I was ordered to have an execution
10 tonight, I would proceed with the execution. Had I had
11 the proper safeguards in my mind and the ability to do a
12 constitutional -- fulfill my constitutional duty, yes, I
13 could do it tonight.

14 Q I don't mean to belabor the point--

15 THE COURT: But you are belaboring the point.
16 Move on to another question if you can't phrase that
17 question any better than you have. Okay?

18 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Do you reserve the right to change
20 this directive in the future after Mr. Taylor has been
21 executed?

22 A Not in the -- not in the near future. I just only
23 reserve the right to change it if need be, but I have no --
24 I -- no, I have no reason to just change it for the sake of
25 any reason other than out of some type of necessity or as I

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1 mentioned before, new information, court orders.

2 Q Would this directive require anesthetic monitoring?

3 A No.

4 Q Would it provide for improved visibility of the inmate
5 during the execution?

6 A I'm sorry?

7 Q Would it provide for improved visibility of the inmate
8 during the execution?

9 A Visibility to the inmate?

10 Q Visibility of the inmate by, say, the medical
11 personnel.

12 A It would have the same -- this directive would have
13 the same visibility that -- it would be the same as it has
14 been in the past. There's a large window there and I have
15 certainly had discussions with my staff about what they
16 see, and it's different than what I saw in one picture.

17 Q So it wouldn't allow for a full view of the IV tube?

18 A No.

19 Q Would it impose any timing safeguards to ensure that
20 the thiopental had taken full effect to achieve burst
21 suppression before other drugs are administered?

22 A The procedure as far as the syringes and the timing
23 that has been set forth successfully by the doctor, and
24 there is some timing issues that I believe are important in
25 this, would remain -- remain as they have been.

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1 Q Have you consulted with any medical personnel in
2 deciding to make or not make any of the modifications you
3 have just discussed and the other modifications you have
4 talked about in your testimony today?

5 A Did you say consulted with medical personnel?

6 Q Yes.

7 A No, I have not. With any new medical personnel?

8 Q With any medical personnel, new or old.

9 A No, I -- no, I have not contacted anyone. I have
10 given -- I have done some reading. Of course, we have had
11 expert witnesses here yesterday and today that I have
12 listened to what they have to say. And I am firmly
13 convinced that while we use components of a medical
14 procedure, this is not a medical procedure. The execution
15 is not a medical procedure, and that would make -- makes it
16 quite difficult in consulting with medical doctors that are
17 charged with saving lives when we are ordered and under a
18 duty to take a life under the law. And that is a
19 difference.

20 And as director I have to -- I have to consider
21 that if this was a medical procedure that required somebody
22 to undergo anesthesia or to be rendered unconscious, in the
23 first place, we don't do those procedures inside our
24 correctional institution. We have contracts with hospitals
25 and medical folks that do those in medical settings. So

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1 when I keep hearing the doctors, there's a very narrow -- a
2 very narrow group of people that have any expertise, I
3 believe, with a lethal injection and actually have
4 experience in doing that successfully. I haven't heard any
5 of those people actually in the courtroom here today or
6 yesterday that have had those -- that have actually
7 successfully carried out an execution under the law.

8 Q But would it be consistent with your understanding of
9 what Missouri's goals are to have a prisoner who woke up
10 when the second of those drugs was being administered I
11 take it?

12 A If I had somebody to testify to that, that would
13 certainly -- I think that would be very legitimate
14 testimony.

15 Q Would it be consistent with Missouri's goals for
16 executions to use a procedure that posed a significant risk
17 of severe bleeding, say with femoral catheterization?

18 A Certainly not. That's why we use a medical -- a
19 medical doctor to do that, to make the insertion, which is
20 more -- I told you there are some components of a medical
21 procedure, and the insertion of a catheter would be a
22 component of a medical procedure.

23 Q But you're saying that the testimony you have heard
24 today and yesterday about, say, the risks of insufficient
25 anesthesia or the risks of significant bleeding aren't

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1 relevant because the persons giving that testimony have not
2 conducted executions themselves?

3 A I don't believe I said that was not relevant.

4 Q In what way is it relevant then?

5 A As bleeding has to do with part of a humane
6 execution, I think that could be -- that is relevant.
7 And because we do use a drug that is used in a surgical
8 procedure, that -- some of those parts are relevant. I
9 said there are components of the medical procedure. When
10 you're talking about causing death, I think then there are
11 parts that are very different. Maybe I -- I'm sorry if I
12 didn't make my point very clear.

13 Q How does the detail in the directive you described
14 compare to the substance of the detail in the execution

15 procedure, such as security? For example, you said that
16 you prescribed the dosages and the drugs and a guide on
17 femoral access. If that's the substance of the directive,
18 is that more or less detailed than the directives that
19 concern the security aspects of the execution procedure?

20 A In some cases, about the same I would say. We have
21 detailed security as to -- as to who has what job, as to as
22 far as weapons go, if we make -- we try to make a
23 comparison about what type of weapons our security will be
24 armed with as specified. That would be sort of like
25 specifying I guess which drug and what amount.

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1 And I think, as I mentioned earlier, there will
2 be some flexibility need to be given and some discretion in
3 that execution room for things that might come up and --
4 and come up so quickly and need to be dealt with that a
5 decision would have to be made there without going through
6 me. And those are also in the protocols, of course, for
7 the security. So I think it's a fair comparison to say
8 that they would be very similar.

9 Q How many pages is the security aspects of the protocol
10 for an execution procedure?

11 A I don't know that I could guess the pages, but I can
12 probably give you a thickness.

13 Q How thick then?

14 A Okay. Three-quarter's, a half, three-quarter's of an
15 inch thick probably.

16 Q Is it fair to say that the directive you're talking
17 about today could fit on a single page?

18 A I don't believe they'd fit on a single page. You
19 could, I guess, depending on how small you made the type.
20 I think they would be more than a page, but I don't think
21 they would be a hundred pages either. I hadn't really
22 considered that.

23 Q Thank you. How many -- you have already said that
24 five grams of thiopental have not been used in recent
25 executions in Missouri. What was the basis for your

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1 statement that five grams had been used when you made that
2 statement previously in interrogatories?

3 A That was my belief, and I think there are multiple
4 components to how that happened. One, I think we based --
5 this isn't the first case where those types of questions
6 have been asked, and I think one of the things was we
7 probably relied on the misunderstanding and mistake that
8 nothing had changed. We had gotten those figures from the
9 doc from an execution that may have happened late 2005 and
10 assumed that those drugs were still given, and actually it
11 may have been before that time. And then there was some
12 oversights, and I just am not happy with that, but it just
13 happened.

14 Q Did Doe One ever tell you personally that he'd been
15 giving five grams of thiopental, say, before the start of
16 this year?

17 A Not that I can recall.

18 Q Did Doe One ever tell you he was having trouble mixing
19 thiopental?

20 A No, he did not.

21 Q Or that he was dyslexic and had difficulty with
22 numbers?

23 A No, he did not.

24 Q Did you and he ever discuss the relative advantages of
25 femoral access?

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1 A My early understanding, and which I still understand,
2 but the early description of that was that it is a large
3 and a strong vein so it doesn't have some of the strength
4 issues that people have in a weakened health condition or
5 people that have abused their body in their lifetime, so
6 it's a strong, large vein. And it also provides quick
7 access to the heart so it will provide a quick and humane
8 execution, so that it's very preferable. Can be
9 preferable, anyway.

10 Q And Doe One is the source of your information that you
11 just described?

12 A Actually, I got most of that information from my staff
13 that talks directly with John Doe One and I do have staff
14 -- as director I mentioned we have 11,400 employees that
15 are responsible for around 100,000 convicted felons and
16 there's quite a bit of work that goes on in our daily
17 duties that fall outside the execution process, so I have
18 got most of this information through legal counsel, through
19 people that are directly working with the execution team
20 that have talked directly with that.

21 Most of my discussions with John Doe One have
22 been at the institution on the night of, and that's
23 something that we don't usually talk about, any issues that

24 wouldn't just come up immediately. We talk about -- more
25 of a social time because, as you can imagine, it's not

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1 something that we're -- it's something that we're charged
2 with doing, but it's not something that we're just focusing
3 on the details of I guess.

4 Q And just to sum up, you rely on your staff and your
5 staff rely on John Doe One for the discussion of the
6 relative merits of femoral access?

7 A Yes, I'd say that would be fair.

8 Q Are you going to continue -- excuse me, strike that.
9 Will you continue to allow John Doe One to take part in
10 Missouri's executions?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Have you had any conversation with that individual
13 about his continued employment with the state?

14 A No, I have not. I have not indicated that, but I have
15 not indicated otherwise. I did just talk to him the one
16 time that I mentioned. But that is my plan, if you ask,
17 that he will.

18 Q So you have confidence in Doe One's competence and
19 training to carry out executions?

20 A Yes, and I base that heavily on his success and the
21 demeanor and the efficiency and all the information I have
22 gathered from my staff and from state witnesses on the
23 executions that I have been involved with and those before
24 that he has been involved with, and he has been involved
25 with all those I'm talking about.

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1 Q You may recall yesterday we talked a little bit with
2 various witnesses about Doe One's statements that it would
3 be impossible for him to cause significant bleeding using
4 the femoral vein technique, and I also believe that he said
5 that anyone who had done the procedure more than ten times
6 would never have a complication.

7 I'd like to show you briefly --

8 THE COURT: Mr. Hellman, how much more time?

9 MR. HELLMAN: Ten minutes.

10 THE COURT: Five minutes.

11 MR. HELLMAN: If I can approach the witness then.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. PRITCHETT: May I ask what you handed to the
14 witness.

15 MR. HELLMAN: I have handed the witness what is
16 labeled I believe Plaintiff's Exhibit 27. These are the
17 photos from the Collective Exhibit 18 which is the Timothy
18 Johnston execution that was discussed yesterday.

19 Q (By Mr. Hellman) Do you believe John Doe One is
20 correct when he says that it would be impossible for him to
21 cause significant bleeding through the femoral
22 catheterization technique?

23 A I -- I would have to qualify any of my answers on that
24 with my relationship and what I have seen in talking with
25 John Doe One, and I will say this, in talking to him more

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1 on a conversational level than on just a professional
2 level, but he has a tendency to communicate sometimes by

3 overstatements, and I don't mean being untruthful in any
4 way, or not professional, but he has kind of a quick way of
5 overstating things to make a point. And so when I read
6 that in his deposition I thought, well, you know, that's
7 sort of like a story, if you were going to say how many
8 mushrooms you found or how many fish you caught or how big
9 your fish were, you might say, and he'd say something is
10 impossible.

11 THE COURT: What was the question?

12 MR. HELLMAN: The question was -- well, the court
13 reporter can read it back, but my understanding of the
14 question was John Doe One has said it's impossible for him
15 to cause bleeding, significant bleeding, through the
16 femoral vein technique. I asked if the witness had
17 confidence in John Doe One, given that statement and those
18 photos.

19 A My judgment would be that it would not be impossible,
20 that there's very few things that are impossible. So I
21 would take issue with it being impossible in my judgment,
22 not medical judgment.

23 Q (By Mr. Hellman) During an execution, you're not in
24 either the execution support room or the execution room
25 itself?

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1 A I am not.

2 Q Under Missouri's procedures, does John Doe One have
3 the authority to deal with any unforeseen complication as
4 it arises without consulting you?

5 A Could you -- does he have any --

6 Q Must John Doe One consult you before dealing with an
7 unforeseen complication that occurs during an execution?

8 A No. I think -- I think if it were unforeseen, that he
9 could -- would need to, in many cases, obviously respond to
10 that immediately. I don't believe he would ask me if he
11 needed to apply pressure to stop the bleeding, for
12 instance. That would be something that you'd respond to.
13 Similar to, I would guess, that he would -- he would have
14 similar to those kind of responsibilities assigned to him
15 in an operating room when he couldn't refer to the hospital
16 administrator or the consenting family member.

17 Q And if he were to consult with you on a medical
18 question, would you defer to him?

19 A I would give heavy weight -- I would give some weight
20 because of his expertise in the execution procedure. I
21 would certainly give some credibility. And he would have
22 a part in my decision-making process, but I certainly
23 don't -- wouldn't give him full credibility in that
24 decision-making by any means.

25 Q What are you basing your view that John Doe One had, I

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1 believe you used the word success, in carrying out
2 execution procedures? How would you know if he were not
3 successful?

4 A I would think that if we had a -- well, it could be a
5 myriad of reasons. One thing, we prepare the patient. My
6 staff tells me that they're cordial, the doctor is cordial,
7 that there is no pain. They are very responsive to

8 discomfort. Staff and doctor are in communication with the
9 condemned. In fact, some of them, there are various
10 stages, we offer a sedative. Some of them don't accept
11 those. Some of them do. Some of them are joking and
12 talking and telling stories. Some of them are quiet. So,
13 I mean, I even got a letter on just one of the recent
14 executions from an inmate condemned that did not leave a
15 prepared last statement, but he thanked the superintendent
16 of the prison on how he was treated. So I believe that --
17 I believe that we are humanely and properly preparing them
18 for execution.

19 My staff tells me that after the first drug
20 is pushed, the sodium pentothal, that they can see --
21 sometimes I mentioned there is a sedative given. We have
22 even had to awake a condemned for the execution so that
23 they can see their family or whatever. And they tell me
24 that after they push the plunger it's just a very short
25 period of time that they can see their head drop and them

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1 go to sleep, that they can just see them relax. And then a
2 very short period of time after that the doctor, using some
3 kind of electronic machine that flat lines, pronounces them
4 dead. So to me a quick, a humane execution is one where I
5 don't believe there is -- there is much pain, and then it's
6 carried -- it's not a lingering death.

7 And we have had no reports of excessive blood or
8 all these other scenarios that can be thrown out. Or
9 somebody sitting up I think was mentioned before. So I
10 think we're successful in doing that.

11 Q Are you aware of the effect that pancuronium bromide
12 has on a prisoner, the paralysis effect?

13 A Yes, I am.

14 Q Does Missouri do any toxicology reports to ascertain
15 how much of the drug, the drugs, were delivered to the
16 body, after death?

17 A No, we don't.

18 Q Is the pancuronium necessary, in your mind, to
19 accomplish an efficient and humane death?

20 THE COURT: I don't think he has given any
21 testimony that he has any medical background, Mr. Hellman.

22 MR. HELLMAN: I ask more because it's his
23 ultimate decision to decide whether or not to include it.

24 THE COURT: You may answer.

25 A I think that all three drugs need to be used in

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1 concert to constitutionally and humanely complete this
2 procedure. If we did not use pancuronium bromide we might
3 need to use something else or totally different drugs to
4 complete the procedure. I think any time you change or
5 take out one would make me revisit the whole process.

6 THE COURT: Your time is up, Mr. Hellman.

7 MR. HELLMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRITCHETT:

9 Q Did you have the opportunity to listen to the
10 testimony of Dr. Dershwitz this morning?

11 A Yes, I did.

12 Q And did you listen to the testimony?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Is it your understanding from Dr. Derschwitz' testimony
15 that there is any need for the Department of Corrections to
16 make a change with regard to the visibility of the inmate
17 from the execution support room through the window into the
18 execution room?

19 A No, I did not hear anything.

20 Q Is it your understanding from the testimony of
21 Dr. Derschwitz that there is any need for the Department of
22 Corrections to slow down the process so that the sodium
23 pentothal could take effect?

24 A There was no evidence given.

25 Q Is it your understanding from the testimony of

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1 Dr. Derschwitz this morning that there is any need for the
2 Department of Corrections to modify its current practice
3 with regard to having a view of the full length of the IV
4 tubing from the execution support room through the wall and
5 then into the inmate?

6 A Contrary. I believe he said it was reliable once it
7 was hooked up properly.

8 Q And finally, is it your understanding from the
9 testimony of Dr. Derschwitz this morning that there is any
10 need -- excuse me, that it's a -- is it your understanding
11 from his testimony that femoral access as a means to
12 administer these drugs is an appropriate practice?

13 A It -- yes, and in some cases preferable.

14 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you.

15 MR. HELLMAN: Nothing further, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Thank you.

17 MR. PRITCHETT: That concludes the case of the
18 defense, Your Honor.

19 MS. ANDERS: That concludes our case as well.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Very good.

21 Well, I will take the matter under advisement and
22 issue an order within the time frame given me by the 8th
23 Circuit. I'm not requesting any findings of facts or
24 conclusions of law or any of that stuff. We have been over
25 this enough. I don't need that, okay?

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1 MR. HELLMAN: Just to be clear then, Your Honor,
2 no post-trial brief is desired by the court?

3 THE COURT: No.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. PRITCHETT: Thank you, Judge.

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10 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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13 I, Donna M. Turner, Registered Merit Reporter,
14 hereby certify that I am a duly appointed, qualified, and
15 acting official court reporter for the Western District
16 of Missouri; that the foregoing pages contain a true and
17 correct transcript of the proceedings had in the
18 within-entitled cause on the dates stated herein, and that
19 said transcript is a true transcription of my shorthand

20 notes taken therein.

21

22

23

Registered Merit Reporter

24

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DATE: _____