

* I/V Hank, Shawn 10/13/09

Interviewed by Detective Ross Diskin:

On 10/13/09 I interviewed Shawn Hank. The following is a transcript of that interview:

Shawn: Det. Diskin this is Shawn Hank, how are you?

Det. Diskin: Hi Shawn, I'm good, how about you?

Shawn: I'm doing great. Uh just wanted to return your phone call, I saw you had, I missed your call so I was outside taking my dogs out so I apologize for missing it.

Det. Diskin: It's okay. Uhm yea I, I uh got your message. I just wanted to touch base with you and see what information you might have for us.

Shawn: Yea, I don't have any information in particular to the events. Uhm but what I, what I'm concerned with is this. From what I've read of the events, uhm there seems to be folks out there saying that nothing ever bad has happened at, at other events and when I saw that, that just didn't sit right with me because that's not true.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Shawn: Uhm now just to give you some background I uh am following James, or was following James from a period of about 2002 to about 2005. And during that time uhm I've been to a number of events, one of, one of which was Spiritual Warrior. Uhm in my experience at Spiritual Warrior, uh, it, it was uh, uh I don't even know how to really describe it to you other than to say it was probably the most intense thing that I've ever done in my life and I'll throw in you know being in the [REDACTED] and doing all that other kind of stuff right in that bucket with it. Uhm at that time uhm one gentleman was sent to the hospital, uhm, and again this was, I don't remember when it was exactly, I'd say 2005 would probably be a good, a rough timeframe. Uhm and, and he did go to the hospital. Ambulances were called, fire department, paramedics showed up and you know he was sent for, with overnight observation I guess to the hospital but he ended up being okay.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Shawn: So uh, more recently over the last year or so I had, I know other folks uhm first hand response; in fact Lou Caci, the gentleman that ended up having burns uh was in one of the hospitals at this Spiritual Warrior was at an event called Modern Magic in Hawaii last year where at one of the events that some of the advance attendees had to do was essentially break a brick with their hand and he suffered a broken hand. And other,

other folks at the event, uh again personal friends of mine who I've spoken with, uh suffered the same fate of having you know broken limbs, broken hands and stuff

Det. Diskin: Hold on just a second. All right, I got somebody trying to get that information right now on Lou.

Shawn: Okay. Uhm the thing is, the thing is the most important thing that I want you to get out of this, and the only reason I'm calling you cause you know obviously I wasn't there, I didn't attend the event, I have no ill will toward James or anything but if I'm seeing something in the paper and the news that says that there were no other events and this was a one time incident, I'm gonna have to disagree and say that there's been a pattern of participants getting hurt at events, bottom line.

Det. Diskin: Okay. Now that's what we're discovering and in our media releases we never said that you know this hadn't happened before. We didn't know one way or the other but, but uhm I'm not sure where the media got that. We saw that too and I don't know where they got that from, that this was the first event but uhm we're looking into you know other instances as well so

Shawn: Okay

Det. Diskin: But anyway I appreciate you calling and uhm is it all right if I give you a call back later at some point if I have some more questions?

Shawn: Yea that's fine, uhm like I said I, I, anything that I can do to help out, uhm, I just, I, if you're gonna do the investigation I'd rather just have you have all the information available (Inaudible)

Det. Diskin: Right so that's what we're trying to do. Uhm you said that you followed him from 2002 to 2005, was it the Spiritual Warrior program that made you stop following him?

Shawn: Uh no it wasn't the Spiritual Warrior program, actually what it was was uh he made a conscious decision that sometimes, I think a year and a half, two years ago to go after folks that had the money; it's a money game to him.

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Shawn: Uh and he actually created a group that he called the World Wealth Society which was supposedly a group for you know uh people that were really serious about committing to the spiritual path and people who essentially had money and were willing to pay a \$60,000 a year subscription fee to go to every one of his events. And now prior to that point in time James was all about spirituality, about helping people break through their limiting beliefs and the thing that struck me as really odd about this was that he literally segregated the people that had been helping him and spread his

message over the last five or six years, he essentially alienated them and said if you can't pay \$60,000 a year then you're not gonna be part of the crew.

Det. Diskin: Okay

Shawn: And at that point in time, that's when I decided, although I can afford to go and pay that money, I made a conscious decision to say what's he really about here? Is he about helping people or is he about you know just getting big checks. And that's, that's when I, I said I was done.

Det. Diskin: Okay.

Shawn: Uhm and but you know at the same time again just to show that I have, you know I'm a, I'm, you can go to his website; and my name is Shawn Hank. You'll see that my, my testimony about some of the things that James has taught, how it's helped me. I mean I had, at the time, firmly believed and was drinking the Kool-Aid if you will that you know some of what I learned through James was absolutely attributing to the success I was having in my personal life and in my, my professional life as well. So again, I don't have any ill will, but it was just a situation where you know when he decided to change the format of his message and what he was all about, that's when you know many people dropped off of the, of the bandwagon and he essentially was marketing to a new group and a new clientele.

Det. Diskin: Okay, alright well thanks, I appreciate your information.

Shawn: My pleasure and we'll talk to you soon. If you need anything, you know how to get a hold of me I guess.

Det. Diskin: Okay, yea I'll get a hold of you and if you think of something that you forgot to tell me that you thinks important feel free to give me a call.

Shawn: Okay I will, thanks.

Det. Diskin: Alright thanks, bye.

Shawn: Bye.

End of interview

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