

## TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW

Idaho House of Representatives - House Ethics on House Policy Committee Meeting

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Dixon: ...refer to if we need to. We've read your report that you gave to the assistant Sgt. in Arms and we've also read the police report. And so we're aware of the situation, but we just wanted to hear from you. And that's why we've invited you to come and we appreciate you being here to help us have some information from yourself, rather than just reading something, about what happened.

█: Yeah, completely. I just didn't know when this was going to happen, so.

Dixon: We'll were thankful that you're here to help us. I'm going to ask you just a few basic questions at first to help us again frame what your perspective is and then I'm going to ask you just to describe the events in question from your perspective. And that's the extent of it.

█: Yeah. I'd no idea you guys were on the (inaudible). I just feel like it was, like a guess to a thing, like it would all pop out. And it's like surprise. Oh.

Dixon: O.K. Right. So, you brought your complaint to the Assistant Sgt. in Arms

█: Uh, yeah, Kim Blackburn.

Dixon: Right. And that became an official House Ethics Complaint and that's why this Committee was convened. Because I, as Chairman received an official complaint against the Representative and that's another reason why we're going through this here.

Female Witness: Kay.

Dixon: So, a few questions for you █.

Unknown Female: Mr. Chairman if I may.

Dixon: Yes.

Unknown Female: Um, [REDACTED] if we need to make a transcript it's going to be important for you to wait for the question to be finished being asked so that your answer is clear and we have a clear delineation.

[REDACTED]: Yeah.

Unknown Female: ...of whose taking and when.

[REDACTED]: Yeah. I heard that from a secretary before.

Dixon: Feel free to jump in at any time if you feel you need to.

Unknown Female: Thank you.

Dixon: So, can you please state your full name.

[REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

Dixon: And what you position you hold in the Legislature?

[REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

Dixon: And who do you work for?

[REDACTED]: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] And he just kind of, kind of offered me between a few. So I've helped like Representative [REDACTED], uh, not really [REDACTED]. Well, she was on the list. I've not really seen her much. I've helped other Representatives. [REDACTED]. I like to follow Committees. Certain Committees for like, you know, personal reasons [REDACTED]. So, I do like to hear for that mainly. To now I'm focusing on the process. Understanding how it works.

Dixon: [REDACTED]?

[REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

Dixon: O.K. What are your work hours normally?

[REDACTED]: Tuesdays and Thursdays. Uh, kind of on demand really. Like, sometimes I'm here earlier in the day just cause it helps with WiFi, [REDACTED], kind of deal.

Dixon: Sure. Is that at your discretion or is it when Representative [REDACTED] might ask you to come in?

█: I just do it so that it's routine. So I'm usually here about 8:00, 8:30. And then I get off whenever I mean, kind of, when yeah, kind of whenever.

Dixon: And just a couple days of week usually?

█: Yeah. Just Tuesdays, Thursdays. Cause I work full time █ days a week. Except Tuesday, Thursdays.

Dixon: You kind of already answered this, but I'm just going to ask it. Is your work limited to a specific legislator or do you feel that you need to do what any legislator asks?

█: Um, not any. I just have a list of, like of, like about five of them. But I've literally only talked to like, Representative █ Representative...what's his name, why we not, █ He's right there. Uhm, Representative, I've done pretty much everybody in that pool house right there, where █ is and █ in them. █

Dixon: O.K. Go ahead Representative Horman.

Horman: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Did you get hired through the, the House has an █. Did you get to do the application process through that and then you were assigned to Representative █ Or how did you, or did you reach out to him and he. I guess I'm asking, are you, did you apply through █ with the House of Representatives?

█: Yes. So I had last year. Yeah, █. And I heard of █. █. So I was like, of course, yeah that was the next step. And then I got the application and I submitted way back in August. Like I've had this thing here and I didn't know how it worked, but apparently, like, you have to be █. So then I just like reached out to bunch of you guys, like, and then he responded first and so that's why I went with him. Cause he was the first one to respond back to me.

Dixon: Do you have. I'm sorry, but █ badge, one of those orange badges that says █?

█: Yes. I do. I was out of line. But yeah, I do. I have one █ and I have my badge – badge too that gets me into the offices and my office and the House and what not.

Dixon: Great. Representative Horman did you have another question?

Horman: Thank you. I'm just wondering if it's part of the employment process through the [REDACTED] that you have to find the, uhm, legislators willing to sponsor you or, like did they tell you, you need to find legislators willing to sponsor you, or did you just kind of decide, because you had been here, to reach out to people?

[REDACTED]: No, so, what had happened was, so last year the [REDACTED] I got a letter about like six weeks before we started saying that you got the position and stuff. And it was really exciting and stuff. And I didn't receive anything. And I was like really nervous and it was like, so I got my wisdom teeth pulled back December 13<sup>th</sup> and it was like a week before that, I just called cause I was like, yeah it was December 5<sup>th</sup> and you guys were here doing a training or something big was happening. I called Terri Kondeff and I was like, I'm confused on how this works. I haven't gotten, like, am I working am I not. What's going on? And she had said that I have to, that somebody has to sponsor you. And I was like, O.K. O.K. Gotch you. O.K. Thanks. You know. And then I figured that just meant I reach out and get sponsored, I don't know. I kind of assumed that. Yeah, I kind of assumed that myself.

Horman: O.K. Thank you.

Dixon: If you wouldn't mind then, unless there's other questions about her employment, if you wouldn't mind just describing in your words to us what the incident was that we're having the meeting about.

[REDACTED]: Sorry. So side note. I feel that the application process for the [REDACTED], and that's been all filled out, so I do have it submitted, but she, when I got here they wanted me to do [REDACTED]. And so it would be under that. And I submitted that to ....

Dixon: So the badge says [REDACTED]?

[REDACTED]: No, it still says [REDACTED]

Dixon: Oh.

[REDACTED]: That's still my position, it's just in their system because of how [REDACTED] work and I mean, I don't know. I don't see that side, she just, what she said, so I didn't.

Dixon: Had a problem with people that I've brought in to be [REDACTED], but they were just [REDACTED] because they're not getting [REDACTED] so I understand that. O.K. If you wouldn't mind again, if you're ready to describe that evening to us.

█: Yeah. O.K. so. Alright, uhm, about, I don't even know if it was maybe a week before then we, before that day specifically that's when we had planned the dinner and he had said, cause, cause, I'm, I work literally seven days a week. Like, I don't have a day off. So I was like, I would have to be on a day that I'm here and I could just be after work. And so we had agreed that on that following Tuesday or it was the next Tuesday, I really don't know. I have text messages that you can read. Um, and then O.K., so we meet whenever my sister lives in Boise, so I got off at like four. I hung out with her until six o'clock. We met six o'clock here literally at the, right across the street at the West Wing. That's a parking lot right there. I usually park there. He picked me up there and, it's really crazy car, like had like neck warmers and yeah. It was really crazy and like I took a picture of myself in there cause I just never seen a neck warmer. So that was really cool. And uh, actually not his car, said. And we'll to that later before I (conf... inaudible), caught up with words. So we went to Barbacoa in Boise and things were fine, like he was my, like I don't know, I'm friends with everybody. I'm not, um, I can talk with anybody. I pretty good, you know, conversationalist I guess. I don't know. His whole, literally his whole like, message to me was really trying to like say that he wanted to treat me how woman should be treated because I had shared some experiences in my past of not so good experiences. And uh, yeah so he was like trying to emphasize that so. I was like O.K. (Laughing) Sorry it's just so funny. I guess, um. Sorry I'm not.

Dixon: You're fine.

█: It's really overwhelming. Um, so yeah, everything went fine there. I mean, I really don't know like what conversations were word for word the whole time. I know I got bomb enchilada. He ordered something. The whole time he just had, like very dry humor, very, a little off. And I kind of felt a little off about it too, but I, it wasn't extreme either and it could have been taken a different way depending on someone's perspective so I didn't really like, wasn't dramatic about it. So, um, like he had said, like the joke if you've ever heard before, like, what are you doing later. And oh, I want to do you. Or hope to do you. Or something along those lines. And like he had just mentioned that comment and, but the waiter was coming up to refill our drinks in a cool little flask thingy and so I got distracted, but, so I just didn't pay attention to that. Cause I didn't know how to respond. I didn't know how to respond to that. Then after that we talked about wine because literally in that restaurant if you've ever been there it's like a literal dome of wine bottles. And so we started talking about wine and then that's when he had mentioned that the car isn't actually his. It was his room-mate's because you guys all come down here where ever you guys are from and room-mate with whoever whatever. And he room-mated with some older lady. I didn't see her. She wasn't there, um. He said that she's retired and

he just let her borrow the car, but she has a handicap parking. Like she needs a handicap thing. And he's like I need to go get the permit. I was like, O.K. And his, he's apartment is off of 6<sup>th</sup> I think. Literally, it's down the road and I thought we were going back to my car. I was just talking, just blabbing like, you know, I don't know. I mean. I don't know how to say. And then we had gotten there and we were joking about something. We laughed or something. And he said I was just. Yeah he mentioned getting the permit and then he had just kinda exited the car and was kinda already walking around. And he offered Oreos. So I was like, O.K. Like he opened my car doors, or opened the car doors so I was just kind of like O.K. I guess I'm going. I wasn't necessarily asked to go, you know. I don't know how to explain that one. I just kind of went. I wasn't worried. I wasn't worried in this situation. Like, this is not something I worried about with someone like you. You know. So, I don't know what I was thinking either. Um, I went then we went upstairs. We were joking around. I made some comments about some posters on the wall cause I don't know what we were talking about. It spelled Boise. These like children were spelling the word Boise and made comments about that and then we went into his apartment and I try to keep some distance around the table because Oreos were on the table. So I just kind of went straight there. I was, you know commenting on stuff and actually the apartment that he was in it was similar to an apartment I had applied for, like to get into, so I had made, making comments about that. I was like, this is actually the same set-up and so I was asking questions about how (inaudible), you know, but whatever. But that's when he had informed me that you know he was only staying there with a room-mate person. I was like, O.K. And then I was sitting there eating Oreos on this like leather chair, um. It was like fur, white fur everywhere. I don't know why. And he. In the back. So I'm alone for a bit, and I don't remember if his jacket was on or off when he had came back. Like I don't remember. Was that a question that was asked if he had his jacket on before so. I don't remember if it was then or not. He made some comments about me, like I looked good or whatever and I'm flattered. Like it's honestly, it was just like free food. Like me and my little friend group, we're just like yay, I got scored some free food. Like isn't that so cool. Like I don't know. I don't know. I just was being silly I guess. And he started like we were talking and then he just picked me up from this chair and I was. I, O.K. So I was real confused for a second and I was trying to. He was kind of just kissing my neck and just kinda. Oo, I was just. How do I even. He was just doing things. So I didn't really react. And I was just kind like, oh I don't really wanna, I don't know if this is something we should proceed. And I was trying to be silly to with it. I know it sounds dumb, but it was more or less just cause. I mean he was being silly cause for a long time I was always joked that. I was always picked up and put in a trash can in middle school. So I'm not kidding. Like that happened. So I was in boxing. It's like it was a boxing thing, group (inaudible). So it was like, I just don't trust people picking me up. And that was a thing I had said,

mentioned before, and I've mentioned to other people. It's just like whatever and so I think that's where he got that, where he just picked me up. That is was cool to make me feel small. Um, cause he had mentioned that, but. Laid me, sat me down. Went into his closet which is behind the door. He undressed and I'm trying to make excuses like, like no I haven't, I'm not really ready. Like I'm not ready for that. I haven't shaved. I'm just literally just trying to make up anything. Like I'm like, I'm not on birth, I mean, I'm on birth control, but I just told him I'm not on birth control right now. I haven't shaved in forever. I'm just not totally ready for that. And he laid by me for a bit and we were just talking and he had his underpants on still. So I just kind of sat there. And he was making comments about whatever was going on so that he has these curtains that are really red that I just kinda, kinda gotten fixed on I guess. And so making comments about that and just blabbing. And he's just touching me and like trying to, kissing me and I'm not, I don't know. That choke moment that happens. I, that's the whole time, is my choke moment kay. So, I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. I was thinking. And um, sorry.

Unknown Male: Just take what you need.

Dixon: [REDACTED]. If you are uncomfortable at this point.

[REDACTED]: No, like.

Dixon: We don't need you to proceed unless.

[REDACTED]: I'm totally fine. It's just irritating.

Unknown Female: We do have police reports.

[REDACTED]: Yeah, no I'm O.K. It's just, it is so overwhelming. I want to support this investigation. And that's what I'm doing. I'm doing my job.

Dixon: If the Committee though doesn't think you need to proceed because we do have the police report and your statement of some of those details later. We can. If that's the Committee's will, I will say we can stop.

[REDACTED]: Well it's just. I don't know. This part it just gets. I don't want anybody else feeling weird either. Like, I don't know. It's just kinda a thing I think about. But, long story short. Yeah, he just was proceeds to get on me. Like literally on me to where his knees were at my shoulders and his groin was in my face. And that was when I was saying no. And that's when I know I had said no and I said I don't want to. I even asked him. I was like aren't you paranoid? Like we shouldn't be, this shouldn't be happening. And he just kind of proceeded. Like I wasn't taking my clothes off. I wasn't taking my clothes off so he just kind of just yanked um. Yanked, so like my skirt.

I'd worn a skirt that day was. My skirt scrunched. My bra was pulled down. And my shirt was pulled up. Like he just kept removing. He was just doing. Ya know what I mean. He was just doing. There was no asking. There was no. I just kind of. My arm was underneath his leg. And so I just kinda left it there. So, I don't know. He just kind of just continued. Yeah.

Dixon: I think maybe the Committee's getting uncomfortable too.

█: That's why I said.

Dixon: Yeah. No. I appreciate that, so I don't want you to feel like you have to go any further, um, very appreciative that you came and shared that. It is important for us to hear that from your voice. It's one thing for us to read reports in doing that. Please don't think that we're, I'm cutting you off because we don't want to hear anything more.

█: I know.

Dixon: But, um. We also don't want you to feel like you have to, to say anything more or be more graphic (inaudible).

█: I just wanted to get over I that I did say no.

Dixon: Understood. And we hear that. And that's clear to us in doing that. Committee is there any other questions that you might have?

Unknown Female: I'm O.K. We're good.

Dixon: No? O.K. Thank you very much. And I appreciate you sharing. I know it's not easy. It's not easy for us. Not that it compares in any way to you. We appreciate that.

█: Yeah. No, I, I'm usually on the accent so.

Dixon: Understood. Thank you. Are you going to, well we'll let you know I guess as per counsel as this proceeds what to expect.

Unknown Female: Perfect.

Dixon: And I'll probably let Leslie know and she can contact you.

Unknown Female: Thank you.

Dixon: In, in doing that. We will be having a couple of more interviews before we reach a conclusion where we're going to go as a Committee with this investigation. I don't know, are you familiar with our ethics process at all?



█: I have the rules. I've read that. So I'm familiar.

Dixon: O.K. It's pretty clear in there. So if, if you look at that you'll know what stage we're in right now, and where we might go from here.

█: Yeah.

Dixon: In doing that. Because, well I just say if, if we, are next step is if we decide to go public with this, then there will be further interviews and questions in a public setting in doing that. So that will be a little more dramatic, if you will. Or a little more difficult perhaps. Yes Representative Crane.

Crane: Thank you Mr. Chairman. And legal counsel. Just so you know for your client this is still in the non-disclosure stage. And so it cannot be disseminated at all.

Dixon: Right. Still we're still in confidential hearings. The information we're collecting and things. Thank you Representative Crane.

█: Yep.

Kane: Mr. Chairman?

Dixon: Yes.

Kane: If something, if something comes to them after they leave that they think should be considered, do you want to have them submit that to you?

Dixon: Yes, please. That would be fine. And I'm sorry, I don't have a card, but my information's easy to find.

█: Yeah.

Dixon: I would appreciate that. Thank you. I'm glad I have awesome counsel. I forget things sometimes, as far as that goes. Alright. Thank you very much. Appreciate you.

Unknown Female: She mentioned that she has text messages that she...

█: No I, I submitted them.

Dixon: Yes, we have copies of the text messages. We have the audio and video of the confrontation as well.

Unknown Female: You submitted them. Do you have them already? You have those? O.K.

Unknown Female: O.K. Perfect.

Unknown Male: On them, Mr. Chairman, some of them appear to be cut-off on my copy.

Dixon: I think they're continued on the back page.

█: Yeah. They're continued. Cause they're screen. There screen and a, whatever screen.

Unknown Female: Um, I do.

Leslie: I will get those to you as well (inaudible).

Unknown Male: Cause this, and this is just the only exchange with you and?

█: Via text, yeah. Or any.

Unknown Male: So no other exchanges between you and Representative von Ehlinger via text that you've had?

█: No. Just those three. From beginning to end, she did have me send everything. Um, I do want to say thank you. I'm doing my best to hold my integrity. It's a big lesson my father emphasizes. So, I appreciate it. I'm doing my job, so.