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Aug 27, 2014  
Court of Appeals  
Division I  
State of Washington

No. 90714-5  
Court of Appeals No. 72036-8-I

IN THE SUPREME COURT  
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

**FILED**  
SEP - 8 2014

STATE OF WASHINGTON, **CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT**

Respondent,

**STATE OF WASHINGTON** **CRF**

v.

KELVIN K MARSHALL,

Petitioner.

PETITION FOR REVIEW

On review from the Court of Appeals, Division One (transferred from  
Division Two),  
and the Superior Court of Pierce County, No. 11-1-03626-1

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A. IDENTITY OF PETITIONER

Kelvin K. Marshall, appellant below, petitions this Court to grant review of a portion of the unpublished decision of the court of appeals designated in section B.

B. COURT OF APPEALS DECISION

Pursuant to RAP 13.4(b)(1), (2) and (3), Petitioner asks this Court to review a portion of the unpublished decision of the court of appeals, Division One, in State v. Marshall, \_\_ Wn. App. \_\_, \_\_\_\_ P.3d \_\_ (2014 WL 3743446), filed July 28, 2014.<sup>1</sup>

C. ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

1. Is an officer's repeated declarations during an interrogation accusing the defendant of lying and expressing the officer's disbelief in the defendant's version of events improper opinion testimony when that interrogation is read into the record by officers from the stand and there is no testimony that the accusations were made as part of a police tactic?

Should this Court grant review under RAP 13.4(b)(1) because the court of appeals decision that there was no "improper opinion" by the officers is in conflict with the decision of the five justices whose opinions control on this issue in State v. Demery, 144 Wn.2d 753, 30 P.3d 1278 (2001)?

Does the opinion in this case conflict with not only Demery but also with the holding of Division Two in State v. Jones,

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<sup>1</sup>A copy of the Opinion is submitted herewith as Appendix A (hereinafter "App. A").

117 Wn. App. 89, 68 P.3d 1153 (2003)?

Further, should review be granted to address whether the court of appeals improperly applied State v. Notaro, 161 Wn. App. 654, 255 P.3d 774 (2011), and whether the holding of Notaro conflicts with the decision in Demery?

2. Is it flagrant, improper misconduct when the prosecutor first argued that the jury had to determine if the victim was lying about the facts and then, in rebuttal closing argument, denigrated counsel's argument that the jurors could instead believe the witness was mistaken, declaring, "[n]o, one of them is lying," telling the jury "the question that you need to answer is which one[,]" and giving the two options of "the innocent victim" or the defendant?

Further, should review be granted because the prosecutor's argument was an improper "false choice" argument and the decision in this case to the contrary is in conflict with cases such as State v. Miles, 139 Wn. App. 879, 162 P.3d 1169 (2007) and State v. Wright, 76 Wn. App. 811, 888 P.2d 1214, review denied, 127 Wn.2d 1010 (1995)?

D. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

a. Procedural facts

Petitioner Kelvin Marshall was charged by information with and convicted after jury trial in Pierce County, Washington, of first-degree burglary with a sexual motivation aggravating factor. CP 1-2, 193-95; RCW 9.94A.030; RCW 9.94A.533; RCW 9.94A.835; RCW 9A.36.041(1)

and (2); RCW 9A.52.020(1)(b).<sup>2</sup> After the judge imposed a standard-range minimum sentence and a sentencing enhancement, Marshall appealed. CP 201-16, 220; RP 499. The case was transferred from Division Two of the court of appeals to Division One and, on July 28, 2014, Division One affirmed in part and reversed in part in an unpublished opinion. App. A. This Petition follows.

b. Overview of facts regarding incident

Tasha Church said Kelvin Marshall came to the door, pretended to be a handyman sent by the apartment manager, engaged in conversation which made her uncomfortable, touched her shoulder, asked her if she was happy with her boyfriend, touched her feet and asked her if her boyfriend “goes down” on her, saying that “he would.” RP 240. Marshall admitted lying about being a handyman and going into the apartment but said the two had discussed music, he had left the apartment and gone to his car to get a CD which he and Church then tried to play on Church’s computer, that he had touched her “hair and stuff” but she had said she liked her

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<sup>2</sup>The verbatim report of proceedings in this case consists of five volumes, which will be referred to as follows:

the volume containing the proceedings of November 1, 2012, as “1RP;”  
the four chronologically paginated volumes containing the proceedings of September 24 and December 14, 2012, January 3, 10, 15-17 and February 22, 2013, as “RP.”

boyfriend and did not like cheating, so he left. RP 199-370; Exhibit 23.

Although a CD was in her laptop later, she said she did not recognize it and the parties stipulated it contained Church's fingerprints and neither the CD nor the laptop had Marshall's prints. RP 198-244; Ex. 23.

Facts relevant to each of the issues on review are discussed in the argument section, *infra*.

E. ARGUMENT WHY REVIEW SHOULD BE GRANTED

1. THE DECISION IN THIS CASE IMPROPERLY FAILED TO FOLLOW THE TRUE HOLDING OF DEMERY AS SET FORTH IN JONES AND DIVISION ONE ERRED IN RELYING ON EXPANSIVE DICTA IN NOTARO WHICH DID NOT AND SHOULD NOT CONTROL

Both the state and federal constitutions guarantee the right to trial by jury. See State v. Lane, 125 Wn.2d 825, 838, 889 P.2d 929 (1995); Sixth. Amend.; Art. I, § 21. Included in this right is the right to have the jury serve as the "sole judge" of the evidence, the weight of the testimony and the credibility of witnesses. Lane, 125 Wn.2d at 838. As a result, it is improper to admit evidence about an officer's opinion about the guilt, credibility or veracity of the defendant. See, e.g., State v. Montgomery, 163 Wn.2d 577, 591-94, 183 P.3d 267 (2005).

In Demery, this Court issued a decision which has caused some confusion on this issue. At trial in that case, an audiotape of an officer's



interrogation was played at trial, including parts in which the officer accused the defendant of lying. 144 Wn.2d at 757-59. During the interrogation, the officer told the defendant he needed to “start tellin’ the truth,” asked if the defendant was “sure this is the story you wanna stick with,” told him he was “lookin’ at” multiple charges and, when the defendant said the officers were looking at him and talking to him like he was lying, the officer responded, “[c]ause you are.” 144 Wn.2d at 757. The defendant had asked to have those portions of the transcript redacted, as Marshall did here, but the trial court had declined. 144 Wn.2d at 757-58.

On review, a deeply divided court issued an opinion in which, strangely, the dissent controlled on one part of the analysis while the plurality controlled the other. Four of the justices of this Court would have held that there was no improper opinion testimony, because it was presented in the form of an audiotape, not a live person at trial. 144 Wn.2d at 759-60. Further, they would have held that the officers’ statements were not “improper opinion,” because the officers had specifically testified at trial that accusing a defendant of not telling the truth was a commonly used interrogation tactic. Id. The four justices were also persuaded by the idea that, when a law enforcement officer gives

testimony, that can have great sway with the jury but thought that statements made during a taped interview, not under oath, would not likely be given “special credibility” with the jury. 144 Wn.2d at 763.

But the view of those justices did not prevail. Instead, one justice agreed with those four only in the result, deeming the error “harmless” under a nonconstitutional standard because the parties had not argued that a constitutional standard should apply. 144 Wn.2d at 765 (Alexander, C.J., concurring).

Instead, the view which prevailed on this issue was that of the four dissenting justices, with whom the concurring justice agreed. Id. Those justices were unconvinced that there was any distinction between playing a tape of an officer declaring that a suspect was lying in a pretrial interrogation or having testimony from the officer about the same topic, because “[t]he end result is the same: The jury hears the officer’s opinion.” 144 Wn.2d at 767 (Sanders, J., dissenting). Further, the justices noted, caselaw had established that testimony was not “the only form of evidence forbidden” under the prohibition against improper opinion evidence. Id. These justices were not concerned with “the opinion is given directly during testimony in open court or if it is implied in some other way (like issuing a traffic citation). Demery, 144 Wn.2d at 770-71. The justices

concluded:

There is no meaningful difference between permitting a jury to hear an officer directly call a defendant a liar in open court and permitting the jury to hear an officer call a defendant a liar on a tape recording. If we quite clearly forbid the former there is no reason to tolerate the latter. The drafters of the Washington rules of evidence intentionally crafted a rule which does not permit impeachment by opinion because they understood such evidence is too prejudicial. Neither the rule nor our case law limiting this prohibition applies to only testimony in open court.

144 Wn.2d at 772. And the concurring justice agreed, “the officer’s accusation was opinion evidence regarding Demery’s veracity that would not have been admissible” in live testimony and should not have been “admitted in recorded form.” 144 Wn.2d at 765 (Alexander, C.J., concurring).

Thus, this Court’s holding Demery is that an officer’s accusations that the defendant is lying, made during a recorded interrogation, **cannot** be played for the jury, because they are improper opinion evidence. See Jones, 117 Wn. App. at 90. And Division Two so noted in interpreting Demery in Jones. Jones, 117 Wn. App. at 90.

Indeed, in Jones, Division Two declared, “clothing the opinion in the garb of an interviewing technique does not help. As five of the justices determined in Demery, an officer’s accusation that a defendant is lying

constitutes inadmissible opinion evidence.” Jones, 117 Wn. App. at 91-92 (emphasis added).

Here, the evidence was admitted not through the playing of a tape as in Demery or through the officer’s testimony on the stand as in Jones, but rather through the strange hybrid of having the Detective Miller, the prosecutor and another prosecutor reading the transcript into the record. See RP 365.

In deciding that this testimony/reading was not improper opinion testimony, Division One declared that the statements simply “constitute a legitimate interrogation tactic, not a direct personal opinion on credibility.” App. A at 11. The court also relied heavily on Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 661, concluding that the facts were similar and that case controlled. App. At at 9-11.

Notaro, however, does not - and should not - control. First, in Notaro, Division Two mistakenly held that, in Demery, “[a] plurality of our Supreme Court agreed. . . that an officer’s trial testimony about statements made during a pretrial interview are not the types of statements that carry a special aura of reliability and concluded that such statements and interrogation tactics are not opinion testimony.” Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 664. Based upon that belief of the holding in Demery, the Notaro

Court found that it was not improper opinion when the detective testified at trial that he had gotten the defendant to change his story by telling him he did not believe him, during the interrogation. 161 Wn. App. at 664.

Thus, the Notaro decision is in direct conflict with Jones and, indeed, with Demery. The holding of Notaro on which Division One relied in deciding this case was not the actual holding on the issue - instead it was the dissent's view that the statements were improper opinion testimony which controlled.

Further, the Notaro Court *also* concluded that Notaro had waived any objection because he himself had elicited similar testimony, and that even if the evidence was admitted it was harmless error, based on Notaro's having confessed to the crime. Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 670. The holding of Notaro misstating Demery is not only wrong but *dicta*, as it was not necessary for the court to resolve the Demery issue in order to decide the case. See, e.g., State v. Calkins, 50 Wn.2d 716, 726, 314 P.2d 449 (1957).

This Court should grant review. The court of appeals decision in this case relies on a case which misstated the holding of Demery in nonbinding *dicta*, which should not have been followed. Further, the fact that appellate courts in both Divisions One and Two but also within Division Two itself are reaching different conclusions about the holding of

Demery shows that this issue is one on which this Court should pass. Review should be granted under RAP 13.4(b)(1) and (2), because the decision in this case is in direct conflict with the holding of Demery, relies on *dicta* from an improper case and also is in direct conflict with the holding of the court of appeals in Jones. Mr. Marshall's rights to a jury trial were violated and review should be granted to address these issues.

2. THE PROSECUTOR PRESENTED AN IMPROPER "FALSE CHOICE" ARGUMENT AND DIVISION ONE'S HOLDING TO THE CONTRARY IS IN CONFLICT WITH CASES LIKE MILES AND WRIGHT

As "quasi-judicial" officers, prosecutors enjoy special status but also have special duties such as the duty to ensure that the defendant receives a fair trial. Berger v. United States, 295 U.S. 78, 88, 55 S. Ct. 629, 79 L. Ed. 2d 1314 (1935), overruled in part and on other grounds by, Stirone v. United States, 361 U.S. 212, 80 S. Ct. 270, 4 L. Ed. 2d 252 (1960); State v. Suarez-Bravo, 72 Wn. App. 359, 367, 864 P.2d 426 (1994). Further, a prosecutor must refrain from engaging in tactics the purpose of which is to "win" a conviction at all costs. See State v. Rivers, 96 Wn. App. 672, 675, 981 P.2d 16 (1999). It is the prosecutor's duty to seek justice, which requires seeking a conviction based solely on the evidence, rather than improper grounds. See State v. Monday, 171 Wn.2d

667, 677, 257 P.3d 551 (2011).

It is well-settled that it is “misleading and unfair” to make it appear that the jury must decide that the prosecution’s witnesses are lying in order to fail to convict. State v. Casteneda-Perez, 61 Wn. App. 354, 362-63, 801 P.2d 74, review denied, 118 Wn.2d 1007 (1991). Indeed, this type of “false choice” argument has been roundly condemned by our courts as misstating the law, the state’s burden of proof and the jurors’ true role. State v. Barrow, 60 Wn. App. 869, 809 P.2d 209, review denied, 118 Wn.2d 1007 (1991). It is not the jury’s function, role or duty to decide who is telling the truth. See State v. Anderson, 153 Wn. App. 417, 220 P.3d 1273 (2009), review denied, 170 Wn.2d 1002 (2010). Instead, it is the jury’s duty “to determine whether the State has proved its allegations against the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt,” not to figure out who is lying. 153 Wn. App. at 429. The choice presented by the argument is “false” because it improperly tells the jurors that either the state’s witnesses or defense witnesses are lying and there are no other options. Barrow, 60 Wn. App. at 876. But this is untrue, even if the various versions of events conflict. Id. Instead,

[t]he testimony of a witness can be unconvincing or wholly or partially incorrect for a number of reasons without any deliberate misrepresentation being involved. The testimony

of two witnesses can be in some conflict, even though both are endeavoring in good faith to tell the truth.

Casteneda-Perez, 61 Wn. App. at 362-63; see also, State v. Wright, 76 Wn. App. 811, 826, 888 P.2d 1214, review denied, 127 Wn.2d 1010 (1995).

Further, telling the jurors they have to decide who is telling the truth in order to decide the case improperly dilutes the prosecution's constitutionally-mandated burden of proof. When a jury is tasked with deciding which party is telling a truth, that invites them to decide the case based not upon whether the prosecution met its burden of proof but rather by "picking a side." See, e.g., United States v. Pine, 609 F.2d 106, 108 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 1979). And these arguments, focusing on "determining whose version of events is more likely true" instead of whether the state has met its burden misleads jurors into basing their decision on a *balancing* of the weight of the evidence and deciding which is more likely, thus applying a preponderance of the evidence standard rather than the much higher, proper burden of proof. See United States v. Gonzalez-Balderas, 11 F.3d 1218, 1223 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir.), cert. denied, 511 U.S. 1129 (1994).

In this case, the prosecutor first asked the jurors if they thought Church "was lying," then, after counsel argued that the jury did not have to



decide Church was lying but could instead find her mistaken, the prosecutor “corrected” that argument, declaring:

[Counsel] suggested that, well, it’s not necessarily that Tasha or the Defendant is lying, maybe it’s a misinterpretation of events. **No, one of them is lying. And the question you need to answer is which one. Is it the innocent victim . . . or is it the Defendant[?]**

RP 479-80 (emphasis added).

In affirming in this case, the court of appeals simply declared that “the prosecutor neither argued nor implied that the jury had to disbelieve Church to acquit Marshall,” and that this was not “flagrant and ill-intentioned misconduct.” App. A at 18. Division One did not address Marshall’s argument that, even if the misconduct was no so flagrant, counsel was ineffective in failing to object.

Review should be granted on this issue. By focusing only on if the word “acquit” was used, the court of appeals ignored the argument actually made. Further, the decision runs afoul of court of appeals decisions holding to the contrary. In Miles, for example, the prosecutor told the jury that there were two versions of events and that they could not both be true, and the court found this implicated “false choice” misconduct. 139 Wn. App. at 882. In Wright, the court of appeals specifically described the proper “false choice” analysis and held that it was just such improper

argument when a prosecutor claimed that, to believe the defendant, the jury must find the state's witnesses were lying or mistaken. Wright, 76 Wn. App. at 825.

This Court should grant review to address whether it is misconduct for a prosecutor to tell the jury that they only had two choices: either the defendant or the "innocent victim" was lying. On review, this Court should find that the argument was flagrant, prejudicial or ill-intentioned or that counsel was ineffective in failing to object.

F. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, this Court should accept review of a portion of the decision of Division One of the court of appeals.

DATED this 27th day of August, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY EFILING/MAIL

Under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, I hereby declare that I sent a true and correct copy of the attached Petition for Review to opposing counsel via the upload portal at the Court of Appeals, Division Two, at their official service address, [pccpatcecf@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:pccpatcecf@co.pierce.wa.us), and petitioner by depositing the same in the United States Mail, first class postage pre-paid, as follows: Kelvin Marshall, DOC 363517, Coyote Ridge CC., P.O. Box 769, Connell, WA. 99326.

DATED this 27th day of August, 2014.

/s Kathryn Russell Selk  
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RICHARD D. JOHNSON,  
Court Administrator/Clerk

*The Court of Appeals*  
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July 28, 2014

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CASE #: 72036-8-1

State of Washington, Respondent v. Kelvin Keon Kerville Marshall, Appellant  
Pierce County, Cause No. 11-1-03626-1

Counsel:

Enclosed is a copy of the opinion filed in the above-referenced appeal which states in part:

"For the reasons discussed above, we affirm Marshall's conviction. We remand with directions to strike community custody conditions 13 and 21 from the judgment and sentence except for condition 21's ban on patronizing prostitutes."

Counsel may file a motion for reconsideration within 20 days of filing this opinion pursuant to RAP 12.4(b). If counsel does not wish to file a motion for reconsideration but does wish to seek review by the Supreme Court, RAP 13.4(a) provides that if no motion for reconsideration is made, a petition for review must be filed in this court within 30 days.

In accordance with RAP 14.4(a), a claim for costs by the prevailing party must be supported by a cost bill filed and served within ten days after the filing of this opinion, or claim for costs will be deemed waived. Should counsel desire the opinion to be published by the Reporter of Decisions, a motion to publish should be served and filed within 20 days of the date of filing the opinion, as provided by RAP 12.3 (e).

Sincerely,



Richard D. Johnson  
Court Administrator/Clerk

lls

Enclosure

c: The Honorable Vicki Hogan  
Kelvin Marshall

2014 JUL 28 AM 10:10

**IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

STATE OF WASHINGTON,	)	NO. 72036-8-1
	)	
Respondent,	)	DIVISION ONE
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
KELVIN KEON KERVILLE MARSHALL,	)	UNPUBLISHED OPINION
	)	
Appellant.	)	FILED: July 28, 2014

LAU, J. — Kelvin Marshall appeals his first degree burglary conviction, arguing that (1) the trial court admitted improper opinion testimony recounting statements made by detectives who interviewed him after his arrest, (2) the prosecutor committed misconduct during closing arguments, (3) the sentencing court erroneously imposed certain community custody conditions, and (4) the sentencing court unlawfully ordered him to forfeit property. Because (1) the challenged witness testimony expressed no personal beliefs on credibility, (2) the prosecutor committed no closing argument misconduct, and (3) his forfeiture claim is premature, we affirm his conviction. But because the court imposed unlawful community custody conditions relating to controlled substances and sexually explicit materials, we remand with instructions to strike those conditions from the judgment and sentence.

FACTS

The trial evidence established the following facts: Twenty-eight-year-old Tasha Church lived in a small, second-floor apartment with her boyfriend, Eddie Sumlin. On

the morning of September 2, 2011, 10 to 20 minutes after Sumlin left for work, Church answered a knock at the door from a man she did not know. The man said the apartment manager sent him to check the water pipes. The man put his hand on the door, entered the apartment, and walked to the bathroom. Church later identified the man from a photomontage as Marshall.

Marshall went into the kitchen. Church got suspicious because the kitchen pipes worked fine. She looked up and saw Marshall staring at her. Marshall walked slowly toward her and began stroking a wrench "suggestively." Report of Proceedings (RP) (Jan. 15, 2013) at 236. Marshall sat on the bed next to Church. He touched her hair, massaged her shoulder, and said, "[Y]ou look tense." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 235. Church told Marshall to stop. Marshall asked Church if she was happy with her boyfriend and if she would call him. Church said she was happy and would not call. Marshall touched Church's feet and told her they were very nice.

Church put her hand in the air and said, "You really need to stop." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 238. Marshall got up and walked to the bathroom. Church grabbed some belongings. As she fled the apartment, Church said, "He asked if my boyfriend goes down on me, because he would." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 240. Church "made a disgusted noise . . . ." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 240. Marshall asked Church if she was leaving. Visibly upset, Church responded, "[O]h yeah, I'm gone." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 240.

Church saw the apartment manager and his wife at the bottom of the stairs. She angrily asked the manager about the man he hired. The manager denied hiring anyone

and ran up the stairs. The manager's wife called 911. The manager later identified Marshall in a photomontage.

Shannon Glen lived in Church's apartment complex. She saw a man smoking outside the complex the night before the incident. Glen's friend asked the man what he was doing. The man responded, "I'm with maintenance." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 288. Glen described the man as a "[t]all, skinny, young, African American black guy with a red shirt on, short hair." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 289.

Scott Kidwell lived across the street from Church. On the morning of the incident, he saw a "clean cut black kid" park on the street. RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 301. He said the kid walked behind Church's apartment and then returned to the street. The kid retrieved a "brand new crescent wrench" from his car, made a phone call, and then walked toward Church's apartment. RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 301.

Tacoma Police Officer Pamela Rush responded to a 911 call reporting a burglary at Church's apartment. When Officer Rush arrived, Kidwell pointed out the car driven by the man with the crescent wrench. Officer Rush saw an envelope inside the car indicating Marshall was in the military. The next day, she arrested Marshall at a nearby military base.

Detectives Keith Miller and Brad Graham questioned Marshall at the police station shortly after his arrest. In a tape-recorded interview, which was later transcribed for trial, Marshall acknowledged parking on the street outside Church's apartment but claimed he left on foot after being grabbed by a stranger:

This, um, like a black dude came out and stuff like that and when I (unintelligible) then it w—after, it's like this other white dude came like shorts, shorts and stuff, and he's like grabbing me and stuff. I was like, "Hey let me go, it's not me." And

that dude go, like, he's, like, still, like, grabbing me and stuff so I like wrench away and I ran- ran up to my house and stuff so I called my wife.

Ex. 23 at 11. He said he returned to the street but left when he saw police officers assembling in the area:

So, from there, um, um, walk, look around to, like, get my car and when I walked back to get my car, it's like there's, uh, police car. So I—I called her back there and say, um, "I'm, like, walking and, like, there's a cop car," and she was like, "Alright, go home."

Ex. 23 at 11. Later during the interview, Marshall changed his story. He told detectives that he entered Church's apartment while pretending to be a plumber:

So went, I was like, I don't know what to say so I was like, um, oh, I'm the plumber. So she was like, alright go ahead. So, she was like, uh, the bath—it was bathroom and stuff like that, so like they . . . and, like, and like, what's he doing now so . . . guess we, um, we started talking for a minute.

Ex. 23 at 28 (ellipses in original). He said that he and Church talked while sitting on Church's bed. He claimed that the two discussed music and that Church said she liked music. He said he left the apartment briefly to retrieve a music CD (compact disc) from his car. He said he and Church unsuccessfully attempted to play the CD on Church's laptop.

Marshall acknowledged, "And, like . . . then think, um, think I touched her, um, like, her, like, uh, here but not on her back, touched her hair and stuff and then she was like, Okay, um, then I say something about, he's a, um, uh, 'I like my boyfriend so,' um, 'I don't like cheating on him.'" Ex. 23 at 29. He claimed that he left the apartment complex shortly after this exchange. He said Church did not appear frightened. He denied that he visited the apartment complex the previous night.



At trial, Church testified she found an unfamiliar CD in her laptop when she returned to her apartment for the first time. She thought the CD might contain a virus, since it was labeled "Y2K." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 244. The court admitted the CD at trial. The parties stipulated that the CD contained Church's fingerprints but that neither the laptop nor the CD contained Marshall's fingerprints. Marshall did not testify at trial.

During closing arguments, defense counsel conceded that Marshall unlawfully entered Church's apartment and that, once inside, he assaulted Church. He disputed only that Marshall "entered with the intent at that point in time that he was going to commit a crime inside," and that "he [did] so for purposes of sexual gratification." RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 471. He asked the jury to acquit Marshall of first degree burglary and to convict him instead on the lesser included charges of first degree criminal trespass and fourth degree assault. He also asked the jury to find that Marshall lacked sexual motivation when he committed these crimes.

A jury found Marshall guilty of first degree burglary committed with sexual motivation. Marshall appeals.

## ANALYSIS

### Opinion Testimony

Marshall contends the trial court erroneously admitted testimony that constituted an opinion on his credibility, veracity, or guilt. For the reasons discussed below, we hold that the court properly exercised its discretion when admitting the testimony.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Our record does not contain a verbatim transcript of the portion of trial during which the deputy prosecutors and Detective Miller read the interview transcript into the record. The trial court stated, "Since [the interview has] already been transcribed, [the

At trial, the court allowed the State to present portions of the transcript of Marshall's pretrial interview with Detectives Graham and Miller. Prosecutors read the lines spoken by Detective Miller and Detective Graham. Detective Miller read the defendant's statements.

As quoted above, Marshall first told the detectives that he drove to Church's street. But he claimed he left on foot after being grabbed by a stranger. He said he returned to retrieve his car but left when he saw police officers gathering in the area.

Detective Graham questioned Marshall's story:

Um, I—I want you to think long and hard. Lots and lots of people come into here and talk to us. And they say stuff that they think they need to say or they say stuff that we want to hear. Now, neither Detective Miller or I want you to say anything that's not true. I'm gonna want you to—we don't wanna put words in your mouth. But you also know that we didn't just happen upon you. Okay? We know that there was some more things that went on that day. We know that ya went a little bit further than in the street, and we know that, um, that you did talk to some other people and—and—and so, let me just say from the beginning that one of the things that we have to do is kinda sort out the lies. We kinda know the "whats" already but y—we actually do know where you were, and we do have people who can tell us where you went and people who did see you. So I mean that's not, uh, and—and unfortunately, because you do—you do speak with a very unique accent, you don't sound like you're from Tacoma, um, you're not that hard to identify. Okay? But what we have to look at here is more of the "what went on." We got one side of the story from her, and we don't think it's fair to go much further without getting the other side of the story from you. If something went on by force or if—if you just—if something was d—designed to hurt somebody, then that's a problem. But if something happened and it wasn't designed to hurt somebody and it was being—you know, misunderstanding or an accident or something along those lines, then we need to know that as well. And, again, neither one of us wants you to say anything that's not true, but also understand that when you're done in this room, you're done talking to us. And if you tell us that all you did was stay out out [sic] here on the street and you didn't go and talk to anybody, you didn't go into any building, and then later on we can prove, and we will prove, that that's not true, then you're gonna come out looking like a real bad guy. And you mighta had a good reason for going in and it might

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court report] will not be making another transcription, so she is going to exit when you start the reading." RP (Jan. 16, 2013) at 365.

have been a—an innocent reason for going in. But when you stand up and you give that reason, and you talk to a lawyer and the lawyer says, "Hey, you gotta tell 'em what really happened, and that y—nothing bad went on," or the other person was okay or, or s—whatever it was, you're gonna say that and people are probably gonna believe you because you come across as a—a pretty honest-looking guy. But the problem is that he and I got to come in and go, "Yeah, but on September 2nd at 3:30 in the afternoon, we asked Kelvin that, and he said he didn't do any of that. So is he lying then or is he lying now?" You know what I mean? So, I want you to think back. We haven't written any reports yet so it's not too late to—to kinda fix things up here. But I don't think you're [sic] been telling us the—the complete truth, have you? There's—there was a little more to it, wasn't there? Trying to help you—we're trying to help you help yourself. We've got one side of the story, Kelvin, and it's not fair that we only have one side. Okay? And one of the things we're gonna get asked when we leave this room is, "Did he try to hurt somebody?" And I—I wanna be able to answer honestly. I wanna be able to say, "Wait, hey listen, this is what he said happened. This is maybe how it got out of hand and got out of control real quick." You know what I mean? If I just go out there and say, "Well, I mean, you know, basically we finished talking to him and he said he never left the street," and then we look at all of the other evidence we have including, you know, the witness and everything else, then that it—it kinda makes you look bad. And I—I don't think you need to look bad. I think you need to look honest here. So Kelvin, something more went on and the problem is you need to help yourself and the only way to help yourself is to kinda be honest with us. I can see that you're scared. You look scared, and I totally get that. I mean, hell, you're in a police station, cops are asking you questions. You got—you got, I understand that. You got a good reason to—to feel nervous and scared. But—but I—I'm telling you that—I'm tell [sic] you tha—that—that not being honest with us is not the way out of this thing. Okay? Don't—don't—it's like you're pushing a giant rock up a hill. You don't wanna be doin' it that way. You want to be in front of the rock not behind the rock. So, kinda, um, maybe you should start over again and you haven't been completely honest, have you?

Ex. 23 at 17-19. After a short break, Detective Graham resumed:

Det. Graham: So when we left off I told you that I don't—neither one of us thinks that you were being totally honest with us in the first go-around. Is that true? Do you want to tell us what really happened?

Marshall: Okay. So you, uh, already had the first part. You gonna, like, start over?

Det. Graham: Yeah, we can. Yeah.

Ex. 23 at 25. As quoted above, Marshall responded and acknowledged that he entered Church's apartment while pretending to be a plumber.

Detective Miller told Marshall, "I think you wanted to go in there and have sex with somebody." Ex. 23 at 53. Marshall said, "That's not true." Ex. 23 at 53. Detective Miller confronted Marshall on this point:

Det. Miller: Kelvin, if I told you this story that you've told us about randomly picking this apartment and knocking on the door, happen to have a b—a tool bag and saying that you're the plumber, what would you think?

Marshall: I'd say something—something crazy with that story but . . .

Det. Miller: It does sound crazy.

Marshall: . . . that's why it happened, though. That's how it happened. Like, I was, uh, be honest, that's what happened.

Det. Miller: Kelvin, I—I—you know I—I appreciate that you told us, for the most part, I think you've told us the truth and I think you're—you're avoiding the reason why you were knocking on the door.

Ex. 23 at 54. Marshall continued to deny a sexual motivation. Detective Miller persisted:

Det. Miller: Well, Kelvin, again, I—I appreciate your honesty with us, but I still think you're—you're going around the issue of why you knocked on that door. You—you and I know, Detective Graham and I know and you know what your intent was.

. . .  
Kelvin, this is your only opportunity to tell us the truth. Neither of us are going to come and talk to you again about this. This is it right here. And like Detective Graham told you earlier, you change your story later . . .

Marshall: I'm not . . .

Det. Miller: . . . an—and that's not gonna look good.

Ex. 23 at 59-61. Marshall contends the above-quoted statements by Detectives Graham and Miller constituted inadmissible opinion testimony on his credibility.

"We review a trial court's decision to admit or exclude a law enforcement officer's statements during an interrogation for an abuse of discretion." State v. Notaro, 161 Wn. App. 654, 661, 255 P.3d 774 (2011).

Under an abuse of discretion standard, the reviewing court will find error only when the trial court's decision (1) adopts a view that no reasonable person would take and is thus "manifestly unreasonable," (2) rests on facts unsupported in the record and is thus based on "untenable grounds," or (3) was reached by applying the wrong legal standard and is thus made "for untenable reasons . . . ."

State v. Sisouvanh, 175 Wn.2d 607, 623, 290 P.3d 942 (2012) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting State v. Rohrich, 149 Wn.2d 647, 654, 71 P.3d 638 (2003)).

"Generally, no witness may offer testimony in the form of an opinion regarding the guilt or veracity of the defendant; such testimony is unfairly prejudicial to the defendant 'because it invad[es] the exclusive province of the [jury].'" State v. Demery, 144 Wn.2d 753, 759, 30 P.3d 1278 (2001) (plurality opinion) (alterations in original) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting City of Seattle v. Heatley, 70 Wn. App. 573, 577, 854 P.2d 658 (1993)). "Because issues of credibility are reserved strictly for the trier of fact, testimony regarding the credibility of a key witness may also be improper." Heatley, 70 Wn. App. at 577.

"In determining whether a statement constitutes improper opinion testimony, we consider the type of witness involved, the specific nature of the testimony, the nature of the charges, the type of defense, and the other evidence before the trier of fact." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 661-62. "Testimony from a law enforcement officer regarding the veracity of another witness may be especially prejudicial because an officer's testimony often carries a special aura of reliability." State v. Kirkman, 159 Wn.2d 918, 928, 155 P.3d 125 (2007). But "[t]estimony that is not a direct comment on the defendant's guilt or on the veracity of a witness, is otherwise helpful to the jury, and is based on inferences from the evidence is not improper opinion testimony." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 662 (alteration in original) (quoting Heatley, 70 Wn. App. at 578).

In Notaro, detectives interviewed the defendant before trial. At trial, one of the detectives described the interview to the jury. He testified that the defendant initially blamed his mother for the victim's murder. The prosecutor asked the detective what he said to "have [the defendant] change his story." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 665. The detective testified, "I leaned forward, and I told [the defendant] I didn't believe him."

Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 665. Over the defendant's objection, the detective explained:

I told him I didn't believe him. I said, I don't believe your mother was able to put [the victim's] body in a freezer by herself if [the defendant] had such a difficult time pulling it out and taking it upstairs to bury it.

I told him I didn't believe that that's what mothers did when they have a problem such as the problems [sic] they were having. They called their sons, and sons dealt with the problems. Mothers didn't shoot people.

Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 665 (alteration in original). The detective also testified, "I told [the defendant] to tell me the truth. Tell me the story of what happened." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 665. According to the detective, the defendant confessed to the murder.

On appeal, the defendant argued that the trial court admitted improper opinion testimony. In rejecting this argument, Division Two of this court distinguished between improper opinion testimony and testimony regarding what it called "tactical interrogation statements." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 669. The latter, it explained, provided no evidence of the interrogating detective's personal beliefs on the defendant's veracity. Rather, it merely provided an "account" of the interrogator's efforts "to challenge the defendant's initial story and elicit responses that are capable of being refuted or corroborated by other evidence or accounts of the event discussed." Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 669. This account, the court said, "described the police interrogation strategy and helped explain to the jury why [the defendant] changed some parts of his story—but

not others—halfway through the interview.” Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 669. The court concluded, “[T]aken in context, [the detective] did not testify at trial about his personal beliefs; instead, he recounted the full version of each participant’s statements during [the defendant’s] interrogations.” Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 669.

The statements here are similar to those in Notaro.<sup>2</sup> Detective Graham challenged Marshall’s initial story, telling Marshall that he and Detective Miller knew “there was some more things that went on that day.” Ex. 23 at 17. He explained to Marshall, “We got one side of the story from [Church], and we don’t think it’s fair to go much further without getting the other side of the story from you.” Ex. 23 at 18. As in Notaro and read in the context of the 73-page interview, these statements and the statements quoted above constitute a legitimate interrogation tactic, not a direct personal opinion on credibility. The detectives’ statements during interrogation were calculated to see whether Marshall would change his story. The statements thus permissibly “described the police interrogation strategy” and helped explain to the jury why Marshall “changed some parts of his story—but not others—halfway through the interview.” Notaro, 161 Wn. App. at 669.

When Marshall maintained that he had no sexual interest in Church, Detective Miller used a similar tactical strategy. He told Marshall, “I appreciate that you told us, for the most part, I think you’ve told us the truth and I think you’re—you’re avoiding the reason why you were knocking on the door.” Ex. 23 at 54. Like the prior statement, this statement was also calculated to see whether Marshall would change his story. Viewed

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<sup>2</sup> Marshall fails to mention Notaro in his opening appellate brief. Marshall filed no reply brief.

in context, it conveyed no personal opinions regarding Marshall's credibility, veracity, or guilt.

We conclude that the trial court properly exercised its discretion to admit the challenged interview statements. But as discussed below, even if we assume that the court erred, we conclude the error was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt.

Marshall argues, and the State does not dispute, that the constitutional harmless error standard applies. "A constitutional error is harmless if the appellate court is assured beyond a reasonable doubt that the jury verdict cannot be attributed to the error." State v. Lui, 179 Wn.2d 457, 495, 315 P.3d 493 (2014). "Under our 'overwhelming untainted evidence' test, we look to the untainted evidence to determine if it was so overwhelming that it necessarily leads to a finding of guilt." Lui, 179 Wn.2d at 495 (quoting State v. Guloy, 104 Wn.2d 412, 426, 705 P.2d 1182 (1985)). Because the State fails to argue that a less stringent standard applies, we assume without deciding that the overwhelming untainted evidence test governs our inquiry.

Overwhelming untainted evidence necessarily leads to a finding that Marshall committed first degree burglary with sexual motivation.<sup>3</sup> During closing arguments,<sup>4</sup> defense counsel acknowledged that Marshall "admitted" entering Church's

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<sup>3</sup> The trial court instructed the jury that "[a] person commits the crime of burglary in the first degree when he enters or remains unlawfully in a building with intent to commit a crime against a person or property therein, and if, in entering or while in the building or in immediate flight therefrom, that person or an accomplice in the crime assaults any person." It also instructed the jury that "[s]exual motivation means that one of the purposes for which the defendant committed the crime was for the purpose of his sexual gratification."

<sup>4</sup> We note that counsel's argument is not evidence. But he conceded the elements constituting criminal trespass and fourth degree assault.



apartment, sitting on her bed, touching her feet, and stroking her hair. RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 464. He told the jury, "While in there, there is no question that he touched her. He admitted that. That's an assault, so that's kind of given. He entered there by telling her that he was a plumber. Shouldn't have done that. Unlawful entry." RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 470. He said the only disputed issues were whether Marshall "entered with the intent at that point in time that he was going to commit a crime inside," and whether "he [did] so for purposes of sexual gratification." RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 471.

Our record contains overwhelming untainted evidence that Marshall entered Church's apartment with intent to commit a crime and that he committed first degree burglary with sexual motivation. Marshall drove to Church's street after having an argument with his wife. Church testified that Marshall knocked on her door 10 to 20 minutes after her boyfriend left the apartment. Church heard Marshall say he was the "maintenance man." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 229. Shannon Glen testified that on the previous day, an unfamiliar man used the same ruse, claiming he was "with maintenance" when his presence was questioned. RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 288.

Marshall admitted that he knocked on Church's door and that he pretended to be a plumber. He acknowledged that he found Church "attractive." Ex. 23 at 36.

Church testified that Marshall "put his hand on the door and walked through." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 229. She said Marshall initiated a conversation. She testified, "I remember at one point feeling uncomfortable and bringing up my boyfriend." RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 233. She recalled that Marshall stared at her and walked towards her slowly. She said Marshall stroked his crescent wrench "[s]uggestively," pushed

away her hair, and massaged her shoulder. RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 236. Church believed she was “going to get raped.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 238.

Marshall admitted that he thought he “touched [Church’s] hair and stuff . . . .” Ex. 23 at 29. He also admitted, “[A]nd then I guess I commented on her feet and stuff and the, like, her feet was like here.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 35. He explained:

She was like sitting like right here. So I was like, um, “You have ni—nice toes,” like w—with a pedicure and stuff. So I was like, “Let me see it,” so then I, like, what I tell you about w—when she let me see it. She didn’t say no. So, like, I reach and then it was like re—rested right here for a minute.

Ex. 23 at 39. He said, “I like touched the toes and was looking at her.” Ex. 23 at 40.

Church testified that Marshall continued to make sexual comments even as she left the apartment. She said Marshall “asked if my boyfriend goes down on me, because he would.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 240. She said she believed the comment related to “[o]ral sex.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 251.

Officer Rush testified that when she arrived on scene, Church “seemed very upset” and “looked like maybe she had been crying or was in somewhat of a panic or in shock.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 326. She said Church told her a man “had come into her apartment and had pretended to be the plumber and had started to touch her and to say things that were unacceptable, inappropriate to her, and that she had panicked and escaped from him.” RP (Jan. 15, 2013) at 327.

When Detective Miller asked Marshall why he chose Church’s apartment, Marshall had no clear answer. He explained, “I didn’t—I didn’t like picked it, like, you don—you don’t understand. I didn—I didn’t pick it.” Ex. 23 at 34. When Detective Graham asked Marshall what he planned to do inside, he again answered vaguely:

Huh? I was, um, like, I wasn—like I said, I didn't know—what to s—say or nothing . . . so like that was the first thing that came to my mind and then that's why I went to the bathroom, and then the door was open so then, like , as we started talking and stuff, like, like, we just like talking and stuff.

Ex. 23 at 34-35. Marshall said he did not want to have sex with Church and claimed he "wasn't trying to rape or nothing." Ex. 23 at 35. But he offered no explanation for his presence at Church's door other than his vague claim that he was confused, that he did not know what to say, and that the detectives would not understand.<sup>5</sup>

The untainted evidence overwhelmingly shows that Marshall used subterfuge to gain access to a woman he did not know and who was alone in her apartment. During the encounter, Marshall stroked a wrench suggestively, massaged Church, and made a comment referring to oral sex. Church believed she would be raped and fled her apartment in a panicked state. On this record, we are persuaded beyond a reasonable doubt that the jury verdict cannot be attributed to the error, if any, arising from the admission of the challenged statements discussed above. Any error was harmless.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> During closing arguments, defense counsel told the jury, "Mr. Marshall's statement. Well, it probably—what he explained he did doesn't make sense. He acknowledged it's crazy. He has no explanation for why he did that, other than he was having a fight with his wife, arguing with her." RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 469.

<sup>6</sup> Marshall argues that defense counsel was ineffective in failing to have the court redact from exhibit 23 Detective Graham's statement on pages 17-19 and Detective Miller's "for the most part" statement on page 54. "A defendant claiming ineffective assistance of counsel must show that counsel's performance was objectively deficient and resulted in prejudice." State v. Emery, 174 Wn.2d 741, 754-55, 278 P.3d 653 (2012). Even if we assume that Marshall can overcome the strong presumption that counsel performed effectively, we conclude that Marshall cannot show prejudice. To show prejudice, Marshall has the burden to establish "a reasonable probability that, but for counsel's unprofessional errors, the result of the proceeding would have been different." State v. Thomas, 109 Wn.2d 222, 226, 743 P.2d 816 (1987) (quoting Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668, 694, 104 S. Ct. 2052, 80 L. Ed. 2d 674 (1984)). As discussed above, our record contains overwhelming untainted evidence of guilt.

Prosecutorial Misconduct

Marshall contends the prosecutor committed misconduct during closing arguments by arguing that either he or Church lied about why Marshall's CD ended up in Church's laptop. Marshall claimed during his pretrial interview that he and Church talked about music and that Church said she liked music. He also claimed that he left the apartment to retrieve a music CD from his car and that he and Church unsuccessfully attempted to play the CD on Church's laptop. During trial, Church denied talking to Marshall about music. She also claimed she discovered the CD when she returned to her apartment for the first time. The prosecutor told the jury that Marshall's version of the facts made no sense:

And then we have the CD. The Defendant in his statement says, well, I have this CD, and I went back down to the car, and we liked music, and she didn't know how to get it in, and that's why I was trying to show her. That doesn't make any sense. Tasha Church is the one that brought that CD to law enforcement's attention. She is the one who when she went back upstairs said, my laptop was open, and the bay was open, and the CD was in there, and it says Y2K. Didn't know what it was. Hadn't seen it before, brought it down to Officer Rush. It was Tasha Church who took that CD and said get this out of my apartment.

So do you think that Tasha Church is lying about that CD, or do you think that the Defendant who has come with this preconceived plan about being a plumber is prepared for, well, maybe if I put this CD in and I get caught, later on I will have a good cover story that we were talking about music. Either way, it doesn't matter, because Tasha Church is not lying about that CD. At no point did they ever sit down and have this discussion that he claims they had about a music CD such that he would go back to his car and get a CD.

RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 446-47. Defense counsel suggested that neither story was completely true. He told the jury the evidence was open to interpretation:

So that really has us boiled down to Ms. Church and Mr. Marshall. That's the heart of the case. The reality of what happened in that apartment that day might be somewhere in between what Mr. Marshall said and what Ms. Church said, and that doesn't necessarily mean anybody is lying. You show two people

the same event and they will interpret it differently. They will remember it differently. They see things differently.

RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 463. In rebuttal, the prosecutor maintained that only Church's story was supported by the evidence:

[Defense counsel] suggested that, well, it's not necessarily that Tasha [Church] or the Defendant is lying, maybe it's a misinterpretation of events. No, one of them is lying. And the question that you need to answer is which one. Is it the innocent victim who is accosted in an apartment by a stranger, or is it the Defendant who lies to get in, flees from the scene, lies to his wife, changes his clothes, cuts his hair and then lies to detectives?

RP (Jan. 17, 2013) at 479-80. Marshall contends the prosecutor committed misconduct in "telling the jurors they were required to figure out who was lying in order to decide the case . . . ." Br. of Appellant at 25.

Marshall concedes that defense counsel failed to object to the prosecutor's argument below. It is well established that "failure to object to an improper remark constitutes a waiver of error unless the remark is so flagrant and ill intentioned that it causes an enduring and resulting prejudice that could not have been neutralized by an admonition to the jury." State v. Russell, 125 Wn.2d 24, 86, 882 P.2d 747 (1994). "In other words, a conviction must be reversed only if there is a substantial likelihood that the alleged prosecutorial misconduct affected the verdict." Russell, 125 Wn.2d at 86.

Marshall has the burden to establish misconduct and resulting prejudice. State v. Anderson, 153 Wn. App. 417, 427, 220 P.3d 1273 (2009). To establish misconduct, he relies primarily on State v. Fleming, 83 Wn. App. 209, 921 P.2d 1076 (1996). In Fleming, the prosecutor implicitly argued that because the defendants submitted no evidence contrary to the victim's account of an alleged rape, the jury would have to

disbelieve the victim's story to acquit the defendants.<sup>7</sup> The court concluded the argument was misconduct, reasoning that it "misstated the law and misrepresented both the role of the jury and the burden of proof." Fleming, 83 Wn. App. at 213. Here, unlike in Fleming, the prosecutor neither argued nor implied that the jury had to disbelieve Church to acquit Marshall. We are not persuaded that the prosecutor committed flagrant and ill-intentioned misconduct. See State v. Lewis, 156 Wn. App. 230, 241, 233 P.3d 891 (2010) ("Merely asking questions of the jury does not rise to the level of misstating the law or misrepresenting the role of the jury and the burden of proof as in Fleming."); see also State v. Stenson, 132 Wn.2d 668, 727, 940 P.2d 1239 (1997) ("The prosecutor has wide latitude in closing argument to draw reasonable inferences from the evidence and to express such inferences to the jury.").

Marshall argues, "It is highly unlikely a curative instruction could have cured the flagrant, ill-intentioned and prejudicial misconduct in this case." Br. of Appellant at 28. We are not persuaded by this unsupported assertion. We note that the trial court instructed the jury, "You are the sole judges of the credibility of each witness. You are also the sole judges of the value or weight to be given to the testimony of each witness. . . . [T]he lawyers' statements are not evidence." We presume the jury followed

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<sup>7</sup> The prosecutor in Fleming argued, "Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, for you to find the defendants, Derek Lee and Dwight Fleming, not guilty of the crime of rape in the second degree, with which each of them have been charged, based on the unequivocal testimony of [D.S.] as to what occurred to her back in her bedroom that night, you would have to find either that [D.S.] has lied about what occurred in that bedroom or that she was confused; essentially that she fantasized what occurred back in that bedroom." Fleming, 83 Wn. App. at 213 (emphasis omitted) (alterations in original).

these instructions. Anderson, 153 Wn. App. at 428. We reject Marshall's misconduct claim.<sup>8</sup>

#### Community Custody Conditions

Marshall contends the sentencing court lacked statutory authority to impose community custody conditions 13 and 21. We review this challenge de novo. State v. Armendariz, 160 Wn.2d 106, 110, 156 P.3d 201 (2007).

Condition 13 states, "You shall not possess or consume any controlled substances without a valid prescription from a licensed physician." A statute provides, "Unless waived by the court, as part of any term of community custody, the court shall order an offender to . . . (c) Refrain from possessing or consuming controlled substances except pursuant to lawfully issued prescriptions." RCW 9.94A.703(2)(c). But as Marshall argues, nothing in the statute authorized the court to limit potential providers of lawfully-issued prescriptions to licensed physicians.<sup>9</sup> Accordingly, we remand with instructions to strike condition 13 from the judgment and sentence.

Condition 21 states, "Do not possess or peruse any sexually explicit materials in any medium. Your sexual deviancy treatment provider will define sexually explicit material. Do not patronize prostitutes or establishments that promote the commercialization of sex." The State correctly concedes that the sentencing court

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<sup>8</sup> We also reject Marshall's alternative contention that defense counsel was ineffective in failing to object to the prosecutor's rebuttal argument. As discussed above, the argument was not misconduct. Further, Marshall fails to explain how the argument resulted in prejudice.

<sup>9</sup> RCW 69.41.030 confers prescription-writing authority on several health care providers that may not meet the definition of "licensed physician." For instance, the statute confers prescription-writing authority on dentists.

lacked statutory authority to bar Marshall from possessing or perusing sexually explicit materials, since the record contains no evidence that Marshall's crime involved sexually explicit materials.<sup>10</sup> It also correctly concedes that the court lacked statutory authority to bar Marshall from "patronizing . . . establishments that promote the commercialization of sex." The record again contains no evidence that Marshall's crime involved any establishments that promoted the commercialization of sex. We remand with directions to strike condition 21 from the judgment and sentence except condition 21's unchallenged ban on patronizing prostitutes.

Forfeiture of Property in Evidence

Marshall challenges the portion of his sentence requiring him to forfeit "[a]ll property" taken into custody in conjunction with the case. He requests that we remand with directions to strike the forfeiture provision from his judgment and sentence.

"[A] court may refuse to return seized property no longer needed for evidence only if (1) the defendant is not the rightful owner; (2) the property is contraband; or (3) the property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to statute." City of Walla Walla v. \$401,333.44, 164 Wn. App. 236, 244, 262 P.3d 1239 (2011) (alteration in original) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting City of Walla Walla v. \$401,333.44, 150 Wn. App. 360, 367, 208 P.3d 574 (2009)). In Washington, CrR 2.3(e) governs motions for

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<sup>10</sup> Under RCW 9.94A.703(3)(f), the court may order an offender to "[c]omply with any crime-related prohibitions." RCW 9.94A.030(10) provides in part, "'Crime-related prohibition' means an order of a court prohibiting conduct that directly relates to the circumstances of the crime for which the offender has been convicted, and shall not be construed to mean orders directing an offender affirmatively to participate in rehabilitative programs or to otherwise perform affirmative conduct."



the return of lawfully seized property that is no longer needed for evidentiary purposes.<sup>11</sup> State v. Alaway, 64 Wn. App. 796, 798, 828 P.2d 591 (1992).

Marshall failed to move below for the return of any seized property. And he fails on appeal to specify what property, if any, he believes should be returned. The State asserts, and Marshall does not dispute, that the only record of property in evidence is the list of exhibits received by the trial court. We decline to speculate as to which items on this list, if any, belong to Marshall and which, if any, are subject to return. If Marshall believes he has a claim to any of the items, he may move in superior court for a hearing to determine that issue. CrR 2.3(e). His forfeiture claim is not properly before us on appeal.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, we affirm Marshall's conviction. We remand with directions to strike community custody conditions 13 and 21 from the judgment and sentence except for condition 21's ban on patronizing prostitutes.

WE CONCUR:

COX, J.

Jau, J.

Becker, J.

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<sup>11</sup> CrR 2.3(e) provides in part, "Motion for Return of Property. A person aggrieved by an unlawful search and seizure may move the court for the return of the property on the ground that the property was illegally seized and that the person is lawfully entitled to possession thereof." (Boldface omitted.)

**Sanders, Laurie**

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