

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

ROBERT PRATT, )  
 ) Case No. S-1500-CV  
 ) 253264-RJA  
 )  
 Plaintiff, )  
 )  
 vs. )  
 )  
 CITY OF BAKERSFIELD; RON FRAZE; )  
 GARY HUTTON; ANTHONY GONZALES; )  
 BRYAN PERRY; EDWARD WATTS; )  
 JOHN WEBER; and DOES 1 through )  
 100, Inclusive, )  
 )  
 Defendants. )

DEPOSITION OF

RAUL CEPEDA, JR.

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2005

10:10 A.M.

Reported by: Gloria C. Hass, CSR No. 2772

Gloria C. Hass  
Certified Shorthand Reporter  
CSR No. 2772  
10012 Cinderella Avenue  
Bakersfield, California 93311  
(661) 664-9021

**CERTIFIED COPY**

1 Q. Have you ever contacted Jennifer?  
2 A. No.  
3 Q. When is the last time you saw Jennifer?  
4 A. Probably in the '90's.  
5 Q. Do you ever speak with his second wife,  
6 Shelly Pratt?  
7 A. No.  
8 Q. Have you ever met her?  
9 A. Yes.  
10 Q. When is the last time you talked to her?  
11 A. A couple of years.  
12 Q. Throughout your friendship with Robbie, have  
13 you ever been on a vacation with him?  
14 A. Yes.  
15 Q. Where have you guys been?  
16 A. We went to the Caribbean on a cruise, Carnival,  
17 and then we went on a seven-day Mexican Riviera cruise.  
18 Q. So, the first cruise was on Carnival?  
19 A. They were both on Carnival.  
20 Q. The first cruise was to the Caribbean?  
21 A. The western Caribbean.  
22 Q. When did you go on that?  
23 A. Jeez, let's see. I can't even tell you. '91,  
24 maybe.  
25 Q. Okay; how many days was it?

1 A. Seven.

2 Q. Seven days. Nice.

3 A. It was nice.

4 Q. The second cruise was in Mexico?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Where did you guys go in Mexico?

7 A. Mexican Riviera: Mazatlan, Puerto Vallarta,

8 Cabo.

9 Q. About when was that cruise?

10 A. It was probably a year later.

11 Q. Okay; how long was that cruise?

12 A. Seven days, also.

13 Q. Let's go back to the limousine company. Have

14 you ever gone on a limousine ride with Pratt, like,

15 together, just take a limousine out?

16 A. Like what? I mean --

17 Q. Just drive a limousine somewhere.

18 A. We've been to the store. We picked up booze

19 for the cars, preparation, sure.

20 Q. Have you guys ever gone down to Los Angeles

21 together?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Alone?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Did you take a party with you?

1           A.     Well, you know, we've probably picked up people  
2 at the airport together, you know, but I think we've  
3 always had individual cars.

4           Q.     Oh, like, you'd follow each other there?

5           A.     Yeah.

6           Q.     Mr. Cepeda, the reason why you're here today is  
7 because we have information that you engaged in  
8 homosexual acts with Mr. Pratt.

9           A.     No, I have not.

10          Q.     You've never engaged in any homosexual acts  
11 with him?

12          A.     Never.

13          Q.     Have you ever known anyone to engage in  
14 homosexual acts with Robbie Pratt?

15          A.     Never, no.

16          Q.     You say it with a smile on your face. Does  
17 that surprise you?

18          A.     I think it's ridiculous.

19          Q.     You think it's ridiculous?

20          A.     Yes.

21          Q.     Why do you say that?

22          A.     Because I've never had any kind of sexual  
23 contact with Robbie.

24          Q.     You've never had any kind of sexual contact  
25 with Robbie?

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

A. No.

Q. How would you define "sexual contact"?

A. Well, anal penetration, oral copulation.

Q. Okay; and, so, my information is inaccurate.

Is that what you're telling me?

A. Yes.

Q. Has Robbie Pratt ever given you oral sex in the back of a limousine?

A. Never.

Q. Okay.

When we were talking on the phone a couple of weeks ago, you mentioned that Robbie Pratt was a ladies man.

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you say that?

A. Because he's always had nice-looking ladies around him, if you've met his two wives and who he's dated.

We went -- on the first cruise, he met some really nice Hispanic ladies from the Bay Area and -- enough to where they wanted to join us on another cruise. So, they actually came on the Mexican cruise with us.

Q. So, you met them on the Caribbean cruise?

A. There was about eight girls from Northern California. We met them on the Caribbean cruise, and

1 Robbie had a thing for one of the girls there, and we  
2 went on the seven-day Mexican cruise, and they met up  
3 again then.

4 Q. On these cruises -- let's start with the  
5 Mexican cruise -- was that an exclusively gay cruise?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Was it all men or all women?

8 A. No.

9 Q. No?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Have you ever sold any vacations for gay  
12 cruises?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. They do exist?

15 A. They do exist, yes. RSVP is a company that  
16 usually contracts them out.

17 Q. Have you ever gone on one?

18 A. Never.

19 Q. Has Robbie Pratt ever gone on one?

20 A. No.

21 Q. What about the Caribbean cruise? Same thing?

22 A. Yeah. It's a family -- you know, they have  
23 mixed -- everybody was on the cruise.

24 Q. Okay.

25 Have you ever heard Pratt talk about any of his

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

other friends?

A. No.

Q. A Reese Dickson, did you know Reese Dickson?

A. Yeah, I knew Reese.

Q. How did you know Reese?

A. He used to drink at the Padre.

Q. Did you see Robbie at the Padre with Reese?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever talk to Reese?

A. Pardon me?

Q. Did you ever talk to Reese?

A. No. He and I were not friends. I mean, I knew who he was.

Q. Do you know where he is now?

A. I know that he's dead.

Q. Do you know how he died?

A. I do not.

Q. Has Robbie ever mentioned a gentleman named John Weber?

A. Yes. I used to work with John at the limousine company.

Q. Which limousine company?

A. I think it was Diamond. It was the first one.

Q. Did Robbie ever talk about John Weber?

A. No.

1 Q. What do you know about John?

2 A. Well, I knew that he used to be a driver with  
3 us. I understand that he works for the fire department.

4 Q. Have you talked to him since then?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Since your friendship with Robbie Pratt, have  
7 you ever known him to tell a story that you didn't  
8 believe?

9 A. No, not really.

10 Q. Have you ever known him to lie to you?

11 A. No.

12 Q. So, he's never told you anything you didn't  
13 believe?

14 A. No.

15 Q. In your opinion, is he a heterosexual?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Is he a bisexual?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Is he a homosexual?

20 A. No.

21 Q. In your opinion, are the allegations that have  
22 been made, that he's been defamed because he's been  
23 called a homosexual -- is it your opinion those are true?

24 A. I haven't seen the allegations. I don't know.

25 Q. I have them in my office.