

United States v. Brendt Christensen
Case No. 17-20037

Exhibit 110 TR-2

Transcribed Testimony of Shuang Wu on October 22, 2018

PR: AUSA Eugene Miller
IT1: Interpreter 1
IT2: Interpreter 2
WS: Shuang Wu

PR: *Could you please tell us your name?*

IT1: Please tell us your name.

WS: WU Shuang.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *And what...how old are you?*

IT1: Please tell us your age?

WS: Hmm, 27.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *What city do you currently live in?*

IT1: What city do you currently live in?

WS: Beijing.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Uhm, when did you first meet Yingying ZHANG?*

IT1: When did you first meet Yingying ZHANG or ZHANG Yingying?

WS: It was in 2013 when we went to the graduate student orientation.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *How did you describe the relationship you ended up having with Yingying?*

IT1: That is...uhm...that is how do you describe your relationship with her? Your relationship...how was your relationship with her?

WS: Uhm, it was a very close friendship or some kind of camaraderie, if you will. Uhm, because when she was preparing for her study abroad, which should be around her second year of the graduate school when she was preparing for the thing, I had the same plan. So, we were encouraging each other academically. Gradually, we became good friends and would encourage each other in daily life. Regarding this, during the time we were writing theses, I expressed my appreciation to her and she expressed her appreciation to me. So, I'll say it was a mutual encouragement, a kind of camaraderie relationship.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Okay, how did, uh, how did she describe her relationship with her family?*

IT1: Uh, that is, how did you know the [relationship] between she and her family—how do you feel her relationship between she and her family?

IT2: How did she describe her relationship with her family?

WS: From her description about her relationship with her family?

IT2: Yes, yes. How did she describe it?

WS: She was very filial to her parents and devoted to her family. Uh, she, uh, I heard from her before that she had ordered online for her mother, uh, something like clothing or supplements. She also mentioned that her mother didn't agree her going abroad; instead, she wanted her to work after graduation. She did hesitate for a long time because she wanted to solve some of her family difficulties by her own effort. [Sound of typing] Uh, she mentioned among good friends that her younger brother was selling cellular phones; so, if anyone needed one, he/she could get more information from her younger brother. So, that was like she was helping her younger brother out. That's why I feel that she was a girl devoted to her family.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *How would you describe Yingying's personality?*

IT1: How do you describe Yingying's personality, temperament or something like that.

WS: Uhm, Yingying was a, uhm, girl with strong self-discipline, goal and dream. Although she looked thin and small from outside, for those who knew her, including the classmates from our class, knew that she was an individual with particularly strong independence and ideas. Just take studying abroad as an example, she was always resolute and never gave up her dream on scientific research or studying abroad. It includes the year she graduated in when she actually had a chance to go to Canada for further education. However, probably the tuition had to be paid by her family and she couldn't have her parents pay for it, so she gave up. So, instead, she worked as a research assistant at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. It was not until the following year that she had a chance to go study in the U.S. About this, when she knew that she could have her dream come true by going to study in the U.S., we the classmates were particularly happy for her. We knew that it had been a difficult path for her along the way...

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

WS: Uhm, she was a relatively independent girl, uhm, including intelligence. As far as I know, when she was with her friends, including her boyfriend, she never wanted to be taken care of; instead, she would almost always take the initiative to take care of others. Besides, uhm, actually she, uhm, she was an individual with strong protection consciousness. Because once when we were in Beijing, she gave me an alarm device, she told me at the time that she bought many alarm devices like this. She gave some to her classmates at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and one to me. As she was about to go abroad, she urged me to be alert about my safety and protection. And when we were together, she was—I would say a girl with high vigilance. Yeah.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

WS: This is to attach to a book bag. When you run into a bad person or in a dangerous situation, you just pull it to alarm. This alarm is loud enough to alert people around that there may be dangerous factors you're facing.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *I was just wondering that what she just showed us, that was from Yingying gave that to her?*

IT1: The one you just showed us was what Yingying gave to you?

WS: Yes, yes.

IT2: Yes, that's it.

WS: That is what she gave me.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Were there other...did Yingying ever talk about other ways to protect yourself?*

IT1: Oh, yeah. Did Yingying ever talk about other ways to protect yourself?

WS: Oh, she did remind me basically, but both in December 2016 and January [2017] we saw each other. I kind of realized that she was about to go abroad, so when we met she told me she wouldn't be here and I'd be here alone in Beijing by myself and should be more...uh...regardless what I did, I'd keep my eyes open. Should have a mind to protect yourself. I believe this is something friends would remind each other.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Uh, how did she do in school?*

IT1: How did she do, did she study in school?

WS: Uhm.

IT1: How was her study ability?

WS: She was always brilliant in her study. She was always one of the top in our class since the first year in the graduate school. She received the outstanding student award in Peking University. With this honor, it shows that her learning capability was remarkable.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

IT1: Do you know why Yingying, ZHANG Yingying wanted to study in the United States?

WS: Uhm, that was, uhm, because education in the U.S. and also, in environment, which is the research in environmental protection is, is more advanced than that in China in some aspects. For example, what she studied was an area related to ecological protection. When she was writing thesis for her graduate school, she might pay attention to a U.S. professor. So, she was thinking if she went on further study and then came back to China, and if she wanted to get employed in China, she'd better get higher education overseas.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *And how do you feel about her going to the United States to study?*

IT1: How do you look at her going to the United States to study?

WS: Uhm, this was her dream. Even now when I think if we could go back, would I still encourage her to study abroad. I feel I still would because studying abroad had been her dream since the day I met her. She was making every effort to achieve her dream. Uhm, so, as a good friend, I am supportive of her.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *And...could you describe for us the last contact you had with her before she left China to go to United States?*

IT1: Please tell us the last contact you had with her before she left China to go to United States.

WS: Uhm, the last contact...the last time we saw each other should be in January 2017 before the Chinese New Year. She told me at the time the teacher--teacher of the United States--agreed that she would go to the States and worked as a research assistant in the lab to figure out mutual intention. She was very happy and excited. After the Chinese New Year, we had been in touch with each other and were thinking of seeing each other before she left. It was always a rush during the period of time when one was to go abroad. Besides, there was lots of research work at CAS she would like to wrap up to perform an excellent completion. So, we never made it to meet up, but we kept in touch.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

BP: *Uhm, after arriving in the United States, how did Yingying adjust to be in a foreign country?*

IT1: After arriving in the United States, how did Yingying adjust herself as a...as a foreign student when she studied in a foreign country?

WS: Uhm, uhm, she was always an, an, an optimistic and positive person, so she would adjust herself when she faced problems. Or sometimes she would console to us or vent it out a little and we would offer our support and comfort to her. Uhm, but mostly, she could make the adjustment through herself. Besides, going to the U.S. had always been a dream for her; thus, regardless how big the obstacle would be, she would make an effort to adjust her mentality to the new environment.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Uhm, talk about the, uhm, uhm, day she disappeared, June 9, did she have contact with her? What was, what was the nature of that contact?*

IT1: Tell us what happened when you lost contact with her.

WS: You mean the time before we lost contact?

IT1: Just when you knew you had lost contact with her. How was it like at the time.

WS: Uhm.

IT1: What was your response?

WS: The time I learned it was about 8AM, June 11, China time, which should be Sunday. I calculated and it should be the evening of June 10—it was the following day [in China]. Yingying's boyfriend, HOU Xiaolin [PH], called me and asked me if I had a way to get in touch with her. Then I asked my schoolmates in the U.S. who would sometimes touch base with Yingying. I asked my schoolmates in the U.S. if they could get hold of Yingying. I was in a great shock when I first learned the news. I didn't expect something so serious because based on Yingying's personality, she had certain self-protection capability and self-protection awareness, and thus she wouldn't have got into a stranger's car and put herself in an unsafe situation. Later on, when I watched the news and when the time passed, I felt heartbroken because I'm the one who have witnessed how hard she had worked toward her dream and goal on her path of study. This was the closest point she had got to when it came to her dream because she told us a few days before this that her professor had agreed to let her get into the PhD program, which was a great joy to her. But then came this that caused such a grief to her family and her friends! Even to this day we haven't accepted this fact and recovered from this grief.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *Did she ever talk about her future plan for a family or anything like that?*

IT1: Did she ever talk about her future plan for a family, building a family or anything like that?

WS: She previously said she wanted to be with someone who she could spend the life with, someone who could fight with her side by side. She also said before that she went to the U.S. in April 2017 but would return to China in September for, one, to apply for a visa and, secondly, to get a marriage license with HOU Xiaolin [PH]. That was all.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: *How did...how did you...how did that personally impact you when you found out she was missing?*

IT1: How did this matter personally impact you when you found out, when you found out she—Yingying--was missing?

WS: It had a great impact on me personally because we were good and relatively intimate friends. She encouraged me a great deal in life, including my work, which might also be imperceptible. It could be our dreams or our goals that we pursued with great persistence, which encouraged me a great deal. Uhm, I had a plan to study overseas and she even asked me not to give up my dream when I started working. She made me determined. So, when I learned what happened to her when she was studying abroad, I became dispirited at one time, dispirited about this world. I felt why such a bad misfortune happened to a person who had a great dream for the future and who could have a great career and a better life in the future. Uhm, I felt that life was unfair.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

WS: This incident has changed my view of this world as even now I'm trying to adjust myself. I was affected badly last year as the incident made me very negative and passive toward this world. My parents also understood my condition, saying Yingying's was an isolated case; but when this isolated case happened around us, what it affected was a group of people. Even now it is beyond my comprehension and uhm can't leave it behind.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

PR: [UI] *Is there...uh, I guess that's all the questions we have. Is there anything else she'd like to share about Yingying?*

IT1: That's all the question we have. Is there anything else you'd like us to take a look, together with Yinying, record, experience or something, if you will?

WS: Actually, Yingying was an individual who had a great passion for life and who had a significant impact on me, which includes giving me planners for me to do planning. Uhm, uhm, back then she'd invite me to go to stage plays or go skiing. These were the activities I had not done before and the ones she had led me to experience. Therefore, she was a person who had a positive energy for life, a passion for life, and who would influence others around her.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

WS: This is also a birthday gift she gave me.

IT2: *This is the one—*

WS: This is an animated character we both liked, which carries a meaning of protection in the cartoon movie. There are Chinese characters “protection” here. The reason she gave me this was to give me blessings, wishing me safe.

[BREAK IN AUDIO]

[END OF INTERVIEW]