

TRANSCRIPT OF BODY-CAM RECORDING
OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN A NEW
MEXICO STATE POLICE OFFICER AND
SAMMY PADILLA [SON OF JOSEPH LOPEZ
(JOSE) PADILLA], JULY 23, 2022, SOCORRO
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Sammy Padilla: [00:00](#) Hi.

NMSP Officer: [00:02](#) Hi.

Sammy Padilla: [00:04](#) My name is Sammy Padilla. The reason... I just wanted to gather some information. An incident happened this morning with my father, and it's been happening since February of last year [2021]. Can we sit up at the thing there?

NMSP Officer: [00:24](#) I'd rather talk out here. What's going on?

Sammy Padilla: [00:28](#) I just wanted to find out. I have the Power of Attorney for him, but I think a cousin of mine who has stuck their nose in it, removed it. My dad has mentioned it a couple of times, but he won't show me anything. But my dad is a pathological liar.

[00:53](#) Oh. [Padilla's mobile phone rings.] Someone's calling now. Let me turn this off.

And he threatens me. And one thing I want to know is being the Power of Attorney for him, even though I don't know if he revoked it or not, do I have the right to demand him to go in, took him in to get evaluated for dementia? Because that's what everyone is telling me what he has. But my dad is also a narcissist, so he's always the victim. When he threatens me, he always made sure there's no one around.

[01:49](#) Oh, what else can I say? Oh, there are guns. There's pistols and rifles in the house that I would like to get rid of, out of the house. I tried a couple of times when he was gone, but when I called

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someone to help me, after they see the situation, they don't want to get involved. So that's a couple things I wanted to find out.

- NMSP Officer: [02:16](#) So you said your Power of Attorney has been revoked?
- Sammy Padilla: [02:20](#) Say this again?
- NMSP Officer: [02:20](#) You said your Power of Attorney has been revoked?
- Sammy Padilla: [02:22](#) I don't know.
- NMSP Officer: [02:24](#) That's something that you need to find out because...
- Sammy Padilla: [02:26](#) I've been trying to, but...
- NMSP Officer: [02:29](#) Because with you telling me that you don't know, I'm going to have to say, I'm going to assume that it's going to be a "no." You know what I mean?
- Sammy Padilla: [02:35](#) Yeah.
- NMSP Officer: [02:35](#) Because we need to see the paperwork. We need to make sure it's all updated. So by you telling me, "I don't know," that pretty much tells me "no." You know what I mean?
- Sammy Padilla: [02:43](#) Yeah.
- NMSP Officer: [02:43](#) So, as far as the threats, I mean, those started in February? What were they?
- Sammy Padilla: [02:51](#) February of last year it happened.

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NMSP Officer: [02:54](#)

So, February of 2021?

Sammy Padilla: [02:55](#)

February, 2021 is when he... let me go back a little. I'm sorry to do this, go back a little. My dad claims he saw a UFO when he was small. Well, there's these people from Europe. There's a woman especially named Paola Harris, and she has gotten him to back things up. And now they wrote a book about it, and now she's writing a life story about him, and it's going to be made into a movie, supposedly, and all this stuff. A lot of people knew it was bullshit what he's saying. But my cousin, Sabrina, who's an instigator [says]: "Oh, really? Really?" And started supporting him and pushing him on. She's the one who I believe when she came out in February or March, revoked the Power of Attorney, I think. I've been trying to see but I can't find anything. Oh, no, no, no. It would've been in October when that happened, of last year 2021]. I don't know where to find, I've gone to the courthouse. There's nothing that's been registered. I talk with Judge Cases [Socorro County Probate Judge Darryl Cases]. He says that there won't be anything on his end, but he said at the courthouse, is anything filed? But then he says, that doesn't necessarily mean it's been done. It just hasn't been registered.

NMSP Officer: [04:40](#)

So, I mean, if the courthouse doesn't have it and you're telling me that it has been almost a year since it happened, probably almost two years since it happened. I mean, we still need that paperwork. Right? And if you want to get him evaluated, I mean, he can say no. And as far as all this stuff,

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what can law enforcement do to help you? Because he hasn't committed a crime.

Sammy Padilla: [05:07](#)

There's some stuff—oh, yeah. Well, threatening me. But he's also been telling people he was a police officer in California, which he never was. He's talking to people about, he's a war veteran. He was never in the-- because he's deaf in one ear. Oh, he's telling people-- do you know, when the atomic bomb went off? My dad's claiming--because my dad grew up in San Antonio--he's claiming now that the bomb made him go deaf in one ear, which I know he was three years old, a doctor was drunk, trying to get something out of his ear, punctured it. And my brothers can verify this. I mean, family can verify. He's just saying a lot of stuff that's not true. But my dad, after looking back on things, narcissism, because he's always the victim. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

NMSP Officer: [06:02](#)

That's not illegal. You know what I mean? So I'm sorry to say that. From what you've told me, all today, there's nothing I can do to help improve your situation. The only thing I can do is I suggest you move out of the house and not make contact with him. So, I mean, the guns. The guns, it's not illegal to have guns. It's not illegal to say that you're a war veteran. It's not illegal to say that you're a police officer, okay? There's nothing that I can do for you, unfortunately, okay? And obviously I'm doing this job to try to help, but I have to work within my limits. I can't just go over there and take his guns because “he has dementia.” You know what I mean?

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Sammy Padilla: [06:41](#) Yeah.

NMSP Officer: [06:43](#) Yeah, he's making threats. But it seems like those threats, it seems like you don't really know what those threats are. Because I've asked you twice and you haven't told me what exactly those threats are.

Sammy Padilla: [06:53](#) Oh, today it was, "Where are you going?" Because I was going to the post office, there to the market, and he's with his cane. Oh, I won't say that. But he's with his cane [Sammy Padilla waves his own cane in the air.] "I want those damn pictures back up." He's in my face with... I'm sorry. I shouldn't be doing that [stops waving cane]. But he's doing that to me. "I want those damn pictures." I took some pictures off the wall because a friend of mine, wanted copies of them and I scanned them. I haven't put him back yet. And then... That has nothing to do. Yeah.

NMSP Officer: [07:27](#) There's no threats. I mean, yeah, like I said, I'm pointing at you. I could just go like that. That's not really threatening. Even when you raised the cane at me, I kind of understood that you weren't threatening me. You were just pointing. You can do that. Now if he maybe goes like that, pretends to swing, that's different. But even then, that's when you have to call us right away. Call 911. "Hey, my dad did this to me just now. I need help." You know what I mean? Obviously, it seems like you're able to get out of the house. You're able to drive. Correct?

Sammy Padilla: [08:02](#) Yeah.

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NMSP Officer: [08:03](#) So yeah, I don't think there's anything I can do for you.

Sammy Padilla: [08:07](#) He tries to prevent me from driving the car, but it's in my name. You're saying I got to move, but the house is in my name.

NMSP Officer: [08:16](#) So then I suggest you try to go to the court and get an eviction order and just get him evicted. But that's all going to be with the court. That's all going to be a civil matter. Us as police officers, we can't go in there and be like, "Hey, get out. He wants you out." There has to be a process. You know what I mean? And I don't think--

Sammy Padilla: [08:33](#) I understand. I understand. I just wanted to know, because one thing I wanted to do is get those damn guns out of the house. And that's a threat. I mean, I sleep with the dogs because I know there's a warning if he's coming to my room because it's just everything. In the morning he checks the trash, well that has nothing to do with it. He checks the trash to see what I threw away. He reads everything. He opens mail that's addressed to me.

NMSP Officer: [09:02](#) So see, that's something that can be a crime, but you have to report it when it happens. If you see him or there's proof that he's opening your mail, and we're able to work on that evidence and that proof, then we can do something about it. But as far as the guns, if he hasn't threatened anyone with the guns from what you told me. He hasn't been violent with the guns. It doesn't seem from looking up his record that he's a violent felon or has a felony at all, right? So it's not like he's not allowed

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to have guns. He's allowed to have them. So I don't know. I don't know if there's anything I can do for you. Okay? All right, Sammy?

- Sammy Padilla: [09:45](#) No, it's just like there's maybe one thing you should... Because he's claiming now he's blind. He's saying he's blind and he can't drive. Although he drives to [inaudible word] to get his money out of the bank. He goes and [inaudible 00:09:59] to the cemetery. But one thing maybe you should know, his driver's license expired last month and he hasn't renewed it, because he says he's blind, but he's driving.
- NMSP Officer: [10:09](#) So, well, we can probably... If we see him driving, pull him over. But over there it would just be a traffic ticket. It won't get him out of your house.
- Sammy Padilla: [10:18](#) But one thing I want to know, see that car, the blue car, is in my name. If he takes the car and does something, like crash or something, am I liable for it?
- NMSP Officer: [10:29](#) Are you allowing him to take the car?
- Sammy Padilla: [10:30](#) No!
- NMSP Officer: [10:31](#) Okay. If he takes the car without your permission, he's stealing your car. So you have to call us, be like, "Hey, this guy is stealing my car." When was the last time you gave him permission to use the car? [Padilla shakes head.] Never? If he uses your car, you can call us. Because he's not supposed to be taking it. That means he's stealing the car. And we will arrest him for that. Just so you know, if

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you call us saying that he took your car without your permission, and we pull him over and, depending on what he says, we might arrest him.

- Sammy Padilla: [10:57](#) Because he doesn't have a valid driver's license because he's blind.
- NMSP Officer: [11:04](#) Then again, that's only a traffic ticket. You know what I mean? We can't [inaudible phrase].
- Sammy Padilla: [11:08](#) He takes it [inaudible word].
- NMSP Officer: [11:10](#) Don't go telling him, "Hey, take my car." And then call us and be like, "Hey, he took my car."
- Sammy Padilla: [11:15](#) I won't.
- NMSP Officer: [11:15](#) You can't do that either.
- Sammy Padilla: [11:16](#) I've been avoiding him. I've been staying on the other side of the house. And he accuses me of eating fancy food and all this when he goes to sleep. "No, I just don't want to talk to you." I stay away from him.
- NMSP Officer: [11:28](#) So it just seems like he has some mental health concerns. Correct?
- Sammy Padilla: [11:31](#) Yeah.
- NMSP Officer: [11:31](#) I would call adult protective services to see what they can offer you because they might be able to be like, "Hey, yeah, we can go talk to him. Maybe we can get him into a home." But as far as any criminal matter, which is what police is for, criminal matters, right? There's nothing I can do to

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help you here. This would be more of an APS,
court civil issue, getting an eviction notice, stuff
like that. Okay?

Sammy Padilla: [11:59](#)

Okay.

NMSP Officer: [12:00](#)

All right. Sammy, do you have your ID on you just
so I can put you in the system, or not the system,
but in the call? A good phone number is the one
you called us at? A good phone number is the one
you called us at?

[12:19](#)

All right, Sammy, is there anything else I can help
you on? I know I wasn't too helpful today, but
unfortunately... Are you good?

Sammy Padilla: [13:06](#)

Yeah.

NMSP Officer: [13:06](#)

So like I was saying, is there anything else that I
can help you with, because I know I wasn't too
helpful right now, but--

Sammy Padilla: [13:12](#)

No, I just wanted to get some answers. And I'd
gone to the Sheriff's Department and they told me
they really can't do it. And then the last time I saw
them was in February [2022]. They said, "You
need to talk to the State Police because they can
take him in for 96 hour evaluation." Then they told
me, the State Police, now only if he shoots me or
something like that, they can take him in.

NMSP Officer: [13:40](#)

So you already talked to the State Police before?

Sammy Padilla: [13:42](#)

Yeah, in February.

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NMSP Officer: [13:43](#) Okay. So yeah, pretty much every officer's going to give you the same answer, okay, Sammy?

Sammy Padilla: [13:49](#) No, I just wanted-

NMSP Officer: [13:50](#) Even though we wear different uniforms we still fall within the law and with our capabilities, okay? So like that other officer said, unless he actually threatens you or does something to you, there's not much we can do, unfortunately, right? But that's just the limits that we've been put on because of the laws that have been passed and everything that makes us work within our boundaries. All right, sir. Be safe. If he threatens you, call 911. If you feel unsafe, that he's threatening you or telling you he's going to kill you or something, call 911. Okay? But as far as getting him out, civil court, district court, to get that eviction notice. Okay?

Sammy Padilla: [14:29](#) Okay.

NMSP Officer: [14:30](#) All right. Be safe. Okay?

Sammy Padilla: [14:31](#) Okay. Thank you.