

1 GVP29 Sabrina Davis

2 D: I'm going to ask you to move a little closer to the mic.

3 S: Oh.

4 D: And please state your name.

5 S: Sabrina Davis

6 D: And Sabrina how old are you?

7 S: Forty. (laughter) Yes, forty.

8 D: I would've never guessed you was going to say forty.

9 S: Yes, forty.

10 [...] (laughter) [...]

11 D: And Sabrina I know you've experienced gun violence. Would you please share your
12 experience?

13 S: Okay. My son, Montrell Marks, was shot in the head by the mother of his baby on February
14 15th, 2019.

15 D: Was that—?

16 S: [In St. Joseph's]

17 D: In Milwaukee?

18 S: Milwaukee.

19 D: And do you know what happened?

20 S: Yes, I was there. I drove my son to pick up his son on February the 15th. I was waiting in, in
21 front of the house in the car me and his baby sister that's five. He goes in the house he had on
22 pajama pants and like a little tank top, because he was just come in out to pick the baby up like
23 we normally would do. I waited for him. I saw him get out the car, he was smiling. I hollered out

24 the window, "Montrell don't be in there all day," because we were going to Applebee's to eat
25 later. He said, "Okay, I'll be right back out." Like within seconds or minutes, I heard a pop. The,
26 she asked her, which is his baby mother, she asked the mother run to the door. They were in here
27 arguing. I get out the car. I hear the pop go off. I run into the house, see my son laying on her
28 bedroom floor with blood just pouring from his head.

29 D: Oh my god.

30 S: The baby was in the background on the bed screaming and crying. Shasta was on, on top of
31 him. I don't even know what she was doing, but I pushed her awa- I pushed her away from him.
32 So, then I went outside to call 911 but I didn't know the, I didn't know the, I didn't know the
33 correct address. So, I'm just shaking, screaming, had to go all the way around the house because
34 there was no address on top of the house so, found out the address, they came.

35 D: So, where did they come too?

36 S: So, to the house [in St. Josephs].

37 D: Okay.

38 S: Mhmm.

39 D: And what was she doing when she was on top of him?

40 S: She was just screaming, "Montrell, Montrell!" So, I didn't even know. I just seen him, her, the
41 baby crying. Her mother was in there screaming, too, because her mother was in the house.

42 D: Oh my god.

43 S: Yes.

44 D: How old is, was the baby?

45 S: He one, he just turned one January 7th.

46 D: And this happened what date?

47 S: February the 15th.

48 D: What did she say happened or, what did she explain to you as, as his mom?

49 S: I haven't talk to her, I haven't talked to her, but I'll talk to her mother. Her mother called me
50 that night when we were in the hospital, while Montrell was in surgery saying that she don't
51 know what happened, she don't know why she has to go get a gun, she sorry, she love Montrell.
52 But as of today, I have, I have not heard one word, no "Thank you," no email, no texts from
53 Shasta, explaining to me what happened or why she did it. No "Thank you," but, she told
54 everybody it was an accidental shooting.

55 D: Mmm!

56 S: You don't accidentally, you don't accidentally shoot somebody in they face.

57 D: Where did she get the gun from?

58 S: In the police report she said, they were arguing in her bedroom. If you know the house, the
59 house real small. And Montrell real tall, and she like four, I'm going to say she like four, ten and
60 Montrell like five eleven, five twelve, he real tall. She said they was arguing, she asked him to
61 leave. She blocking, she blocking the door so he can't leave, though. So how would he leave
62 through her? She walked away went and got the gun, came back, and pointed it at him and shot
63 him in the face. But she saying the gun went off by accident.

64 D: I don't even know what to say to that.

65 S: That's what I'm saying. And to see my son laying on that floor like that and I couldn't help
66 him, it was nothing I could do for him. But just call 911.

67 D: Was he talking?

68 S: He was, I already knew he was dead at that point because he wasn't moving', wasn't nothing
69 going on with him. I was holding his hand, shaking him. He wasn't, nothing, he was no, he had
70 no response.

71 D: Oh my gosh, [...]. So, as you called 911, what happened?

72 S: They, they came real quick. They took me out the house, put me and my daughter in the back
73 of a police car. This happened before three o' clock. Because I went to pick my daughter up
74 around 2:15, made it over there around like, 2:35. I think the first 911 call was like at 2:46, for
75 me. I had to call back a second time because I didn't know the address. So, it happened that
76 quick. They had us in the police car from like three all the way like, almost seven o' clock. They
77 had took Montrell to the hospital. He was in surgery when I was out there on the scene still,
78 waiting for detectives to interview me. But they took her to jail right away.

79 D: Okay.

80 S: Yeah, because I could see them taking him out on the stretcher and I could see them putting
81 her in the police car.

82 D: She was in hand cuffs?

83 S: Yes.

84 D: Okay, good. And after they interviewed you, what took so long for the interview?

85 S: They was saying they had to gather the evidence and I was the witness because I came in there
86 after the fact it happened. So, I had to stay on the scene. But I was so irritated, I wasn't even
87 trying, because I was trying to go see what was wrong with my own son.

88 D: Right.

89 S: So, yeah, I had to talk to them. I talked to like, three different detectives that night. Then they,
90 they police escorted me out there to the Froedtert, after, after all that.

91 D: Okay, great.

92 S: Mhmm.

93 D: When you got, when you, here you are at Froedtert. Froedtert is located where?

94 S: Like on 92nd and Wisconsin, I think.

95 D: Okay, and this is Froedtert Hospital?

96 S: Mhmm, yes.

97 D: And you can say Froedtert Hospital.

98 S: Okay, okay. He was at Froedtert Hospital and I got there almost, seven o' clock. And he was
99 in surgery already, I think he was in surgery from like five to seven they said he was in it for
100 like, two hours. They came down and told me and his dad that, that the bullet tore all the right
101 side of his brain up. And they don't think that he was going to make it but, they were going to try
102 to let him fight through the night and see. But they had already they didn't think he was going to
103 make it because how the bullet went in, from his mouth, it went from his mouth all the way back
104 through the right side of his brain and just tore it up, they said, so. It was no coming back from
105 that.

106 D: And so, you and your husband, or your—

107 S: My ex-husband, yeah.

108 D: You and your ex-husband were in the hospital all night or...

109 S: All night, we stayed in there all night. I think he was in surgery, he got out surgery at seven.

110 They took him back in I think around say, like 9:30 to do something because he was bleeding
111 still real bad.

112 [...]

113 S: Mhmm. So, they did that again, they went in again. Like at 12 o'clock they told me they were
114 trying to get him stable. They said midnight so, this on the 16th now, we on February the 16th.
115 They were still trying to get him stable, like at like two in the morning he wasn't stable, still. So,
116 I came back home at like, six in the morning to get some clothes. They call me right back and
117 was like, they don't think he going to make it, I need to come back to Froedtert. Came back to
118 Froedtert at like 6:35, seven, almost seven o'clock, I know. And by nine, he, he had passed away
119 at like, 9:13.

120 D: And so here you are at Froedtert. After going home, and you went home, where'd you go
121 home to?

122 S: To my house on [Walker's Point].

123 D: Okay, and you get the call.

124 S: Mhmm, to come right back up to Froedtert because I had just literally left. Because I, so his
125 brother and sister were here, and his sister wanted to go back up there with me. So, I was coming
126 to her ready.

127 D: And did she go back with you?

128 S: Yeah, she went back, so she was in there when he passed away.

129 D: Did he ever, did he ever become responsive again?

130 S: No. [...] So, we literally, I literally watched his heartbeat was at like, 155 go all the way to 0.

131 D: Oh my god.

132 S: And then the doctor called it. So, we just looking at the monitor go down.

133 (pause) [...]

134 D: Oh, no. [...] Okay, and so, here, after that night, after he passes away, what happens?

135 S: After he passes away, like to this day, I'm still in shock. I don't believe it like, I just be sitting
136 here, like some days I don't even want to get out of my bed because Montrell was not that kind of
137 person like, he was sweet, funny, like, he loved to make people laugh and joke. Like, he was
138 like, literally my best friend like, he told me everything. So, I'm like, I don't know how to
139 process my days without him calling me on his break every day at work. Because he used to call
140 me every day at 6:30, 7:30, on his break at work. And— [...] And then when she, when he had
141 that baby, that was the love of his life. Like, all Montrell talked about was being the best dad he
142 could be. That's all he wanted to do. He loved that baby. Like, literally he loved that baby to
143 death. He died trying to see that baby. And I told him that Friday, the 15th, "Montrell, maybe
144 wait until Sunday to go get the baby." "No mama, I'm, I took off work today, I'm going to go get
145 him the whole weekend." He kept on saying that all day Friday.

146 D: He was excited.

147 S: Yes, to go get him.

148 (coughing)

149 D: Sorry. Why did you want him to wait?

150 S: Because I knew the type of person she was, she was always combative. Like, if he didn't jump
151 when she say, "Jump." "You can't get your son today." "If you, if you don't bring me this food,
152 you can't get your son today." She one of them people like, you got to, you got to please her on
153 everything you do to make sure, so he could be, so he could see his son. And I told him that
154 Friday like, "Enough was enough, you don't got to do all this stuff to see your baby. You got
155 joint custody." And I told him "Wait 'til Sunday to get the baby." He begged me to take him to
156 get, this is why I feel guilty, because something in my head told me, "Don't take him over there

157 Friday to get that baby,” and I took him anyway. And I see him walk in that house, and never
158 walk back out.

159 D: Okay. What, how do you, do you forgive her?

160 S: At this point, I don't. Because she has not reached out to me and this like, this like, this not
161 any old person that we don't know. I have known this girl since they were in the what, 11th
162 grade. And she has not reached out, we have not seen the baby since this happened. Why are
163 you, why is she still so mad? We have not seen the baby. Montrell had literally bought that baby
164 a closet full of new clothes that still over here. She won't pick the clothes up, well she won't
165 even send nobody to get the clothes. That's how angry and hostile she still is, after you took my
166 sons' life. [...]

167 D: What was their justification for letting her out on bail?

168 S: When I talked to the DA, he told me that she wasn't a flight risk. She didn't have the means to
169 run. And all her family live in Milwaukee. And maybe the fact because she was eight months
170 pregnant by somebody else, I don't know. But now the baby is here, so, I'm going to need her to
171 go back to jail or something.

172 (pause)

173 D: Who decides if she can go back, if she will go back? Do you know?

174 S: I think the DA. Because she out on, I guess on condition. Like, she got a curfew and all this
175 other stuff. So, she has to do something for them conditions, so she can go back to jail or
176 something. I don't know. But the curfew still ain't good enough to me. Cause my son on a
177 curfew every day, in a cemetery, while she's running free.

178 D: Has her mother reached out to you?

179 S: I talked to her mother the night Montrell was in the hospital. So, that was February the 15th.

180 Haven't talked to her since.

181 D: She hasn't called.

182 S: Nope, I talked to the baby that night. That's the last day I talked to the baby, on the phone.

183 And Montrell grandmother was calling her to try to talk to the baby, but now, they don't even

184 answer her call. And this saying that, this, this like a baby we usually see every day. He used to

185 be over here, we would Facetime every day. And for her to cut, for her to take my son life and

186 my grandson.

187 D: I can't imagine.

188 S: Mmm.

189 (pause)

190 D: What would you say needs to, what would you say needs to happen, well, you, you said it

191 already, she needs to go back to jail.

192 S: Mhmm.

193 D: What would you say to someone who just lost someone that, to gun violence?

194 S: I would, I would say it's hard. Like me, I'm still processing like, maybe I'm in denial stage.

195 Like, because I don't believe he gone. Like, yesterday I had to go to pick up his death certificate,

196 for me to read that in black and white, that somebody shot my son in the face and the head, I

197 can't deal with that type of stuff, so. I don't know. Like (pause).

198 D: Do we know where she got the gun from?

199 S: I still don't know. All I know it was a 380. [...] This the police report, right here. [...] I just

200 want to read the portion of the police report, she said, it says she said, "After the mother had

201 separated them from arguing, the defendant left the bedroom and went and got the gun from her

202 purse. And also, her mother's cell phone. She says she called 911, but the phone did not work,"
203 but that's the same phone Montrell called her, when we pulled up to tell them he was outside, so,
204 how did he get in the house? How would they know we outside? "She then went back in the
205 bedroom, with the gun and told Montrell to leave. He moved towards her. She raised the gun,
206 pointed at him, and the gun went off by accident. She said that Montrell, she seen that Montrell
207 had been shot in the face and tried to give him CPR," which she didn't. "In the first interview,
208 she said that the shooting happened while she was in the bedroom with Montrell, a couple feet
209 away from him. Late in the first interview and in the second interview, after being confronted
210 with the fact that there were bullet damage through the bedroom frame door, she said the gun
211 went off by accident, as she backed out the room." And then it said, "The gun is a 380, semi-
212 automatic, was recovered from the bedroom. The gun appeared to be undamaged and in proper,
213 working order. In order for that gun to fire, the gun must have had the safety placed in off
214 position, have a person finger inserted inside the guard and surround the trigger, and, and with
215 pressure applied to the trigger." So, I don't see how she could stand in somebody's face and say
216 she accidentally shot somebody. [...] And that's the police report. [...] (pause)

217 D: What do you think needs to happen to, because she was a registered gun owner. She legally
218 owns the gun. What do you think could've— [...]

219 S: You have to give a warning shot or something, right? [...] And from my understanding, I
220 think, somebody told me, she just took the CCW class. She didn't pay for the permit or
221 something, after the fact. [...] So, I don't know if she did the whole process. [...] Maybe she paid
222 for the classes but didn't pay for the permit. Because they don't, they didn't find her name
223 nowhere. [...] So, I don't think she was a CCW perso-, had that. I think she went and bought a

224 gun, took a couple classes, and probably didn't finish it, because that's what she did. That's what
225 she do.

226 D: Mm. What would you like to see happen?

227 S: I want her to go to prison for as long as they can allow her to be in there. Because she shot my
228 son in front of his own son. With no care, what if that bullet would've hit him? Because how it
229 happened was, apparently, Montrell must've had that baby in his hand and set him down.
230 Because the baby was directly behind my son body, on the bed. So, how would he get there?

231 D: What would you say to our elected officials about how you'd like to see gun laws changed?

232 S: I think all this CCW stuff needs to stop. I don't think everybody should be able to have a gun,
233 I think it should be a way higher age limit on it. Because they give them to 21, 22, 23-year-old
234 people, and they just shooting these guns off for no reason. She had been apparently playing this
235 gun for years, on people, pulling it out on people. (pause) It just got to this point where she just
236 really killed somebody now, at this point, with this gun, so. [...] (pause)

237 D: Wow. Is there anything you [...] like to add?

238 S: I just want to add, like, people need to be careful with those guns. Because once they go off,
239 you can't take it back. Once you killed somebody, you can't take it back. And I know I miss my
240 son more than words, or more than any interview news report can say. [...]

241 D: Thank you, [...].

242 S: Thank you.