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Re: Interview with Margie Tapia on October 28, 2004

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## M E M O R A N D U M

To:	DeLuna Team
From:	Lauren Eskenazi, Sita Sovin Capital Case Project
Date:	November 9, 2004
Re:	<b>Margie Tapia Interview October 28, 2004</b> <b><i>Carlos DeLuna</i></b>

[Material that is irrelevant to *Los Tocayos Carlos* and contains sensitive personal information about one or more persons has been removed.]

### **Margie Tapia**

We spoke with Margie at her apartment in San Antonio.

Margie met Carlos Hernandez when she was 15 years old and pregnant with her son Eric. Carlos was 25 years old - ten years older than Margie.

In 1979/1980, Margie was again pregnant and moved to San Antonio to give birth to her daughter and then give that daughter up for adoption. At the time she became pregnant, she was living at home with her mother in the "old neighborhood" around Hancock in Corpus. Her mother told her that one child was enough. Margie's daughter was born in April 1980. Margie returned to live in Corpus in December 1980. Check these dates

Margie lived at Fidela's for about eight months, from about November 1978 until about July 1979. Margie's son Eric was born while Margie

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lived at Fidela's on January 3, 1979. When Eric was born, Fidela purchased a life insurance policy for him, valued at \$10,000. That policy has been paid up since Eric was 18 years old. Eric is now 26 years old. According to Margie, he does not know he has the policy.

***Note: If Margie had a daughter born in April 1980, she would have already been pregnant by July 1979, when she was on her way out or just moved out of Fidela's.***

Carlos met Margie after she was pregnant and everyone knew that Eric was not Carlos's son but Carlos referred to Eric as his son. At the time Margie lived with Carlos, he worked at a place called "Brown and Root" digging ditches for oil pipelines. Carlos also worked at Brown

Carlos always carried a knife. He never went anywhere without it. Margie was very familiar with Carlos's knife as he always had it on him. He also took it out and sharpened it on a wet stone at least twice a week.

When shown a photograph of the knife used in the Lopez murder, Margie clearly and unwaveringly identified the knife as belonging to CH.

Carlos had two sides to him. He could be sweet and then turned mean and violent. Margie never told her mother about Carlos abusing Margie.

Carlos frequently woke from his sleep fighting nightmares, sweating. He became violent and grabbed Margie by the throat, his eyes bulging, during these episodes.

Margie remembers Carlos always buying a **six-pack of beer on pay**

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**day.** He drank Schlitz **or Miller Lite.**

Near the end of the time Margie lived at Fidela's she finished her house work for the day and shower and dressed and went out on the front steps to wait for Carlos to get home from work. She had to home when he arrived, ready for him. When he approached the house and saw her on the steps, outside, he became enraged. Margie was not allowed to be outside the house. She tried to explain that she was waiting for him but he would not hear it. He drug her in the house and proceeded to rape her and "make me do things" for four or five hours. During this time, Carlos had a hammer which he hit against the walls and floors and which he threatened to use on Margie if she did not comply with his demands.

***Note: While telling this story, Margie clearly was reliving the trauma and was shivering and shaking her head.***

### **Hernandez Family**

Margie often saw Javier and, on occasion, saw Efrain - "Frank." Margie knew Frank fairly well and described him as "sweet" and "happy." Frank had a big heart. Frank was found beaten to death in Robstown. [material removed]

During the time Margie lived at Fidela's, Priscilla was about eight or nine years old. She slept/stayed in Fidela's room. Margie and CH stayed in the front room of Fidela's house. Fidela never minded her own business and thought no woman was good enough for her sons.

### **Others Margie Remembers / Casino Club**

Margie recalls that Mary Jane Perales lived on Lulac in the public housing.

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Carlos' friends were the Zamora boys. Margie did not socialize with them because during the time she was with CH, she was not permitted to go out of Fidela's house or permitted to go over to the Zamora's.

Margie "caught" CH with another girl, just outside Fidela's house – **Mary Jane Tanguma.**

Margie described Fidela's boyfriend as "sugar daddies" and stated that is how Fidela made her living. Margie cannot recall any men in particular.

Margie recalls Paula's husband Freddie.

Margie's mother's true name is San Juanita Adrian – Janie Adrian.

In the late 1970's, early 1980's, many underage people frequented bars and clubs, including the Casino Club. Cocaine use was prevalent and many young people used it. [material removed] Margie also frequented the Casino Club, as young as 14 years old, before she became pregnant with Eric.

When Margie was 16 years old, she started hanging around a girl named Curly who she identified in one of the Casino Club photos we obtained from Yolanda. Many of the people Margie identified in the photographs were people who, like herself, were underage.

The owners of the Casino Club and the police knew that underage drinking was taking place. Off duty police worked at the doors to clubs all over Corpus, including at the Casino Club. It was common knowledge that minors went to the Casino Club.

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The Casino Club was a rowdy place and people were often thrown out for fighting, shooting and stabbing one another. Cindy never went to the Casino Club with CH.

After CH, Margie had a boyfriend named Carlos Flores. He was married to Mary Jane Perales who had a sister named Diana Perales. Carlos was from Molina. Carlos and Mary Jane were married for five years at the time Margie dated Carlos. Mary Jane's sister, Diana. Learned that Carlos was with Margie and it started a "war."

Rick and Juan Villegas (brothers) were from the era of the late 1970's and early 80's. They current frequent the VIP club now owned by Benny Brulloths. Margie thinks there are still people around hanging at VIP that know the crowd from Casino Club and the old neighborhood. The Villegas brothers probably know how to identify people in the Casino Club photos and where they may be now.

Margie thinks her sister, Bea, would remember the most about the "old neighborhood" around 7<sup>th</sup> and Buford.

### **Timeteo Clark aka Tinker**

Timeteo Clark aka Tinker was one of Margie's boyfriend after CH. Margie did not know that CH and Tinker knew each other.

### **Later**

In 1983, Margie became pregnant with her son John. During this time, she worked at Eddie's as a cocktail waitress. She lived with a friend on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. She made good tips from men as a cocktail waitress.

Over the years from time to time, Margie ran into CH on the street. He always asked her, "How's my son?" referring to Eric.

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Margie thinks that CH had one child, a little boy back when he was younger, before he got together with Margie.

Margie last saw CH at a laundramat in 1985. He was fat.

[ON THE KNIFE.]

Lauren email: Margie interview: both Sita and I have independent memories that Margie identified the knife as CH's knife - not as a knife that looked like CH's. In addition my notes read, "that's CH's knife. He carried a knife all the time. He carried it in his belt, in a pouch. If not pouch - back pocket. Trust me I've seen that knife."