

EXHIBIT M

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STATEMENT OF MARY HALL

In October of 2021, I went to lunch with my friend who was involved with OUR. In the midst of her conversation, I had brought up that I was interested in saving women and children who were victims of violence or sex trafficking. I did not know that she was involved with OUR. She told me she may have an opportunity for me to get involved with the organization. We chatted a little bit more and she told me that she would reach out to her contact in the organization.

At this point, I did not know who this person was or anything about the organization. A couple weeks went by, and I was contacted by Matthew Cooper, a.k.a. Coop. He is a male operator at OUR who works very closely with Tim. He had told me that they were doing some training, but that they would not be starting a new training course for a while. He asked if I would be interested in being an actress for the other operators to practice scenarios with. I told him that I would rather be more directly involved and actually be the one to go out and save women and children.

That was about all our phone call consisted of. He told me he would be in contact with me at some point in the future. A couple of weeks went by and he reached out again. He asked me if I would be willing to come up to the OUR gym and do a training session. I told him yes, absolutely. On October 28, 2021 I went up to the OUR gym located at 13648 S 200 W Draper, Utah 84020.

When I got to the gym, Coop was waiting for me inside. There were a few other women there as well, and a girl named (redacted). We did some basic training exercises involving self-

defense, and then covered some awareness tactics. After a certain point, Ballard arrived at the gym, and I spoke with him one-on-one in a back room.

When we spoke, he told me briefly about what the organization did and how I could potentially become involved. I expressed to him very clearly my interest in becoming an operator. He told me that it was a hard job, and I would have to be willing to do a lot of really potentially dangerous things. He said that I would see a lot of dark things, as well as be in some very seedy and gross places. He touched briefly on the COUPLES RUSE as well and asked if that was something I would be able to do. I told him that I was an actress and that I thought I could be quite good at being an operator. I then went back out after speaking with him for a bit longer. I continued doing some training with Coop and the other two girls that were at the gym. Ballard's son Blaine was also there doing some training with us.

After the self-defense tactics, Ballard said that he thought we should continue training in a different way later that evening. He said that we would now take it up a level. They wanted to essentially test how well we would respond to certain uncomfortable or intense situations. He told us about using an app called Signal to communicate, and how we had to be very careful with text messages. He said that we could not talk to anyone about this stuff ever. I signed an NDA as asked and left it there at the gym. (I never received any type of copy of this.)

We were told to meet later that night back at the gym. I believe it was around 10:30 PM that I arrived there. Coop, (redacted), Ballard and I were all supposed to go out as first team. First team meant that we would be the ones to go inside the strip clubs and try to gather information from people as a part of our training. There were two other men that I recall being there that night. They were on second team that night. Second team's job

was to maintain communications and follow us around discreetly in a vehicle of their own. One of them was Ballard's son, Blaine. The other was an older gentleman (I do not remember his name).

Ballard and (redacted) were partners that night and met up at her apartment. They were supposed to take an Uber to meet us at the OUR gym after getting in "character" together. They missed their first Uber and we were waiting around for a while (I think we ended up having to just meet them at the first strip club.) We were supposed to pretend like we did not know them when we were at the clubs on our training OP. The second team was supposed to just follow us around and keep in contact via messages on the Signal app.

We all had to constantly remain in character, even while interacting on the app. Tim and (redacted) were partners for the COUPLES RUSE training that night and Coop, (redacted) and I were a "throuple" for the COUPLES RUSE. While waiting to head out and start our training, at one point Ballard's son came over to talk with us. He made a comment about how his dad had given him something to take (presumably some type of pill, but I'm unsure of what).

He then said he felt high and was kind of laughing about it like it was no big deal. It really concerned me though. I didn't like that we were supposed to be pretending this was a real-life scenario and that he would be out of it. If it was a real situation potentially out of the country, where lives depended on it, then I would be so anxious and scared. I would never be able to trust someone not in their right state of mind. Not to mention it disturbed me and was inappropriate that his dad had given it to him. At some point (I don't remember exactly when) Ballard told me that he would sometimes take something in order to deal with his stress and to help him get into character, as well as loosen up.

I drove with Coop to the strip clubs in Salt Lake City for this training. (I don't remember the

names of all of the clubs and bars, or the order, but I know we went to these clubs for sure: Trails Gentlemen's Club, Exotic Kitty Gentlemen's Club, The American Bush).

We Coop, (redacted), and myself got there and went inside and sat down. I got an energy drink from the bar, and we all sat in a booth together. I saw Ballard and (redacted) at the first strip club. (Redacted) was sitting on Tim's lap and they were all over each other playing the part. Ballard was in character as "Brian" and wore these big glasses to disguise himself. (Brian is his alter ego of sorts).

The idea behind going to the strip club was for Coop & Ballard to see how well I could get information out of people and how I would respond to being in a "darker environment" around certain types of people. Ballard would point out people in the club and tell me to go try and either get their phone number, find out where they lived, or a variety of other questions. I don't remember how many strip clubs and bars we went to exactly, but I think we went to three strip clubs, as well as a regular bar at the beginning and then another bar at the end. No alcohol was consumed by anyone that I saw in my "throuple." While at these clubs and bars, Coop, (redacted), and I would hold hands, sit next to each other, and just generally pretend to be a couple.

Nothing overtly inappropriate ever happened while I was training with Coop. I felt like he was in character while still keeping things professional for the most part. (If that had been what Ballard had wanted for the COUPLES RUSE, it wouldn't have bothered me as much. His version was not that, unfortunately.)

During all of this, I occasionally saw Ballard and (redacted). They acted out the COUPLES RUSE as well—just more extreme (lap sitting, going into private rooms in the back, dances, etc.)

At the last club we went to, (redacted) and Tim were in the back by themselves in a private room.

Tim had asked (redacted) to give him a lap dance. She was supposed to show him that she could do the job—so even though she was hesitant, she did it in order to prove herself. She started giving him a lap dance, but shortly after she started, Ballard's son ended up coming inside. He walked into the club's back room and saw his dad and (redacted) together like that. It made me extremely upset because (redacted) had not wanted to do it in the first place and had been reassured multiple times that Ballard's son would not be coming inside or see them acting out the COUPLES RUSE. (Redacted) was freaking out a bit and came and told me what had happened.

At this point, Ballard came out from the back room and talked to me in the club. He had his arms around me and we were chest to chest. We were talking more about the COUPLES RUSE and what that would involve, as well as some other things like how his wife was going to kill him if she found out their son (Blaine) had come into the strip club. I cannot remember exactly what else was said at that moment. Shortly after that, we went to one last bar. Ballard and (redacted) did not meet us there. After that last place we decided to call it a night.

I drove with Coop and (redacted) back to the OUR gym, where we met up with Ballard and (redacted). At this point I think it was coming up on 4:00 am. Ballard told me I did a good job, then talked to us all about the night and how that experience only scratched the surface of what it would actually be like on OPS.

Tim texted me the next day, October 29, 2021, and said I was a badass and had done an awesome job the night before. He then asked me to come and meet him at the OUR American

Fork office, located at 758 S Automall Dr. Unit 5 American Fork, Utah, and I told him that I would. On November 1, 2021, I went up to the address he sent me. When I arrived, Ballard and Matthew Cooper were both there. Ballard asked me to come up to his office to speak with him privately.

When we sat down, he started talking to me about the COUPLES RUSE and how important it was; telling me exactly how intimate certain scenarios would be. He asked me over and over if I would be willing to act out certain sexual acts, continually getting more explicit. Doing all of this, he made it clear that I could not tell anyone about the things that were happening between us. He made it seem like it could be a life-or-death situation if I disclosed information, and/or that I would get into trouble as well. He also made it seem like it could be a life-or-death situation if I was not willing or able to act out certain sex acts well enough.

This is when he started pushing the idea of needing to practice with each other. He started telling me about other female operators and how they had been in situations where they had to be completely naked in the rooms in front of each other and while getting massages. He told me that the point of the COUPLES RUSE was for you to be able to block for each other. Meaning that on OPS, you would intercept sexual touches from traffickers or sex workers. He started to become explicit with the situations that had happened or that could happen. He told me that he wanted to train me to be his new primary partner on OPS. I would be paid for my time as a contractor with the organization. He said that operators before me had fallen in love with him. That some had tried to climb into his bed at the safe house and that they had pushed for relationships with him. He told me that other partners before me had gone a bit crazy and he had to end things. I knew he was married, and he said because of that he had one rule for the COUPLES RUSE, which was no

kissing on the lips. He made it seem that everything else besides maybe full-on penetrative sex would potentially be expected.

During all of this, I felt like everything was a test. Every question or action was proving myself. I had briefly gotten into my personal background with him and explained why helping on operations as an operator was so important to me. Saving women and children truly meant so much to me as a person on a personal level. I wanted to make a difference, I have been a longtime supporter of OUR and knew that's what I wanted my future to involve. Tim then asked me some personal questions about my life, like: if I was married, if I had my own place, and others, things of that nature.

Tim then became more open about things that could happen or that I could expect on OPS and that I would have to be willing to do those things in order to save children. This included being naked in front of each other, touching each other, imitating sex acts, talking dirty to each other, and all sorts of things of that nature. It was presented to me as, "If we were in a life-or-death situation, would you be willing to do XYZ...?" And of course if it came down to saving women and children I would be willing to do it. If it was a life-or-death situation, I would be willing to do whatever I had to do.

For him, he said if he was going to get a new partner, he needed to be able to practice. He would say that it was really important for us to have intense chemistry. He wanted to know if I was attracted to him and wanted to make sure that he would be able to turn me on. I was really uncomfortable with these questions obviously, but at that time in my mind I felt like it was a test. And I didn't want to fail this test. I wanted to become a part of the team.

Things then proceeded to become physical. It started out with him just resting his hand on my knee, then he started running his hands across and up my legs. He slowly started to become more comfortable and was running his hands all the way up my thighs. We were sitting in chairs facing each other at this point and were no longer talking. I was pretty shocked he was touching me so intimately. I guess in my mind I hadn't thought that he would begin practicing then. I guess I had assumed that he wouldn't need or want to practice until at least we were heading on an operation. He moved closer to me and started to run his hands along other parts of my body.

I remember there was a lot of touching, rubbing, and grabbing with his hands across pretty much my entire body. At this point I remember then being pushed up against the office door. Ballard was up against me, and he was sort of grinding his body against mine. It was obvious that he had an erection. At one point his thigh was kind of pressed in between my legs and kind of moving up and down against me. There was no kissing on the lips seeing as that was his rule, but there was lots of kissing and mouthing movement around my shoulders and neck and other parts of my body.

At this point I was very uncomfortable, but again I felt like I could not fail this test. I needed to prove that I could handle what he was doing. If I was not strong enough to handle this and deal with this, then I would not be able to go out and rescue women and children. And that was not an option for me. I wanted so badly to be able to be part of this organization, but still I was so unbelievably uncomfortable. I didn't understand why we had to be practicing right then. I mean, we weren't on an OP. He had only met me one other time before this, and it hadn't made sense to me that he felt like we needed this practice now.

Things were moving so quickly physically, and I hadn't done any other sort of training. It

was all happening really fast. He then slowly worked his way down my body until he was kind of kneeling down in front of me and was pulling at my jeans a bit. He then lifted up my shirt and was licking and kissing my stomach and getting lower on my body, still tugging at my jeans as if gauging my reaction. At this point, the door was pushed open from the outside and he had to back up away from me. Coop pushed open the door and came inside and was just looking at us both. Tim kind of just played it off casually. I did not know what to say or do.

I felt like Coop knew exactly what was going on; I could just see it on his face. It seemed like he was unhappy with the situation he'd walked in on. He didn't say anything or ask any questions though. Coop wanted to speak to Ballard then I believe, and Ballard told him that we would be coming downstairs soon. Coop gave us another look and then left and shut the door behind him. We talked for a minute longer and Ballard tried to start things physically again, but I had to leave for an appointment, and I used that as an excuse to leave.

Ballard then began to question me about how I had felt about things. He wanted to know if I had been turned on during that or if I was still turned on and worked up. He wanted to know if I was attracted to him physically as well, and if he was good looking. I didn't quite know how to answer those questions, so I told him something along the lines of: Yeah you're a handsome man. It all felt like a test to me, so I tried to say what he wanted to hear and react the right way. I kept thinking about how he had a government background and that they had probably taught him these techniques and that I should trust him. He told me he was really attracted to me.

He told me that he wanted to have me do more training. And that the next training would be even more intense. He asked if I had a couple days available, possibly in November, to go and do a training weekend with him. He didn't specify if other operators would be going as well. He

told me he wanted me to start coming on OPS with him soon. He then made it clear that he would want and need to practice more physical things like we had just done. I told him that I was an actress and I did this for a profession, so practicing wasn't necessarily needed on my part. I tried to say these things delicately, as I did not want to offend him and jeopardize my chances of becoming an operator. He told me that practicing was fun. And that it helped keep your relationships more exciting.

He said in order for this (the COUPLES RUSE and operations) to be sustainable, it has to be fun. I immediately felt sick to my stomach: dirty, and panicked. I had been warned that I couldn't talk to people about things that had happened. I had signed an NDA, and I was really anxious about breaking it. I also didn't want to lose my opportunity to work on Operations. I called my friend (REDACTED) and told her I was really nervous to speak with her, but I felt like I needed to tell her something. I felt safer talking to her, because Ballard knew she had been the one to get me involved with him and the organization and hadn't minded me asking her certain questions before. She was the only person he seemed okay with me communicating with about certain things.

I knew he would not want me telling her what had just happened between us though. It was supposed to be too secret between us (Ballard and myself). I told her I was scared to talk about it over the phone and she told me that I could come and stop by her house later that evening. Over the phone though, I did very briefly tell her a few things that had happened in the office with Ballard. She seemed pretty shocked and did not think that what had happened was normal or good, but I did not tell her a whole lot because I was really worried at the idea of getting in trouble or messing anything up.

She reassured me that it was okay to stand firm about not wanting to perform any more sexual acts with him, even for the sake of practicing for an OP. I knew my talent as an actress and knew I didn't need to. I went to my appointment and Ballard messaged me, asking when I was coming back. I told him I wasn't sure if I would be able to. He asked again if I would be coming back that night or not. I told him that I would if I could. After my appointment, I went back up to the OUR office. At that point I was resolved on telling him that I would not want or need to practice any more sexual acts with him.

I went back and when I got there, Coop wanted to speak with me. So we sat down in the office and he asked me some questions about the night before when we had gone to the strip once, and about how I was feeling about things. I wanted to be honest with him, so I was. I told him that I was worried about Ballard a bit. I didn't get into any details because I knew that he was friends with Ballard, and I was worried about him not being happy with what I said, or it jeopardizing my role in the organization. I did tell him that I felt like Ballard needed some help.

I told him I felt like Ballard had seen a lot of things that were probably messing with his mental state a bit. I told him that I felt like Ballard, as well as the other operators, needed to talk to someone. That they needed to see to a therapist and work through some of these issues. I was really worried for Ballard's mental state at that point because of the pills, the way he was acting, the things I had heard, and the sexual situation that had happened already without us even being out an OP. Coop did not necessarily disagree with me, but he also didn't agree with me.

I then met with Tim again privately, and he started with wanting to practice some more. And saying basically that in the near future, we needed to keep practicing consistently in order to be a secure team together.

I didn't want to make him too upset or offend him, but at this point, I just genuinely wanted him to seek some help for his mental health sake. I told him that I was worried about the things he had seen as an operator and hoped he had someone to talk to. I told him that I was worried that OPS and the things he had been exposed to were negatively impacting his mental health. I told him that for the sake of his wife Katherine, that I didn't think it was right to practice like that. I told him that us practicing sexual acts was not necessary. I reiterated that as an actress, it was not needed, that I can turn it off and on as needed for the sake of the situation we were in at any given moment. That's what an actress does with all emotions or actions in scenes.

He asked at some point something about if I had my own apartment and that going there would be an easier place to get more comfortable with each other. I don't remember at what point in these conversations that was. At the time, since I was going through a divorce, I was living with my family and did not have my own place, which I let him know. I don't remember exactly all the things we continued to talk about... But I think it was pretty much the same as earlier. We then were done.

I don't remember the exact timing here, but at some point Coop talked to Ballard and Coop told him what I had said about him potentially seeing a therapist or seeking mental health. Ballard then confronted me and said, "Oh, I heard you think I'm crazy? I heard you told Coop that I am losing my mind... that I am completely crazy." Something along those lines. I told him, no I didn't say I think you are crazy... I just think that seeking therapy for some of the things you have seen should be a priority for not only you, but your entire team.

I then threw out some ideas about how to better protect people on OPS. I found out that no one is allowed to carry any type of weapon on them and that no one has any tracking devices in

their phone or on their persons. I told them my opinion was that for the sake of the safety of their operators, especially the female ones that could potentially then be trafficked, that it was important for them to seek some better safety methods. Up until this point in my conversations with Ballard, I had not even really been spoken too much about safety tactics on OPS. Really, almost all of what Tim spoke to me about the whole time I was there, was the COUPLES RUSE, sexual acts, and all the things I would need to be prepared and willing to do with him.

As I was getting ready to leave, they made it seem like they would be in contact in the next couple of days to continue training. I told him that I would be going out of town, but that we could plan something after that. I was prepared to keep working with him and be his new partner on OPS if he would stop pushing the sexual practicing aspect and get some professional help. I still wanted this working relationship to work out so that I could make a difference in this world by saving kids.

I then left and called and asked (redacted) if I could stop by her house and speak with her. When I stopped by her house, I told her all the things that had happened and asked her to please not tell anyone that I had told her. I was and still am very much nervous. She reassured me that the things that had happened she did not think were okay, and that I needed to stand my ground with him about no longer practicing the COUPLES RUSE unless we were actively on an OP and it was necessary. I then left her house and went home. I reached out to Ballard about when we would be able to meet up next when I was back in town. I was then invited to go to the OUR gala, and I told him that I would not be able to go. The last I heard from Ballard and Coop was on November 11, 2021. Tim told me he had talked to his family and team and would no longer be going on OPS. (This is something he said to the other women as well after they stood up to

him in some way or another.) When he realized he couldn't control or manipulate me any further sexually, he no longer wanted me as his "partner."

Coop called me and told me he would be back in the country soon and would keep training me. A couple weeks went by and I still hadn't heard from them about coming back to do more training and go on an OP like planned. I reached out a few times to just Coop, and finally he called my back. He made excuses for why he hadn't started my training again, but promised he would reach out in a few weeks. He never did. I tried to reach out once more and got no reply. At this point I realized they had both shut me out. I can't even tell you how disappointed I was. I wanted to make a difference so bad. I had put so much hope into this new future. I had anticipated being paid for this new venture, but more than that I would have been able to impact a positive change. To have that taken away because I didn't want to "practice" sexual things and keep being physical with Ballard hurt.