

Interview of Ron Peters (w/Alan J. Statman, Esq.)

March 23, 1989
Franklin, Ohio

DOWD: As I understand it, in 1984 you were in the
bookmaking business.

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: And do you know Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: And did you take bets from Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: In what sports did you take bets from Pete Rose?

PETERS: Uhm, major league baseball, college basketball and
professional football.

DOWD: And did you ever have occasion to talk to Rose
directly?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: And did you ever record that conversation?

PETERS: On one occasion, yes.

DOWD: Do you recall when you recorded that?

PETERS: I think it was uh in '86 or '85.

DOWD: And do you know what sports he was betting on at that time?

PETERS: Baseball.

DOWD: And did you play the tape back to him?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Where is that tape today?

PETERS: Well, we assume it is my ex-wife's presence in unpacked boxes.

DOWD: And, the F.B.I. is going to try to retrieve it?

PETERS: Yes. And, of course, they indicated to us too they would give us a copy.

DOWD: They would?

PETERS: Yes.

STATMAN: That's what they said at the time though.

PETERS: Yes, they did, they said that though.

DOWD: Alright. Umm, other than talking to Pete directly, is there someone else that placed bets for Pete?

PETERS: Two people, Tommy Gioiosa, which I didn't even know his last....I always knew him as 'Gio' by the way, until I saw it in print.

DOWD: Tommy Gio?

PETERS: Yes, Tommy Gio and Paul Janszen.

DOWD: Okay, give me a physical description of Gio and then Janszen.

PETERS: Gio is shorter than me and I'm 5'11". He's real stocky, muscular and he has got long, curly dark hair, a real outgoing type of guy, real... Real flamboyant.

DOWD: Does he look like somebody that you know?

PETERS: He looks like a little Pete Rose.

DOWD: Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: Describe Paul Janszen for me.

PETERS: Paul is taller than me, maybe 6'1", around there, dark hair, always had like a four to five to six day old beard with the rough complexion, stocky body builder type.

DOWD: When you first started taking bets for Rose, were you contacted by Gio?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Through a friend of yours?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: And who was your friend?

PETERS: Jim Eveslage (Peters spelled the name).

DOWD: And describe how you established the betting relationship.

PETERS: I can give you his phone number too by the way, if you want it.

DOWD: We would like it.

PETERS: 513/523-2405, that's his Miami Beach Tanning Salon in Oxford, Ohio.

DOWD: Alright, describe how you started this betting relationship.

PETERS: Uh, Gio, through Jim, he asked Jim, they all worked at the gym.

DOWD: Gold's Gym?

PETERS: Gold's Gym. He asked Eveslage if he knew a bookmaker. Jim said yes and he turned him on to me.

DOWD: Okay. And, you met with Gio?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Did he come up here and see you?

PETERS: I think I met him at Gold's Gym the first time.

DOWD: Okay. And, what did he tell you as best as you can recall?

PETERS: That he wanted to place some bets and he uh wanted to uh bet lots of money and they were for Pete Rose.

DOWD: Would you have taken....what size bets did he want play?

PETERS: They were \$2,000 to \$5,000 a game.

DOWD: Would you have taken those bets if they were Gio's bets?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: Why?

PETERS: Well he just doesn't look like he can afford \$2,000 to \$5,000 a game.

DOWD: But you knew Pete Rose could afford that?

PETERS: Yes, I assumed he could.

DOWD: You assumed he could from reading about his success in baseball?

PETERS: Correct.

DOWD: And there came a time I take it when you talked directly to Rose on the telephone.

PETERS: Right. I talked directly to him between four and six times.

DOWD: And I take it when Rose lost, Gio brought the money up and paid you.

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: Did you ever have to go get the money, or did he always deliver it to you?

PETERS: No, I had to go to Gold's Gym on a couple of occasions. And, we have met somewhere too, on the side of the road somewhere. One place I remember because it was down by my old house, it was in Tri-County at a gas station, Omega Gas Station, we used to meet there.

DOWD: What would he call you and tell you he was bringing it?

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: And you would drive down the road to get it.

PETERS: Right, that is kind of like halfway.

DOWD: Between Cincinnati and Franklin.

PETERS: From Gold's Gym to my house in Westchester.

DOWD: Okay.

HALLINAN: What was your phone number in Westchester.

PETERS: You know, I am trying to think of that, it was a 779 exchange I think, no it was 874, one of the two. I can't remember. I can figure it out.

DOWD: Um, do you have any recollection of the largest amount you ever collected?

PETERS: Ever collected, it was in the 30s.

DOWD: And did Gioiosa place bets for Rose on baseball?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: And did he place bets on the Cincinnati Reds?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: For or against the Reds?

PETERS: For.

DOWD: Always for the Reds?

PETERS: Always for.

DOWD: Okay. And in the four to six conversations with Pete Rose, do you recollect Rose betting on baseball?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Did he bet on the Reds?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Did he bet for the Reds?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Do you have, and I asked you before and you wanted to think about it, can you give me a rough estimate of first approximately how much was bet during the total time?

PETERS: The total time that he bet through Janszen and Gio is probably somewhere around \$1,000,000.

DOWD: And can you give me an estimate of how much he won and how much he lost?

PETERS: Well, well you mean the difference, or...the initial difference which...yes, I'd say he probably lost somewhere around sh \$150,000, somewhere around that.

DOWD: During what period of time?

PETERS: Between the Gio era, which was...dates, been in '84 and '85 and '86.

DOWD: Lost about \$150,000 to you?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: During that period of time did he ever win?

PETERS: Yeah, he won. He's won... what I am saying..

DOWD: So what you are giving me is a net figure.

PETERS: Net figure, correct.

DOWD: Okay, can you give me gross figures?

PETERS: Well, like I said he bet somewhere around \$1,000,000 so that means he would have lost, if he had netted 150 he would have lost or won, what does that come up to? My mind is not working too good right now even though that is my business, numbers. Can I use your pencil, I'll figure it out.

DOWD: Sure.

(PETERS FIGURING)

PETERS: He lost...he must have, I guess it wouldn't work out that way, would it? I don't, I can't, I can't break it down to tell you the truth. I just know he lost approximately \$150,000 and he bet approximately \$1,000,000. I can't...there is too many times we exchanged money to try to figure out how much he lost and how much he won.

DOWD: Stay with me for a minute on this. Let's just take baseball. Okay, baseball season, is it fair to say it runs from pure baseball, no other sport, say June to the end of August. Is that fair?

PETERS: Yes.

HALLINAN: April.

DOWD: No, but I'm talking about pure, if that is all that you can bet on. I mean there is no college football and there is no basketball.

HALLINAN: I got you.

DOWD: He is betting one almost every night or every day?

PETERS: Just about, you know, it wasn't every day, it was just about every day though.

DOWD: Okay. Um, would it be fair to say on the average four to five times a week?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Is that fair?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Okay. And on a given night, what would he bet?

PETERS: Well he usually bet around five to seven games, so he would bet anywhere between.....

DOWD: Just work it on the pencil there, let's just see if we can work it a little bit.

PETERS: Okay, he bet on five to seven games and always \$2,000 to \$5,000. So what is that, \$14,000 to \$35,000 a night he would bet.

DOWD: Okay. And we're talking about what five days a week, four or five days a week?

PETERS: Yeah, four or five days a week.

DOWD: Okay. So, that's how much, you're talking...ah, so what is that \$150,000 a week he's betting?

PETERS: Well, it wasn't always that much because sometimes he would only bet one game. But, on the average, I'm saying he bet five to seven games. But there might be only one or two games that were playing that night.

DOWD: Right, okay.

PETERS: So, it's really hard to determine how much he bet each night. I'm trying to figure out maybe how weekly it might...maybe he bet \$20,000 a week, maybe.

DOWD: Okay, so we got June, July, August, say 12 weeks.

PETERS: Basically, he only bet on the National League too.

DOWD: Oh, he bet on the National League?

PETERS: Yeah, other than and the playoffs. He only bet on the National League that I can remember. It just seemed like the National League stuck out. Most people do for some reason.

DOWD: Um, I'm not an expert in this area at all, why, why does he lose so much?

PETERS: Well...

DOWD: Because here's a guy that knows the game so well.

PETERS: Actually he did okay on baseball.

DOWD: He did?

PETERS: Yeah. But the reason he loses is because there's a split in the line. In other words, the line is determined by the pitchers. Mario Soto might be \$1.50, which means it takes \$1.50 to win \$1.00 and the opposing pitcher would only back \$1.40 for that same dollar, so there is 10¢ difference in the line that if the favorite lost, that's where the bookie got the money. So, what you try to do is try to get even with the game. Take that 10% whatever is bet, 10¢ on the \$1.00. And also, you know some would be a 2 to 1 favorite, 2-1/2 to 1 favorite, that they lose, then you lose quite a bit more than what you would win.

DOWD: So if they lose they are going to pay you double.

PETERS: Well, let's say for instance Goodin, he is a good example he was always 250, which means it take \$2.50 to win every dollar, \$2,500 to win \$1,000. But, the other way when the line is that high...

DOWD: Does that mean if I put \$2,500 down for the Mets to win, Goodin pitching say against the Reds, and if the Mets win, I win \$1,000 from you? Is that what that means?

PETERS: Right, it takes \$2,500..

DOWD: Let's just... stick with me, I am real ignorant in this area.

PETERS: It takes \$2.50 to win \$1.00; \$2,500 to win \$1,000.

DOWD: Okay, so I give you \$2,500 and I say I want the Mets against the Reds, Goodin is pitching.

PETERS: If he wins, he gets \$1,000; and if he loses, he loses, he loses \$2,500. And on the other end with the line being so high, the split's bigger, so he'd only get back \$2.00 instead of \$2.50. See, so if he bet \$1.00 he would get \$2.00. If he \$1,000 he would get \$2,000.

HALLINAN: And that difference is where the bookie makes the money.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: Fake.

PETERS: Pardon?

HALLINAN: Fake.

PETERS: That's what they call it.

DOWD: Uh huh. Umm, you said he did pretty well on baseball.

PETERS: Yeah, he did good on baseball.

DOWD: Where did he lose?

PETERS: Football, mostly.

DOWD: How did he do on basketball?

PETERS: He lost, but not alot. He lot most of it, if the rating is force, he was best in baseball; second in college basketball; and third in professional football.

DOWD: Now you being the bookmaker and you knowing that, how do you cover yourself?

PETERS: I bet with other people, lay off.

DOWD: So you lay off.

PETERS: Yeah.

HALLINAN: Did you use him as a source, or because he had a fairly good record in baseball, would you use him to a degree as your edge in weighing that thing off?

PETERS: Never. I never did that. I never tried to second guess myself or through somebody else's judgment, then all you're doing is betting yourself. And, I never put myself in that situation. I would always keep an amount of money on the game that I have wanted to keep and the rest of it I give it up.

HALLINAN: Did you ever mention to any other bookmaker who you were dealing with that Rose likes so and so?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: You never mentioned it to anybody?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: Did other bookmakers know that Rose was in fact betting with you?

PETERS: Yeah, but I'm sure they wouldn't tell you because they don't like this ??? deal of me being here to begin with, you know its a kind of like a code of ethics thing. Yeah.

DOWD: Well a guy like Rose is someone you want to hang on to?

PETERS: Yeah right, so you don't want to expose him to other bookmakers because then he might call them instead of you. He always like the business, win or lose he liked the business.

DOWD: Did Janszen or Gio ever pass information on to you?

PETERS: Regarding what?

DOWD: Regarding injuries or any inside information?

PETERS: No, not to the best of my knowledge, no.

HALLINAN: Did Rose ever load up on a game in an unusual way?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: Let's capture the situation with Gio, the problem, describe that for me.

PETERS: You mean about the \$34,000 debt?

DOWD: Right, tell us how that came about.

PETERS: Pete owed \$34,000.

DOWD: Is that late '86?

PETERS: Yeah, well it was in '86 and the last confrontation I had with Gio was late '86.

DOWD: Okay.

PETERS: But he lost \$34,000 and Gio kept saying he was out of town, he couldn't get a hold of him to get the money and then finally he said Pete decided not to pay you, that the hell with me and he wasn't going to pay. So, I never got the money from Gio.

DOWD: Okay. Now did there come a time when Janszen approached you to place bets for Pete?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: When was that?

PETERS: It was in '87, like late '87.

DOWD: Did you tell him about the problem you had that Pete owed you money?

PETERS: Right, and that's the time that he said Pete paid that bet. I said well no he didn't, I didn't get any

money out of it. He said well he gave Tommy the money. I said well I didn't get any of the money. So that's when he brought the photostat copy of the check for \$34,000 front and back, made out to Tommy Gio, endorsed by Tommy Gio. So he took the money and ran.

DOWD: When you first, when Gio first started betting for Rose, did you ask him to put up some front money?

PETERS: Yes, and I believe it was somewhere around \$10,000. And after that, he gained his credibility as far as paying and collecting. And we didn't have any front money after that.

DOWD: Did that occur with Janszen?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: You just started taking bets?

PETERS: With Janszen?

DOWD: Yes.

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: And, again, were you satisfied that those bets were for Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Would you have taken those size bets from Janszen?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: Because he didn't have the wherewithal?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: When did the betting with Janszen/Rose end?

PETERS: With Janszen? Well let's see, it was last year, maybe mid-season last year, maybe middle of the year maybe.

DOWD: Was it '88 or '87?

PETERS: '87.

DOWD: On the Fourth of July, does that sound right?

PETERS: I couldn't have any idea on the month or...

HALLINAN: The All Star game?

PETERS: Yes it was close to that, you are right, yes.

DOWD: And you owed Pete some money?

PETERS: Well, they think. I don't think.

DOWD: But they had won, Pete had won.

PETERS: Pete had won.

DOWD: About how much?

PETERS: Around \$40,000... somewhere around there, it was a little bit more than that, 41 or something. But, you know I felt like I had \$34,000 coming and I was going to pay him. So, the ultimate end of that was I gave Janszen three checks for \$2,000 a piece; two of them post-dated, maybe all three of them, and that was the settlement figure. And then he said the hell with Pete Rose. He said him and Pete had a falling out he said. He said him and Pete had falling out, hell with Pete Rose, I just want my money -- indicating that he... part of the bets were his. And he figured he had \$6,000 of his coming.

DOWD: Is it part of the bets...did Janszen ever indicate to you that some of the money he gave you was his money he was paying Pete's debts?

PETERS: I don't believe so, no. I mean their numbers too....I knew that they were for both people because they were funny numbers, it might be \$1,200, it might be \$1,400. They were different numbers; they were never just like \$1,000 or \$2,000.

HALLINAN: They believe then that Janszen was piggybacking Rose's bet.

PETERS: Right, exactly.

DOWD: Did you ever talk to a gal placing bets for Pete?

PETERS: No, not to my best of...

DOWD: Janszen's girlfriend, Danita Marcum?

PETERS: Oh yes, she did, she sure did, yes.

DOWD: She did?

PETERS: Uh huh. She sure did.

DOWD: Did she place bets on baseball?

PETERS: Uh, God, I don't know. I can't remember that. But, I remember talking to her on a few occasions.

DOWD: Do you ever remember meeting her?

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: With Paul?

PETERS: Yeah, she's a blonde, she's you know built, she's got a nice body. She was you know into health, like the rest of them.

DOWD: Do you recall going to Reds games?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: And, were the tickets provided for you by Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Through Janszen and Gioiosa?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: How many Reds games do you recall going to?

PETERS: I can only remember a couple, two or three, in that whole period of time. It might have been four.

DOWD: Do you remember taking anybody from this law firm to a game?

PETERS: I don't think so.

DOWD: Is Mr. Ruppert's name Randy?

PETERS: No.

STATMAN: James.

DOWD: James.

STATMAN: There are no Randy's in this firm at all.

DOWD: Alright there was a Randy Ruppert, there was a game on....????? Did you ever meet a fellow named Mario Nunez?

PETERS: Uh uh.

DOWD: Did you ever hear of the name Howard Bernstein?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: How about Mike Bertolini?

PETERS: That name rings a bell, but I can't recollect it.

STATMAN: I just want to interject something. He heard that name from me today.

PETERS: Yes, but I told you the same thing....

DOWD: But prior to that.

PETERS: I told you the same thing I am telling them.

STATMAN: I understand.

PETERS: When I heard it from him, it rang a bell, you know, like I've heard it before, but I can't recollect who it might be.

DOWD: I may have asked you this already, if I did forgive me. Do you recall a meeting with Pete on how many occasions?

PETERS: Let's see. I can only remember twice, but I know I have seen him more than that. But, I only remember

two occasions -- once at Jonathan's Cafe and once in Gold's Gym.

(GETTING A BRIEFCASE AND TAKING A BREAK)

STATMAN: We were talking about personal contacts.

DOWD: Yeah, tell us about the personal contacts that you remember. And, I know we are going over this again, but....

PETERS: Okay, the first time I met him was at Gold's Gym. He was in there working out or I didn't actually see him lifting any weights, but that was what he was supposed to have been there for.

DOWD: Who else was there, do you remember?

PETERS: Frye and Gio. That's all I can remember. I didn't know very many people there. The only time I ever went there was to pay or collect. So, and the second time was at Jonathan's Cafe. He drove his Porsche, parked it in Paul's Doughnut Shop, catty-corner to Jonathan's. Gio and Mike were in another Porsche. One was red and one was a black I believe. And, Pete came walking across the street. He had a black sweat suit on carrying his....I mean a gray sweat suit

carrying a black bag that had...that you saw had inscribed 'To Jonathan's Cafe, Best Wishes, Pete Rose.' He came in, Mike Frye and Tommy Gioiosa, we all sat down together and had lunch. He had a bowl of chili and a diet coke. He told a joke. And, I'll never forget, 'the guy with the dog.'

STATMAN: The blind guy with the dog?

PETERS: Did you hear that story? 'A blind guy with a dog came up to Pete and wanted him to sign his dog's collar. He said I'll sign anything you got, but get that fucking dog away from me.'

DOWD: In the cafe?

PETERS: Yeah.

STATMAN: Was it a big black dog?

PETERS: No, this was a blind guy's seeing-eye dog.

DOWD: What was it, a shepard?

PETERS: Yeah. I think so. Which he had a valid point, you know the dog could chew his hand off, he'd be ruined for life. But, there were people that him in there.

One person I remembered distinctly was Jim Mears because he some things autographed by Pete.

DOWD: Jim Mears?

PETERS: Jim Mears, he's a local insurance agent on Main Street.

HALLINAN: In Franklin?

PETERS: Yeah.

HALLINAN: City council.

PETERS: Is he, I don't know.

DOWD: And, you gave Gioiosa money on that occasion?

PETERS: Yes, it was either \$36,000 or \$37,000.

DOWD: Do you remember what time of year that occurred?

PETERS: Well it was summer, it was warm, I remember that.

HALLINAN: Would that have been one week's winnings?

PETERS: Well, no it could have been two, three, four, it just...whenever it got to a point, we settled up. It usually, usually it was between \$15,000 and \$20,000 so you know he could have won, he could have been up \$15,000 or \$20,000 and then won \$10,000 that night or \$15,000 that night.

DOWD: Would that have been winnings on baseball?

PETERS: Well...

DOWD: Summertime.

PETERS: I believe it was, yes, it most likely was.

DOWD: You mentioned meeting Gio at a gas station every once in a while, what to pay or collect?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: And where was this?

PETERS: It was on Route 747 in Westchester, Tri-County area, by the Tri-County Mall.

DOWD: I don't know where Westchester is from here.

PETERS: It's between, it's on your way home. Tri-County Mall, right there that area. That was between my house and Gold's Gym, it was kind of like a halfway meet.

HALLINAN: Generally, what were the amounts that were exchanged?

PETERS: Usually it was between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

DOWD: Were the denominations \$100 bills?

PETERS: \$100s and \$50s, yes. On one occasion he brought I believe it was three checks made out to cash, and I believe they were \$9,000 a piece, I think, I can't remember exact amounts, but they were made out to cash. Tommy gave them to me and I made him go cash them, so they are endorsed by him, and he then he brought the cash back.

DOWD: Do you remember what the face of the check looked like?

PETERS: No, sure don't.

DOWD: Did it say Pete Rose?

PETERS: No, I really don't...you know, if I had to guess, I would, I think it was his business account.

DOWD: Pete Rose Enterprises?

PETERS: Yeah, but it's a guess.

DOWD: Would that have been in '86 or '85?

PETERS: Yes.

HALLINAN: How much money, what happened to this money that you gave to Tommy Gio?

PETERS: I don't know what he did, I assumed he gave it to Pete.

DOWD: You said he put it in..

PETERS: Oh, he put it in his sock.

HALLINAN: We switched gears here Joe, we are back, we are talking about...

PETERS: Yes, when we were at the restaurant...

HALLINAN: At the restaurant he put that in his sock.

PETERS: He brought the checks at the restaurant also that night. The gas station was just always exchanging cash. But, on one occasion at the restaurant he brought, I believe it was three checks and all of them were right around \$9,000 each, or it might have been \$7,000.

DOWD: Was that the only time that he has ever brought checks?

PETERS: I think so, the only time I remember.

DOWD: You didn't like to take checks.

PETERS: No, that is why I had Gio cash them.

DOWD: Where did he cash them?

PETERS: I don't know, I have no idea. I imagine the bank it was drawn on, I don't know.

DOWD: You just told him you didn't want them, you wanted cash.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: So, he had to leave and then come back?

PETERS: Yeah, another day. It wasn't in the same day.

DOWD: Let me try another, sort of a layman's angle on this business of payment and collecting. In the time that you took bets from Pete Rose, let's just talk about what he paid you that came out of his pocket. Let's not talk about what you paid him. What would you estimate?

PETERS: I just have no idea because it was just so many times that we exchanged money. I couldn't begin to guess.

DOWD: Would it be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars?

PETERS: Oh, yeah.

DOWD: Huh?

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: No question in your mind about that?

PETERS: No question.

DALY: Was this a year round activity in '84 and '85, 12 months a year?

PETERS: Well, most of the time it was every month, but there was times, there was spells when I didn't hear from him for a while, and then it he would be back, especially between the Gio and Janszen era. So, it wasn't like the day I met him he bet every game (???) , that was over.

DOWD: Was it always a case, Ron, of their coming to you and wanting to place a bet? I mean did you ever solicit them to bet?

PETERS: Oh no. They came to me.

DOWD: That's just not part of the trade, or your style?

PETERS: It's against the code of ethics, you know to try to steal somebody else's customer.

DOWD: Okay.

HALLINAN: Would he always call you each day, or would you call out to him to get his action?

PETERS: They would....whoever, what entity would call for him called me, I never called them.

HALLINAN: And, now, we are saying at this point that Pete Rose has called you with bets on baseball?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: And the Reds?

HALLINAN: And the Reds?

PETERS: Never against the Reds.

HALLINAN: Tommy Gio has called you for Pete.

PETERS: Correct.

HALLINAN: To make bets on baseball and the Reds.

PETERS: Correct.

HALLINAN: Paul Janszen has called you and made baseball bets for Pete and... both for baseball and for the Reds.

PETERS: That's right.

HALLINAN: Danita Marcum has called you for Pete to make baseball bets and bets on the Reds, do you recall that?

PETERS: That, no that one I can't really be sure about. But, I believe she did.

HALLINAN: Is there anybody else besides those people that I named that has called you for Pete to make bets?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: Mike Frye never called you?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: How about a fellow by the name of Stenger?

PETERS: Don Stenger, no, he never did. As a matter of fact, I was surprised about that whole deal that he was the king pin of that whole operation that went down there, what I got out of it anyway. I had no idea that he was involved in any of that stuff.

HALLINAN: Have we talked about other bookie action that Gio told you about in New York?

DOWD: We ought to repeat that. Why don't you tell us about that.

PETERS: He indicated to me that when he didn't pay me, when he said Pete developed the attitude the hell with me and he wasn't going to pay me, that he also developed the attitude with bookmakers in New York, according to Gio, who he owed a half million dollars to he said. I don't know if he really did or if he is just trying to justify to me that I was lucky only getting beat up \$34,000 and not a half million. But, to tell you the truth and this is just my personal opinion, I can't see any bookmaker letting anybody get a half million dollars in debt.

HALLINAN: Did Gio indicate to you that he had palled (??) that action?

PETERS: Yes he did.

HALLINAN: With the New York bookies?

PETERS: Right. Now, like I said that is just from him, I don't know if he actually did it.

HALLINAN: Before Rose?

DOWD: We understand that, just, it's important whatever he said to you.

HALLINAN: Did he say anything further about New York, like any connections those people had with anyone else?

PETERS: Yes, he said that they were....well, he assumed that they were Mafia related.

DOWD: Is that what he said to you he assumed that.

PETERS: Yeah, he assumed that they were.

DOWD: Did he use the term Mafia or wise guy or....

PETERS: "Mafia"

DOWD: Mafia.

HALLINAN: Do you know about what period or what month?

PETERS: It was almost the time that you know he stiffed me. So that was late '86.

DOWD: This is when you were pressing him to pay?

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: Did this conversation about the New York connection occur in person or over the phone, do you remember?

PETERS: I don't recall.

HALLINAN: Do you know where Pete, Gio any of these others utilizing any other bookmaker in the Cincinnati area besides yourself?

PETERS: No.

DOWD: Tell me what you know about Reuven Katz.

PETERS: Nothing. I know nothing about him other than he is Pete's attorney and that's all I know. I have never met the man. I don't know what he looks like. I never talked to him.

HALLINAN: Why then did you reach out to make that phone call to him?

PETERS: I knew that it was his attorney.

DOWD: What you had read it?

PETERS: Gio told me that.

DOWD: So, he knew it before.

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: Under what context did he tell you that?

PETERS: What context of what.... Gio had with Reuven?

DOWD: No, did he had mentioned Reuven to you?

PETERS: Why did he tell me that Reuven was his lawyer?

DOWD: Yes, how did that come up, do you recall?

PETERS: I don't know to tell you the truth. I really don't know, I think that's where he got the checks from was Reuven. I believe that's where he got them from. They had Reuven write the checks, I'm sure you could check that to see who signed the checks.

DOWD: We will.

PETERS: I don't know who did though, but I assume, I think that's where I got that.

DOWD: Think again. Try to give me the best you can on the year of those checks.

PETERS: It was either '85 or '86, probably '85.

DOWD: Okay, that helps because I got to ask....

HALLINAN: When you called Katz's office to report about people seeking you out, did anybody say well who is Ron Peters?

PETERS: No, they never did once say it. First I talked to his secretary and I told her, I knew Pete was in spring training, I called for Reuven and I was going to let him know that people are asking. I didn't know anything else was going on, or any other investigation was going on. So, I thought they were starting with me maybe and wanted to know what was going and of course I didn't want to say anything. I wanted to discuss it with Reuven and she said she would try to get a hold of Pete and have him call me, and that's when this fellow called, one of Reuven's associates. But, they never, no, they never said who are you?

DOWD: So that phone call is him calling you.

HALLINAN: Yes, they called me back.

DOWD: You just left a message for Pete with the secretary.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: Did you leave a number?

PETERS: You know, I don't know. Probably, for Pete's sake I am sure I did.

HALLINAN: Apparently, who ever was talking with you realized that...

PETERS: There was no doubt he knew who I was, no question.

HALLINAN: Did he realize it was a prior relationship?

PETERS: And he knew it, and he took it upon himself to return the call because he knew it was important enough that somebody ought to get back to me, that it was for real.

HALLINAN: Have we gone into Gio changing the bets, changing the line?

DOWD: No, let's do that.

PETERS: Gio would call me up. And he would, I would give him the line, he would give Pete a different line is basically what it amounts to. So there would be times when Gio would have a bet on a game that didn't have any risk is basically what it amounts to.

HALLINAN: And How did Gio explain that, did he tell you that's what he was doing?

PETERS: Yeah.

HALLINAN: Why would he tell you that when he's really beating the guy he is taking the action for?

PETERS: Well because he didn't think he was talking to him, I guess he didn't want to get caught in a catch-22 because if I talked to Pete then he would know that he was being screwed, that our figures would be different, what we owed him or what he owed us.

HALLINAN: Did he laugh about it or....

PETERS: Oh yes, he laughed, he laughed hysterically. He said he felt like he ought to make something out of this, and that was his way... I didn't care what he did, I

mean really what he does to Pete Rose is what he does to Pete Rose, I just like the business, I didn't care what he did.

HALLINAN: Did he ever indicate what percentage or how he was getting paid to handle this.

PETERS: He just said... he said Pete gives him money every once in a while, that was it, he never said how much or how often.

HALLINAN: How often did you settle up?

PETERS: Well, there was different, you know one week might go by or a month might go by.

HALLINAN: It was really the amount that dictated...

PETERS: Right. Now if it was less than \$10,000 we never, we just carried it. If it was, we tried to keep it between \$10,000 and \$20,000 when we settled up.

HALLINAN: Have we gone into, the action that Paul Janszen this time around.

DOWD: Yes.

HALLINAN: About the three \$2,000 checks?

PETERS: Oh the end result of...

HALLINAN: Yeah, we did that's right.

DOWD: There was something you mentioned about a seven game playoffs and you thought that was the tape of Rose...

PETERS: I believe that's what the tape. He bet seven games I remember that. I don't remember if he won or lost them, but if it was the playoff games that I am think of, that it might be, he won every one.

DOWD: And can you tell me what year that was, this is when managing....played the Packers???....

PETERS: Yes, and this was in the Gio era, '83, '84, '85. I would tend to guess it was later, yeah, he was managing then.

DOWD: He was managing.

PETERS: Yeah, he was managing.

DOWD: And, is there a particular reason...did you tape every call, or is there a particular reason you taped this one?

PETERS: No, I taped it for an insurance policy that he would pay.

DOWD: Were you having difficulty collecting at that time?

PETERS: No, not at all, I just didn't want any difficulties though. I taped this conversation with me and as soon as I did I immediately, I played it back to him. He got kind of ticked off about it and I told him, I said, Pete, I just want you to know I got this and you know for obvious reasons. I said business is business.

DOWD: Yet he continued to bet with you.

PETERS: Oh, yeah. Well see he must have...I've heard that he had stiffed other people, so he doesn't have a real good reputation. He never really stiffed me really, Gio did.

DOWD: Yeah.

HALLINAN: Where did you hear that from?

PETERS: Well, who I heard it from, I don't know, just a general bookmaker.

HALLINAN: In other words, it came through the bookmaker operation of yours.

PETERS: Yeah, he said I've, other bookmakers have told me that they have heard he stiffed other bookmakers.

HALLINAN: Did other bookmakers tell you that they had taken action from Pete?

PETERS: No. Nobody that I knew indicated that they took action from Pete or they didn't indicate who the people were that he stiffed.

HALLINAN: And would this include the bookmaker in the Cincinnati area?

PETERS: Yeah.

HALLINAN: In Northern Kentucky?

PETERS: Yes.

HALLINAN: Are there any other individuals that we haven't asked you about that have any connection with what we talked about today?

PETERS: Yeah, there was guy that worked for me.

HALLINAN: Who's that?

PETERS: Dave Morgan. He's been, he knows about it, so I don't think he'll mind you talking to him.

HALLINAN: Tell us a little bit about Dave Morgan, like where he lives and his phone number.

PETERS: He lives on River Street, South River Street. His phone number... I can get it for you, I can't remember, 743-9287 I think.

HALLINAN: Is he in the phone book?

PETERS: Yeah.

DOWD: -9287?

PETERS: Yeah, I think.

HALLINAN: That's Franklin.

DOWD: Will he talk to us?

PETERS: Yeah, he'll talk to you.

HALLINAN: What does he do, Ron?

PETERS: He works on ground maintenance of Citgown Golf Course, ????

HALLINAN: 29 South River Street?

PETERS: That's right.

HALLINAN: 743-9287.

DOWD: Is he around?

PETERS: Is he around now?

DOWD: Sure.

PETERS: He may be. Do you want me to give him a call?

STATMAN: We'll find out.

DOWD: Will one of you guys call him to see if he can come by?

HALLINAN: What did he do for you, what was his job?

PETERS: All he did was answer the telephone.

HALLINAN: Take bets?

PETERS: Uh huh.

HALLINAN: Would he have taken bets from....

PETERS: I'm sure he did, but we'll find out, I'm sure he did.

HALLINAN: How long did he work for you?

PETERS: Pardon me?

HALLINAN: How long did he work for you?

PETERS: Since, let's see, a long time, he's worked for me for a pretty long time.

HALLINAN: Are you talking '83, '84, '85, when did he start?

PETERS: Probably, I'm trying to think of where we were.
Probably '83.

HALLINAN: Can you answer this question, when did you start in the bookmaking kind of operation, when did you go into the business?

PETERS: I went into Jonathan's in '86, New Years Eve in '86.

HALLINAN: He's talking about when.....

(END OF SIDE ONE)

DOWD: What we might do is have Joe give, you get Joe's number and Joe can come up and talk to him.

STATMAN: Okay. We were, the question asked was when did Dave begin working with you?

PETERS: Right around '83.

HALLINAN: Dave Morgan started answering the telephone for you in 1983.

PETERS: But, he didn't, I mean he wasn't the only one that was would answer.....

HALLINAN: Was Dave Morgan aware that you had this relationship with Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

HALLINAN: Was he part of at any time to conversations with Rose on the telephone?

PETERS: Person to person with Rose?

HALLINAN: Yeah.

PETERS: He may, he may, he never, I never let him talk to Pete. If Pete called it would have been, he would hand me the phone and say Pete, but I don't know if he did that or not.

HALLINAN: Do you have recollection of ever telling him that if Pete Rose called, you were to accept the action that Pete gave him or if Janszen called that would be Pete's bet, or....

STATMAN: Explain to them what your set up was with him.

PETERS: Well, he took bets with whoever called.

HALLINAN: So he was aware then of this relationship that you had, or business relationship that you had with these people?

PETERS: Yes.

DOWD: Kevin's point is a good one. Let's stay with it for a minute. Pete's number was 14, but you always recognized either Gio or Janszen were Pete's boys so they wouldn't say number 14.

PETERS: Right.

DOWD: Would they say 14 to Morgan or would he recognize it?

PETERS: No, he would recognize also. Pete would always call up and say this is Pete whenever he called. He would say this is Pete, yes this is Pete, something like that, but you knew it was anyway (??)

DOWD: Was Morgan present when Pete came up to collect his money?

PETERS: When Pete personally did?

DOWD: Yeah.

PETERS: At Jonathan's, no.

HALLINAN: Did Morgan have another job with Jonathan's?

PETERS: Yes, no, at job at Jonathan's?

HALLINAN: Other than taking bookie action.

STATMAN: What's been going on at Jonathan's

HALLINAN: Before Jonathan's.

PETERS: Well it was during Jonathan's too, but it has never been done at Jonathan's. Yes, he has always worked at either Citgown Golf Course or Franklin Golf Course.

HALLINAN: I guess my question is how would they know how to reach Morgan?

PETERS: He was at the phone at a particular time. Like in the evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 or something like that.

HALLINAN: And, where was this phone located?

PETERS: Well, some, one time, it would have been all over. One time it at his house; one time it was my house; one time it was at my condominium; a couple times it was at apartments.

HALLINAN: Did you have any kind a switch system where that would....

PETERS: Call forwarding?

HALLINAN: Yes.

PETERS: Yeah, we have done that too.

HALLINAN: But, they knew there was that one number to call and get some action.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: Anybody else besides Dave Morgan that took action for you?

PETERS: I don't know to tell you the truth.

HALLINAN: How about an employee at Jonathan's?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: Was there a lady there named Chuck?

PETERS: Oh yes, Paul has left, now Paul has never said, he just, he has wrote down team names, he never told her

any amounts. He always told me what the amounts would be if he had to....if I wasn't around, he would talk to Chuck and just leave teams, the names of teams.

HALLINAN: We're not interested in Chuck.

PETERS: I know you're not.

HALLINAN: We are interested in just covering all the bases.

PETERS: I understand that. And, I am not trying to cover anything up per se either, I can't remember him ever saying the money amounts, but he left the names of teams. And, she knew what it was for.

HALLINAN: When he left names of teams, she would pass that on to you.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: And, you would know how much money?

PETERS: Yeah, because we had indicated before if he couldn't get a hold of me that he would leave the teams with Chuck and it was for that specific amount, which I

think was \$1,000 or it was either \$500 or \$1,000 at that time when Chuck answered the phone.

HALLINAN: That would be the low amounts.

PETERS: Yeah, I think it was \$500.

HALLINAN: Were there any bets ever lower than \$500 on a game?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: You would take bets lower than \$500 though.

PETERS: Oh yeah.

HALLINAN: Was there ever any bets higher than \$2,000 on a baseball game?

PETERS: Well, he bet \$5,000 a few times on... I can't remember on who or when or why or what. But, he was betting \$5,000.

HALLINAN: Anybody else who would know about this activity?

PETERS: Well, there may be, but I can't think of it.

HALLINAN: Did we go into all of Janszen's activities so far.

DOWD: Yes, we covered Janszen. Did you meet with Janszen any place to pay or collect, or did he always come up here?

PETERS: He always came up here, yes.

HALLINAN: Did he ever send anybody else? Did Janszen ever send anybody else up to pick up money, do you recall?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: Did you ever leave money with Chuck for Janszen?

PETERS: No.

HALLINAN: Did anyone else ever come up besides Janszen trying to collect money when you owed 30 some thousand dollars?

PETERS: No, they never came, they put this guy on the phone one time and said he was somebody, some lawyer or something that...I'm trying to think of the exact terms he used. He threatened me some way, but it didn't work because I knew, I knew I had heard...I'll

tell you who it was, I think it's the guy that owns Gold's now -- Monsour, Joe Monsour. I believe it was him. He called up and indicated that it would be to my best behalf to pay it or something like that, but I recognized the voice. He had a distinctive voice. And, I said see you, Joe, and hung up on him.

HALLINAN: And that would have been after the betting stopped?

PETERS: Yeah.

HALLINAN: Anything we haven't asked you about?

PETERS: With Pete...that. No, the only thing I told you before, I remember telling ??? about the time I remember betting from the clubhouse somewhere, because when we bet....

DOWD: Yeah, you were watching the game.

PETERS: Yeah, yeah. I'm watching...I wasn't watching the game, I was on the phone, he made the bet, and five minutes later I'm watching the game and there he was in the dugout, so....

DOWD: And that's when he called?

PETERS: No, he called, then five minutes later...

DOWD: When Pete called.

PETERS: Right.

HALLINAN: Do you remember if the betting was on baseball at that time?

PETERS: Yes, it was and it was on the Reds I'm sure because every time he called, he'd bet on the Reds if they were playing. So, they were playing, if it was....

HALLINAN: Do you have a collection of bats in there and mentioned that he had been to Jonathan's to give you that special bat.

DALY: How did you get all those other bats?

PETERS: Through Paul Janszen.

HALLINAN: Did you buy them?

PETERS: No, he gave them to me. I've bought bats from him, but...I bought one bat from him, I should say not bats. It was a red one with all the Reds' signatures on it, like '75 World Series, something, one of those.

DOWD: At a later time would you be willing to give this information under oath to us?

PETERS: Sure.

DOWD: ...taking your deposition?

PETERS: Sure.

DOWD: It would be alot shorter. Have you taken any polygraph tests on this information?

PETERS: No, but I would be glad to.

HALLINAN: The only gambling records that you recall having that are still around are some that are with the F.B.I. at this point?

PETERS: Right, which are very few, but I don't know what, if there is anything with Pete or.....

HALLINAN: You are not sure that he is on there or not?

DOWD: Were they seized in the raid?

STATMAN: There was no raid.

PETERS: Yes...I gave them to...

HALLINAN: It was a consent, was it not?

STATMAN: There is a consensual(??) search that they call.

HALLINAN: There is a tape outstanding at....

PETERS: That is the whole key right there.

STATMAN: When we talked to you he thought he had in his possession, and went through the tapes he had and he thinks it in....

PETERS: Well, I'm sure it was there, I just hope it still is there.

HALLINAN: You would be trespassing if you went looking for it?

PETERS: I already tried that once, I went through the garage. The door was unlocked and I had my son with me. I was getting his bicycle.

DOWD: Does she have any idea that that tape exists?

PETERS: Well, I can't answer that, I don't know if she does or not. That's another big question.

DOWD: Did she know you made it though and stashed it away?

PETERS: I don't think she did, no. No, I didn't play it to her or anything like that.

HALLINAN: Did she know you were taking any action?

PETERS: Yeah, oh, yeah.

HALLINAN: Did she know that you were taking batting action for Pete Rose?

PETERS: Yes.

HALLINAN: And, why would she know that?

PETERS: I guess I told her.

HALLINAN: Did she ever take any action?

PETERS: Not from Pete. She has from other people. Not from Janszen or Gio. But, she has...I mean she had to sit there and answer the phone constantly if I wasn't there, she would take somebody's bet if I told her to. You know, if I indicated to do it. She was actively on the phone though. I wish I could say she was.

HALLINAN: Does she got alot of cash?

PETERS: Yes, she has got alot of Pete's money, go talk to her.

DOWD: Do you think she would talk to us?

PETERS: I don't know. She might. She's pretty....

DOWD: How do we get a hold of her?

PETERS: 746-5353.

DOWD: What's her name?

PETERS: Lori. L-O-R-I.

STATMAN: Let me suggest one thing to you, the F.B.I. is trying to decide how to get that tape. And, your phone call ahead of them may....

HALLINAN: Yes, we'll coordinate with them and make sure we don't spoil anything.

PETERS: Also, if you would please, make it a point that to call her first, and if you go see her tell her to make sure that Jonathan is not around.

HALLINAN: Sure. How old is Jonathan?

PETERS: 5-1/2.

HALLINAN: Is that your only child?

PETERS: Yes.

STATMAN: You probably should be aware that she probably would do anything to hurt Ron. She's a very, very ???? ex-wife. She is a very unhappy ex-wife.

PETERS: She is a very unhappy, rich ex-wife, not rich, but, she got....

HALLINAN: Do we have any brief description of Ron on this tape? What is your date of birth?

PETERS: 4/29/57. My social security number is 272-58-4323.

HALLINAN: Your current address?

PETERS: 602 East Second, Apartment C.

HALLINAN: Your current telephone number?

STATMAN: Wait a second, nobody knows his address and phone number except the F.B.I.

PETERS: The media hasn't even found me yet.

DOWD: We have already told you that this is confidential.

STATMAN: This is one thing he is very worried about.

DOWD: If you want it in writing, we'll give it to you. But, you know we're not going anywhere.

STATMAN: No, I understand, I just....

PETERS: 746-1100.

HALLINAN: Have you prior to this ongoing present difficulty, even been taken under arrest before? Were you ever arrested for anything?

PETERS: I don't think so. I mean nothing serious like...

HALLINAN: Yes, that is what I mean, a felony.

PETERS: No, never.

HALLINAN: No felony arrest, no felony conviction.

PETERS: No, nothing other than traffic offenses, maybe an a little assault somewhere, no just kidding. No. I used to be a good boy.

DOWD: If you get a copy of that tape, will you give us a copy?

PETERS: Sure.

STATMAN: Well the F.B.I. did tell us at the time we were down there they would give us a copy of it. Now, whether they will follow through with that, I don't know.

PETERS: Yes, they did, they said we don't mind. They want th original but they would give me a copy.

DOWD: That's all I got. Thank you very much, appreciate it.

PETERS: I would be glad to see you or anything else if there..

DOWD: Okay, we'll be back in touch with you guys probably.....

(END OF TAPE)