

TRANSCRIPT BY THE CENTER FOR MEDICAL PROGRESS

13 October 2014

Speakers:

-Dr. Audrey Lance, *Physician, Planned Parenthood of Western Pennsylvania and Abortion Training Director at University of Pittsburgh* (“PP”)

-Two unidentified UPMC/PPWP abortion providers (“PP1” and “PP2”)

-Two actors posing as a Fetal Organ and Tissue Procurement Company (“Buyer” and “Tech”)

frame counts are approximate

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Buyer: Hello.

PP1: Hello.

PP2: Hi. What do you guys do?

Buyer: We do human tissue collection for medical researchers, so specifically, for our purposes here, fetal tissue collection, for stem cell researchers and things like that. Are either of you providers?

PP: Yep, all of us.

Buyer: Oh all of you. Abortion care providers?

PP: Mhm.

Buyer: Are you practicing at outpatient clinics or University systems, or, what’s your--

PP2: All of the above

PP: Planned Parenthood, University, yeah.

Buyer: All of the above? Oh interesting. In Pennsylvania?

PP: Yeah.

Buyer: What’s your gestational limit?

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PP: 23 and 6.

Buyer: Really?

PP: Well, not at the outpatient clinic, I mean--

PP1: Sort of. That's at the hospital though.

PP: Our Planned Parenthood only goes to 18 weeks, but, yeah.

Buyer: Ok. Have you guys ever participated in specimen donation in the past?

PP: Well, there's a tissue bank at Pitt that we offer patients to donate to, so they--

Buyer: So you already have a relationship that way with them?

PP: Yeah, right.

Buyer: Do they have like exclusive access, or--

PP: I don't know. I don't know.

Buyer: By the way, my name is Robert Sarkis, I'm the procurement manager.

PP: Hi, Audrey, nice to meet you.

Buyer: Yeah I mean, so, we operate drop ship, so even though we're based out of southern California--

PP: Uhuh.

Buyer: But it's pretty simple for us to just send a technician out to a given site--

PP: Yeah.

Buyer: For half a week or just a day or whatever--

PP: Uhuh.

Buyer: What would be the collection day. And then, so they just kind of need some space in the path lab in the back to do their dissections, package up the specimens in media, and just ship them off to wherever we're sending them.

PP: Hmmm.

Buyer: So you're not the Medical Director, are you?

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PP: I'm not.

Buyer: You're just a contract provider with them? What's the name of that affiliate?

PP: Planned Parenthood Western Pennsylvania.

Buyer: Okay. Do you have a card on you that I can take per chance?

PP: I do, I actually do for once in my life. Here you go.

Buyer: Interesting. Yeah, so you guys are actively supplying the University with their specimens right now.

PP: Well, no, so we offer the University patients, when they come through, they can donate to, at Planned Parenthood we don't have any, we just--

Buyer: Oh you don't do it yet. Oh--

PP: Yeah. The problem is, with Pennsylvania, I don't know if this would matter, but in Pennsylvania, the tissue, if it's over 14 weeks it has to go to Pathology. It has to like, be-

Buyer: And how intense of a process is that, how, what does that entail?

PP: So, yeah, they say, "Products of Conception: Visualized." [Laughter] Like they're--

Buyer: Do they just, they're just like checking a box in the path lab at the Planned Parenthood clinic--

PP: So at Planned Parenthood, it gets sent out. To like a Quest or something like that.

Buyer: So we have to figure out how do we get inserted into that process.

PP: Right. Yeah.

Buyer: Who is the Medical Director at that affiliate?

PP: Beatrice Chen.

Buyer: Is she here today, or?

PP: Yeah, she is.

Buyer: Oh ok. If you wouldn't mind, if you wanted to send her over here--

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PP: Sure, if I see her I'll definitely point her over here.

Buyer: That would be a good connection to make.

PP: Sure. Yeah.

Buyer: Thank you! And feel free to take as many, you know, candy, brochures, whatever you would like.

PP: Sure no problem. Yeah, I'm gonna take one.

Buyer: Totally. Thank you. Thanks.