

NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE DATA

No.	Court	Parties
2026-0226	IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW HARRISON COUNTY, TEXAS	THE STATE OF TEXAS v. RYAN NICHOLS
		Defendant Pro Se
HEARING REQUESTED	EXPEDITED / BEFORE ANY BOND REVOCATION, PLEA SETTING, OR TRIAL	FILED: June 7, 2026

DEFENDANT RYAN NICHOLS'S SEPARATELY FILED EXHIBITS IN SUPPORT OF DEADLY CONDUCT PARTICULARIZATION MOTION

These exhibits are filed separately from the motion, declaration, and proposed order. Defendant does not ask the Court to treat unauthenticated screenshots or selected video stills as final proof. The purpose is to identify source evidence, preserve the record, show why native production is necessary, and provide the Court with a controlled exhibit index.

Exhibit Index and Evidence-Control Matrix

Exhibit	Item	Source	Use	Authentication Status
A	Element Particularization Matrix	Attorney/drafting work product based on Texas Penal Code sec. 22.05 and Defendant statement	Argument aid, notice, hearing roadmap	No authentication required as legal/demonstrative summary
B	Relevant Defendant Statement Excerpt	Pasted text.txt, excerpted only for conduct and sequence	Ryan Statement, declaration support	File/source preserved; statement testimony required
C	Kacie Costello public comment screenshot	RenderedImage.jpeg	Possible admission/impeachment: Jon "to the point of getting violent"	Needs native Facebook URL/thread/timestamp/account authentication
D-1	Church interior/layout still	IMG_5229.jpeg	Scene context, church layout, potential camera/line-of-sight	Needs source device metadata and witness authentication
D-2	Church doorway/interior image	IMG_5247.jpeg	Scene context, entry/doorway/pew layout	Needs source device metadata and witness authentication
E-1 to E-5	Story-view screenshots	IMG_5211, IMG_5197, IMG_5212, IMG_5215, IMG_5216	Public-story circulation/source-chain/possible recusal or monitoring context	Needs native platform export and account/timestamp authentication
F	July 13, 2025 selected video stills	July 13, 2025 Bodycam Comparison.mp4; selected still contact sheet	Comparison issue only; shows why native bodycam and transcript are required	Needs native bodycam, report, transcript, and officer testimony
G	HCSO / Sheriff Fletcher public-statement screenshot	IMG_4118.jpeg	Official-style source-chain record; shows raised shirt/hand upon grip wording versus later escalation	Needs original HCSO record, URL/source, custodian authentication, reports, and source witness statements
H	Message screenshot attributed to Kacie Costello	IMG_9175.png	De-escalation, plan to leave, Ryan first 911 call, witness credibility, imminence, recklessness	Needs native message thread, phone metadata, sender/recipient/date authentication, and full context
I	May 31, 2026 MP4 video of Kacie/Jon statements	Google Drive file 1gXR1... / MP4	Source-chain and witness-statement record; Ryan states it includes parking-lot statements and Jesus-slap language	Needs native MP4 metadata, full transcript, speaker identification, platform/source authentication

Exhibit A - Element Particularization Matrix

State theory / label	Specific question for State	Defense position	Evidence demanded
Pulled / drew firearm	Does State allege the pistol left the holster?	Denied. Pistol stayed holstered.	Church camera, bodycam, witness statements, complainant statements.
Pointed firearm	Does State allege barrel was pointed at a person or vehicle?	Denied. No pointing occurred.	Video, officer notes, exact witness statement.
Fired firearm	Does State allege a discharge?	Denied. No shot fired.	Dispatch, report, physical evidence, witness statements.
Verbal threat	Does State allege words threatening injury/death?	Denied. No threat to shoot or harm.	Bodycam, 911 audio, witness statements.
Hand on holstered grip	Is this the entire firearm theory?	Admitted only as defensive posture during perceived escalation.	Particularized statutory theory; video; witness statements.

Imminent danger	Who exactly was placed in imminent danger and by what act?	Disputed.	Person-by-person allegation tied to source proof.
Recklessness	What substantial and unjustifiable risk was consciously disregarded from Defendant's standpoint?	Disputed; actor's standpoint matters.	Timeline, distance, movement, surrounding witnesses, church camera.

Exhibit B - Relevant Defendant Statement Excerpt from Pasted text.txt

The raw pasted transcript contains unrelated allegations and should not be filed in full with this motion. The relevant excerpt is limited to the church encounter, Defendant's stated conduct, and the disputed statutory elements:

1. Defendant states he carried because he was acting as church security and that Craig Evers and Don Nichols knew he carried concealed while sitting at the back of the church.
2. Defendant states Jon Costello escalated, stepped toward him, and that Kacie Costello was trying to pull Jon back.
3. Defendant states Jon placed his Bible or another item down and lunged or moved back toward Defendant.
4. Defendant states: "I take a step back. I raise my shirt where my pistol's at, and I just put my hand on my grip. I don't tighten it. I don't pull it out."
5. Defendant states he did not wave the gun, did not threaten to shoot anybody, and was assessing the situation as it escalated.
6. Defendant states he walked away and called 911 immediately.

Exhibit C - Kacie Costello Public Comment Screenshot

Use: possible admission/impeachment and self-defense context. Authentication needed: native Facebook comment, full thread, timestamp, URL, account ID, and testimony.



Exhibit C: Screenshot attributed to Kacie Costello stating Jon was "to the point of getting violent."

Exhibit D - Church Layout and Scene Context Images

Use: layout, doorway/pew/line-of-sight context only. These images do not replace the actual date-of-incident church surveillance, which must be preserved and produced.



Exhibit D-1: Church interior/layout still with Harleton timestamp. Needs authentication.



Exhibit D-2: Church doorway/interior layout image. Needs authentication.

Exhibit E - Public Story-View / Narrative-Circulation Screenshots

Use: public source-chain, circulation, possible witness monitoring, and recusal/context issues. Authentication needed: native platform records, account IDs, timestamps, URLs, and full story sequence.

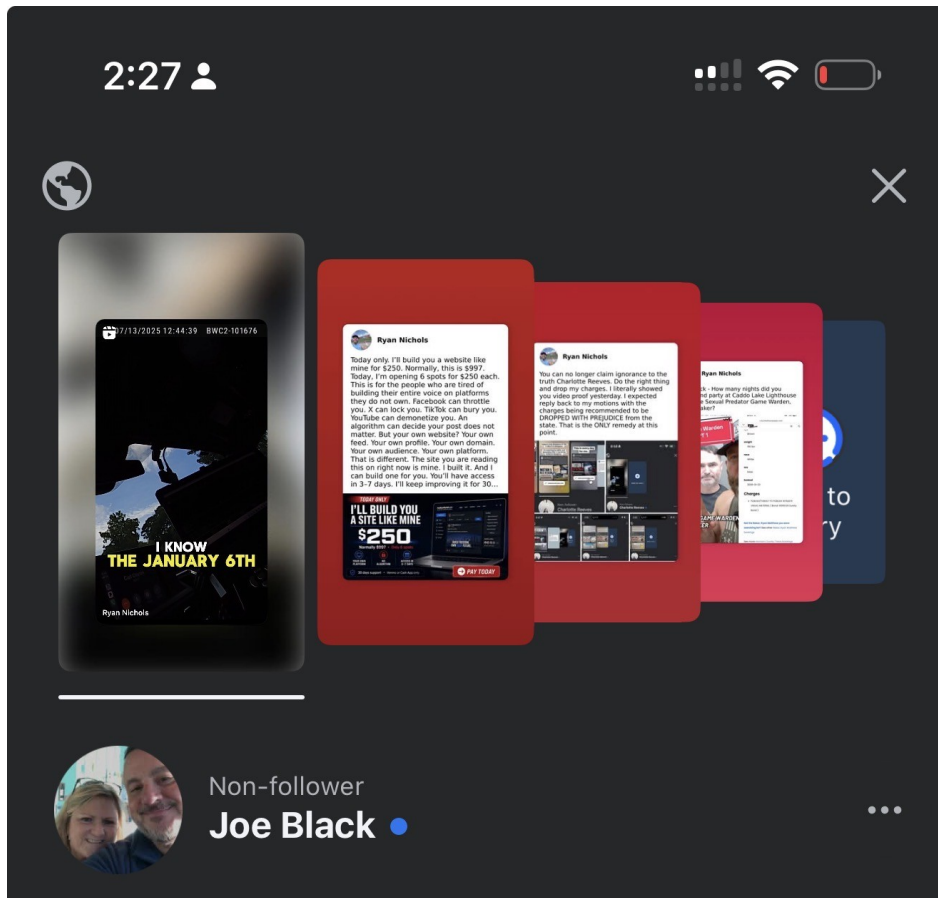


Exhibit E-1: IMG_5211.jpeg, public story-view screenshot. Needs authentication.

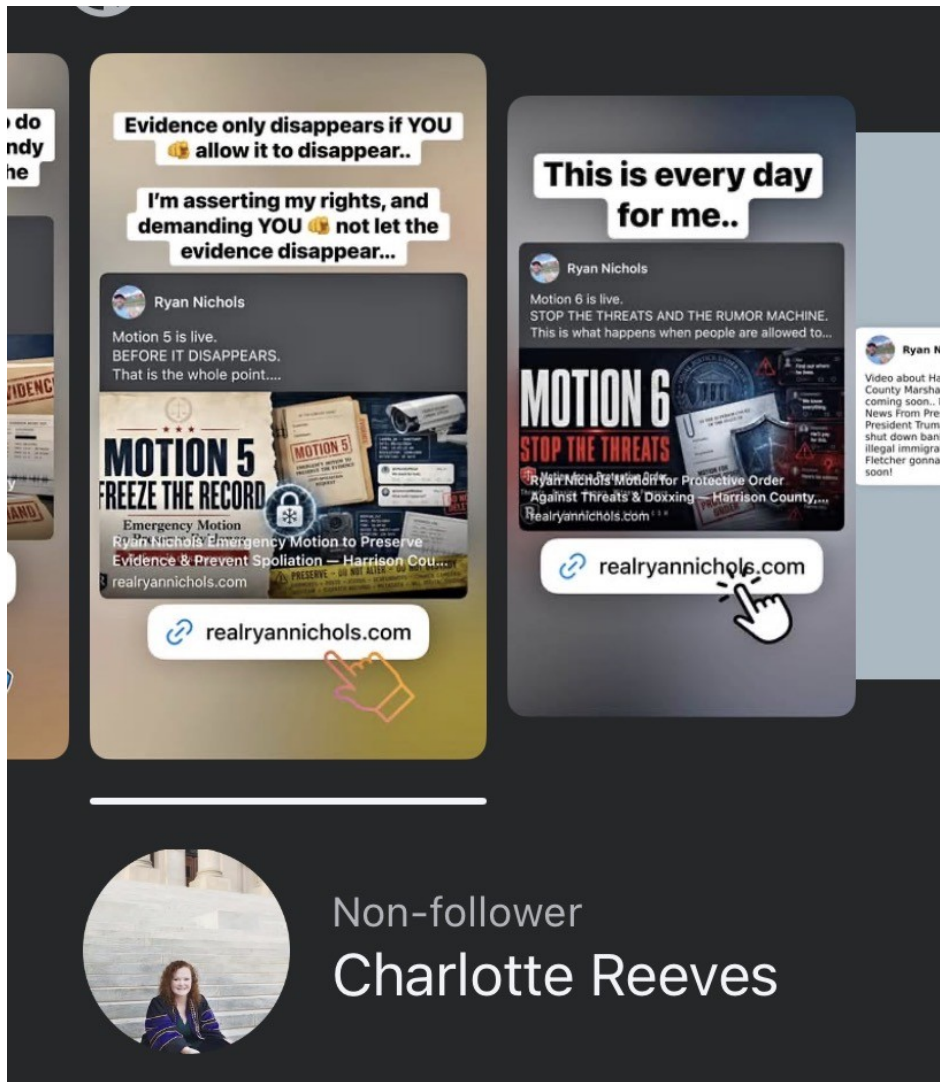


Exhibit E-2: IMG_5197.jpeg, public story-view screenshot. Needs authentication.

Exhibit E-4: IMG_5215.jpeg, public story-view screenshot. Needs authentication.

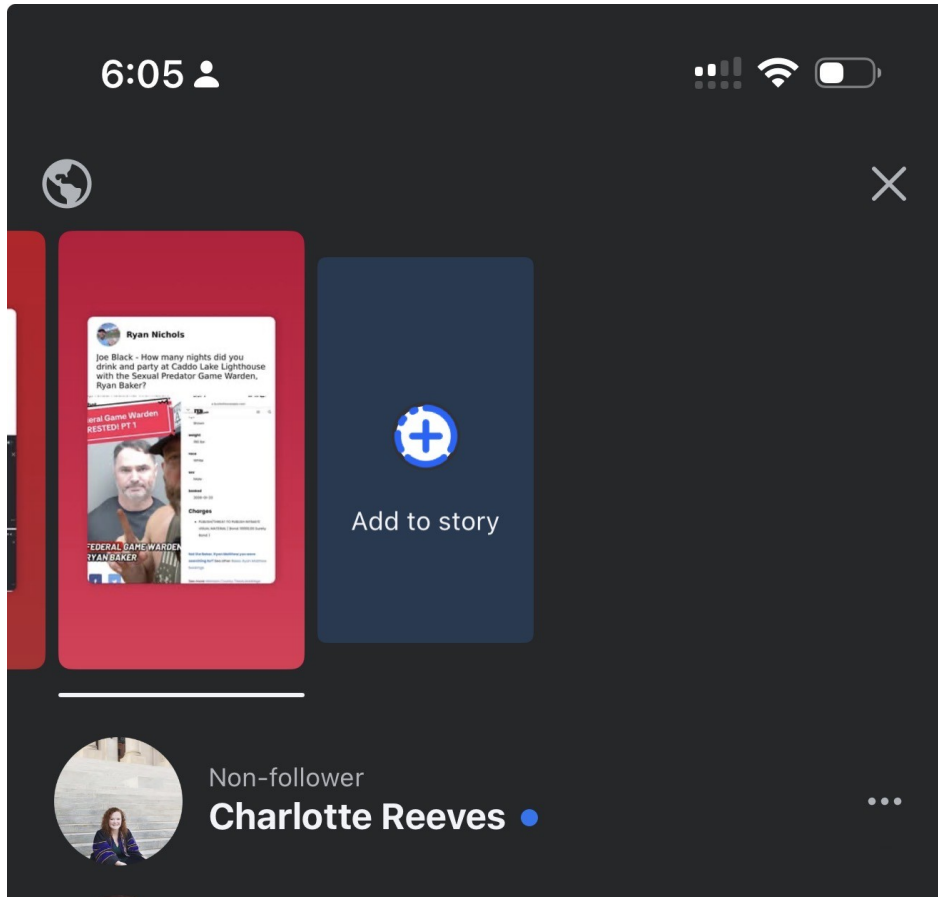


Exhibit E-5: IMG_5216.jpeg, public story-view screenshot. Needs authentication.

Exhibit F - July 13, 2025 Bodycam Comparison Selected Stills

Use: comparison issue only. These selected stills come from the uploaded comparison video and should be treated as demonstrative until the native bodycam, certified report, officer notes, CAD, dispatch, and transcript are produced.

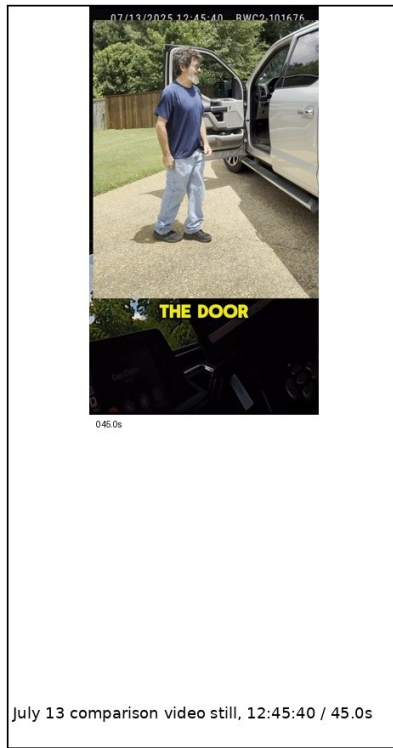
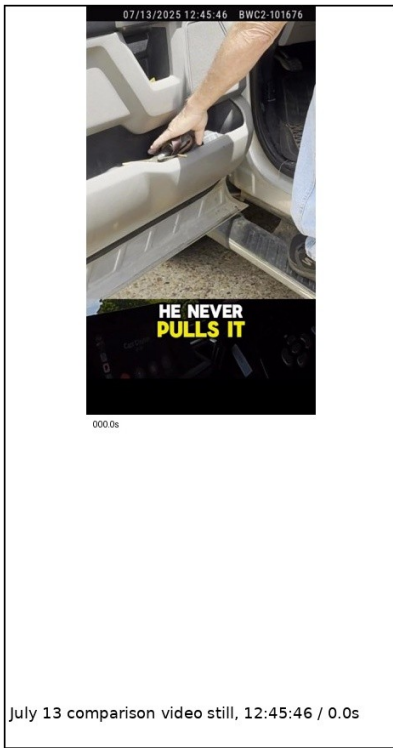


Exhibit F: Selected stills from July 13, 2025 Bodycam Comparison.mp4. Demonstrative only pending authentication.



Exhibit G - HCSO / Sheriff Fletcher Public Statement Screenshot

Use: official-style source-chain record and particularization support. The visible statement describes the allegation as reaching for a firearm, raising a shirt, displaying a firearm, and placing a hand upon the grip. It does not visibly state that the firearm was drawn, unholstered, pointed, or fired. The surrounding public post contrasts that wording with a different alleged version claiming Defendant pulled out the gun and pointed it at a vehicle with children inside. Authentication needed: original HCSO statement or press release, custodian record, publication URL/source, drafts, source reports, source witness statements, native Facebook post/video, timestamps, account IDs, and full context.

Brandon Stewart
1d · 🌐

No witness statements but 2 stated in wife post social media video where the same victim is also recorded stating "know your backstop" that Ryan pulled out the gun and pointed it at the vehicle with his kids inside.

Which one is it?




 SHERIFF
BRANDON J. FLETCHER
HARRISON COUNTY
P O BOX 568
MARSHALL, TEXAS, 75671 

May 11, 2026

On May 10, 2026 the Harrison County Sheriff's Office responded to 225 Heskell Oney Road in Harleton, Texas in regard to a person reaching for a firearm during a dispute outside of the church. Deputies responded and spoke with the involved parties. During the investigation, deputies learned that Ryan Nichols confronted a subject in the parking lot of the church and whenever the subject attempted to leave and de-escalate the situation Nichols continued to confront him.

The victim stated that they turned away from Nichols and attempted to usher his family towards their vehicle while asking Nichols to go to his own vehicle and leave. Nichols continued to try and confront the victim who had then turned towards him. After facing Nichols, the victim advised that Nichols raised his shirt up to display a firearm and placed his hand upon grip of the firearm. The victim advised that he was in fear for his life due to this action. Ryan Nichols was arrested for deadly conduct for displaying his firearm in a threatening manner causing the victim to be in fear of imminent serious bodily injury.

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Exhibit G: Screenshot appearing to contain May 11, 2026 HCSO / Sheriff Brandon J. Fletcher statement, with public post comparing it to an escalated pulled/pointed/vehicle version. Needs authentication.

Exhibit H - Message Screenshot Attributed to Kacie Costello: De-escalation and First 911 Call

Use: impeachment, de-escalation, 911-call sequencing, imminence, and recklessness. Source identified by Defendant: IMG_9175.png, Google Drive file ID 1p6gq7fqIQN1Av7vpOvmn7wnRgkeToI1m, source URL https://drive.google.com/file/d/1p6gq7fqIQN1Av7vpOvmn7wnRgkeToI1m/view?usp=drive_link. The visible message states, among other things, that Defendant spoke back politely, the situation de-escalated, they planned to get in their vehicle and leave, Defendant made the first call to 911, and Jon then did the same thing. Defendant disputes other accusatory statements in the same screenshot and offers this exhibit only for the specific material statements identified here and for source-chain impeachment. Authentication needed: native message thread, phone metadata, sender/recipient/date verification, complete surrounding context, and testimony or custodian records.

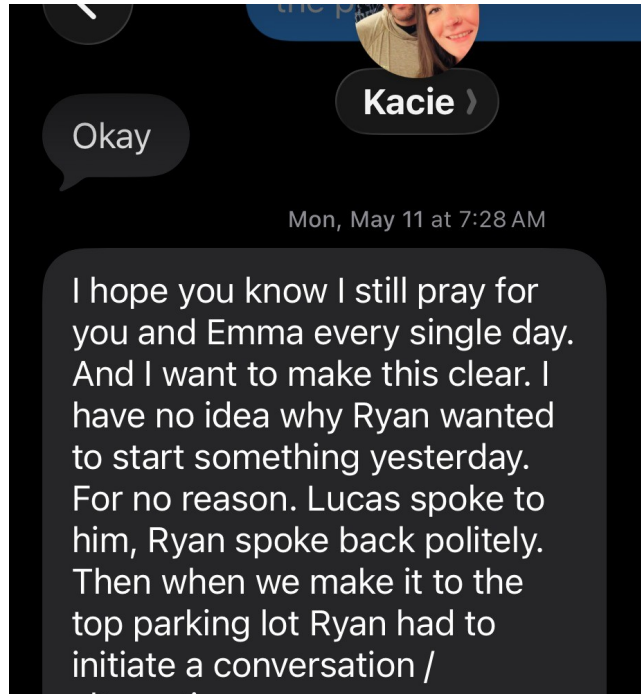


Exhibit H-1: Screenshot attributed to Kacie Costello, part 1 of relevant message. Needs authentication.

Exhibit H Continued - De-escalation and First 911 Call

top parking lot Ryan had to initiate a conversation / altercation.

This was not a us VS. Ryan. Witnesses provided statements. But the sad part of the whole thing is this. When the situation de-escalated we planed to get in our vehicle and just leave. Instead Ryan made the first call to 911. And made it clear he was doing so, so Jon did the same thing. And he tells the police he felt threatened by my husband? As he stands there screaming at me, standing behind my car.

Don't worry, we will never step

Exhibit H-2: Screenshot attributed to Kacie Costello, part 2 showing de-escalation, plan to leave, and Ryan making the first call to 911. Needs authentication.

Exhibit I - May 31, 2026 MP4 Video Source Record Requiring Transcript

Use: source-chain, credibility, and witness-statement preservation. Source identified by Defendant: Google Drive file ID 1gXR1hqq-YXfmNYu6ZFimH0Upaq1j6-u2, source URL <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gXR1hqq-YXfmNYu6ZFimH0Upaq1j6-u2/view?usp=sharing>, file title AQMVEstscz0Q-wsNlxx-yJ-5j22fD9zwHLf-wn6-bCAiJme-NuER7HqqcPAR7f7gB_AznIdeUZiKxJNoRtfYZnJR2i0x90WJltiTbobkkQ.mp4. Defendant identifies this video as a May 31, 2026 MP4 that visually shows Kacie and Jon Costello speaking in a vehicle/parking-lot setting. Defendant states the audio contains parking-lot statements about Defendant and language about being slapped in the face with Jesus. The selected stills do not prove the audio. The Court should require native production, metadata, full audio transcription, speaker identification, and surrounding platform/source records before relying on the audio content.



t=0s

t=5s

t=10s

t=15s



t=20s

t=25s

t=30s

t=35s



t=40s

t=45s

t=50s

t=55s



Exhibit I: Contact sheet from May 31, 2026 MP4 video, Google Drive file ID 1gXR1hgg-YXfmNYu6ZFimH0Upaq1j6-u2. Demonstrative only. Native video, metadata, source URL records, speaker identification, and transcript required.