



Texas Secessionists Standoff Presentation

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum

December 30, 2022

Donna Marie Miller [00:00:19]:

My name is Donna Marie Miller and I'm the author of the book, *Texas Secessionists Standoff: The 1997 Republic of Texas War*, published by [00:00:30] Texas A&M Press. And I'm really proud to have my launch of my book here today in the 25th anniversary year of the standoff. And, I have with me today two very, very prominent people in my book, Captain Barry Caver and negotiator Jess Malone. Both of them are Texas Rangers, were, at the time of the book. And what I thought I'd do is, I'd tell you [00:01:00] a little bit first about how I started to write this book. And then, I'm going to turn it over to them so that they can tell their part of the story, which is crucial to the standoff in general.

I like to say that I start my book with Jo Ann Kennedy Turner because she proved to be the catalyst to this story. She was arrested on April [00:01:30] 22nd, 1997 in Austin for writing liens against businesses and government agencies on behalf of the Republic of Texas. This was one of their MOs, that they would write liens to freeze up companies doing business. And Jo Ann was arrested and put in Travis County Jail. And immediately, she phoned, not her husband, but Richard Lance McLaren, [00:02:00] the Ambassador of the Republic of Texas. And he said, I'll be sure to get you out real soon, but that didn't happen. There was an interim of five days that passed, and in those five days, a lot happened in the Davis Mountains, where Richard Lance McLaren had holed up in a trailer, in a lean-to that he called his Embassy of the Republic [00:02:30] of Texas militia.

And the neighbors around them were not happy at all with the maneuvers and the war games that were going on in the mountains. And they had reported it to several people in law enforcement over the past year. And Sheriff Steve Bailey of the Jeff Davis County had heard most of those complaints coming from Joe Rowe, who was a resident [00:03:00] who lived at the very front of the Davis

Mountain Resort. And one day, he saw some people up on the ridge looking down at him and had their guns pointed at his house. So, he telephoned Steve Bailey and told him to make some changes, make an arrest. And Steve Bailey said, I will once they leave the premises, the Davis Mountain Resort. [00:03:30] So Robert Scheidt, one of the lieutenants of the Republican Texas, left the Davis Mountain Resort in a white van. And when he did, Steve Bailey pulled him over and made an arrest and found several illegal modified weapons in his vehicle.

And in my book, I tell a lot of really cool details about what went down, and miscommunications in that [00:04:00] moment, and who all was involved. But, I'm going to skip ahead a little bit because at that moment, we also had some people up in the embassy who decided that by listening to the radio, that Robert Scheidt might have been shot and killed. So, they decided to take the Joe Rowe homestead because it laid right at the beginning of the gate [00:04:30] to the Davis Mountains, and to use that as a lookout for them to negotiate with the State of Texas, because they believed that they were an independent nation. And they wanted the United States to release Texas to them because they believed that it had been annexed illegally in 1845.

Well, one thing led to another, and three individuals [00:05:00] attacked Joe Rowe's homestead and Joe Rowe, and that was Greg Paulson and his wife Karen Paulson, and Richard Keyes. And Greg Paulson shot through the front door of Joe Rowe's house and shot Joe Rowe through the shoulder, and pieces of the door created shrapnel in his chest. And then, they took the homestead and they took the Rowes hostage. [00:05:30] The wife of Joe Rowe, Margaret Ann, her name was abbreviated Mar, she got on the radio and called the dispatcher and said, we're being taken hostage, get my sheriff. And David Duncan, who was a Ranger at the time too, heard this dispatch, and he called Barry Caver in Midland and said, get down here, [00:06:00] we have a problem. So, I'm going to let Barry Caver tell you what happened next in this incredible story, true story, crime story of the Republic of Texas standoff in the Davis Mountains in 1997.

Barry Caver [00:06:17]:

Thank you, Donna. And just so you know, this is the first time I've ever met this lady. We've had a lot of discussion through emails, text messages, phone calls, to get this to where it is today. And, I can't thank her enough for [00:06:30] putting

this together. And, this is probably one of the most factual books you'll ever read. There's not a lot of author fluff, not a lot of, not necessarily entertainment purposes, but it's fact. This is what happened, this is how it happened. But, what I really have enjoyed and appreciated about this book is, it gives you background on what happened way before this standoff ever happened that we, Jess and I, didn't even know. We didn't know anything about the players. We didn't know what happened. And to [00:07:00] be honest with you, we really didn't care at the time. We had a mission, we had a job to do, and we were trying to do that job.

But again, I spent 19 years in the Rangers. So, it's very surreal to me to come into this Hall of Fame knowing that the people that represent the Rangers around this room in these cases are part of history. And I believe Jess [00:07:30] and I have made part of that history only because we're just doing our job, doing what we get paid to do. It's very emotional to me to think about it, but only because this badge is greater than we are. It represents almost 200 years of history, which we're about to celebrate in 2023. So, it's-

Jess Malone [00:08:00]:

And, my job for 15 years was to make him look good. And at times, I made him look not so good. But, he was a great boss. And you have to understand the times we lived in then and what was going on in the world. And it's crazy today, but we're right on the heels of Waco. And Barry was here at Waco. The federal government made a mess of the situation [00:08:30] and the Rangers took over. And, they did the cleanup with the 83 or 86 bodies that was a result of it. The Murrah bombing in Oklahoma City was in '94. And I told a little story earlier, they were actually sending Rangers to Oklahoma City, Texas Rangers. I had started that way. The Governor of Oklahoma's Republican and the Governor [00:09:00] of Texas at the time was a fellow named George Bush.

And they said, you guys have been through all of this stuff down here at Waco and we've got a mess, and it's potentially going to be a situation. Even with the ATF and everybody else, we're going to need your expertise. We did get turned around, I think in Dallas or south of Dallas, but we were fixing to be Oklahoma Rangers. But, the times were so crazy then with the separatist movements, I don't believe in license plates. [00:09:30] I don't believe in driver's license. I don't believe in paying taxes. And, this was a resounding thing that I had

during negotiations. I said, hell, I don't like to pay taxes. I was telling these people inside, I don't like all of these things too, but until we come up with a better system, we've got to play by the rules. And the laws are the law.

And that's what Captain Caver and I kept telling them. We've got it. We understand. But, you still got to play by the rules [00:10:00] of the State of Texas, and that's the law of the land. And that's where we're going with that. So, we're coming off of these major events, and Gary Noesner, who did the forward in the book, was the head negotiator. He was the head supervisor for the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States of America. You understand too, that the FBI goes overseas and does a lot of work. So, Gary had vast amount of experience. And basically, he showed up and said, don't do what we've done, [00:10:30] because they made some really critical mistakes here at Waco.

And there was a time he wasn't quite emotional like he was a few minutes ago where he said, I'm about ready to run in there and roll over these people with every tank that we have, because we'd had enough of it, about seven days of this. And Gary would again be the voice of common reasoning, because the Rangers are not an organization [00:11:00] to sit on their thumbs or their hands. We have a great deal of latitude, a great deal of ability to operate. Doug's from Austin Police Department here, and we were state troopers before we got in the Rangers, and there's a lot of constraint in those positions. And that's what's been great about the Rangers over the years. We still follow the Constitution of the United States of America, don't get me wrong, although I'll tell you a funny story about that during Fort Davis. I suspended the Constitution for a few minutes, and I'll go [00:11:30] to that story.

Their lawyer for the separatist inside was saying, they have constitutional rights. They have constitutional rights. And my stand on the matter was, we need to get as many of these people out alive as we can, because he wanted to interview them before we interviewed them. And I said, right now, the Constitution's been suspended. And I said, you see them two big troopers over there? They will take you out on a stretcher or hand-in-hand, but we're not worried. We're worried about saving lives here. [00:12:00] We're not going to violate their civil rights, but let's quit focusing on law and focus on the human side

of it. Because like I said, the country had just come off of huge tragedies at Waco, huge tragedies at Oklahoma City, and we were charged with getting it right.

And, that was a monumental task and a lot of pressure. And I think, we probably slept four hours a day for a week. [00:12:30] If I never see another burrito again, it won't be too soon. Because, you hear this thing about an army fights on its stomach. We had absolutely no food. I know that's hard for you to believe this. This area was so remote but it was just, this man right here was in charge of getting everything organized. We had literally... I don't know the manpower that we had because when you go to battle, you never want to be shorthanded. And so, I know we had at least 250 state troopers under his command that we [00:13:00] were trying to gradually and incrementally control this thing, and try to get a grip on it where we could get this.

And a lot of people asked me, what's the Republic of Texas? I've never heard of it. I've never heard of the standoff, because we didn't kill a lot of people. There was only one fatality as far as human. We lost Sugar, a prison dog that was shot by one of the separatists. And, we showed that dog full military [00:13:30] honors. We brought the dog up and out first before we brought that guy out, because the dog died in the line of duty. Prison dogs are trained to track you. They're not trained to attack you. They just find you and they kind of, tag, you're it. And he shot this dog for no reason at all. And I'm an animal lover, my wife is. But, it's just one of the situations we were under an intense amount of pressure, but yet we had an intense amount of latitude given to us by the director [00:14:00] of DPS and law enforcement in general, so that we could push through this thing and resolve it. And, let me throw it back to Chief Barry.

Barry Caver [00:14:10]:

Yeah, I'm good.

Jess Malone [00:14:11]:

Yeah. Well, I mean, it is emotional. I mean, I broke down about it before speaking about it as well because in hindsight, I think God played a huge part in it. But, it could have went wrong very quickly. And, there's some situations in the book where it talks about it. [00:14:30] We had guys from Vietnam there, and I'll shut up in just a moment, there were explosive, ordinance detailed guys in Vietnam

that had training, and we had to get them because there were so many damn bombs. Had we went in there and just did a full-blown attack, the number of law enforcement casualties, we don't even know what they would've been. So, it's a measured approach. You have to contain your emotions. And, there was times when [00:15:00] that was difficult to do given the task at hand. Boss?

Barry Caver [00:15:04]:

Yeah, we had never experienced anything like this in the Rangers that I'm aware of, at least in modern times. And certainly, I did not as a six-month rookie captain. So, Jess and I basically, and all the other Rangers were flying by the seat of our pants trying to figure out what to do, what do next, try to rely on good common sense versus [00:15:30] policy, laws, and that sort of thing. Everybody here is, even today, you don't negotiate with terrorists. Well, I felt like that was the wrong approach. I had a injured person in this house, Mr. Joe Rowe, who was a heart patient. He'd recently had heart surgery, still on blood thinners and that sort. And, we knew he was injured. We knew we had to get him out of there one way or another. And so, Jess and I had no formal negotiation training or skills.

Again, [00:16:00] it was my position as a captain of the Rangers to take command of that situation and figure it out the best I could. So, I immediately began negotiating with the hostage takers, three of those folks who broke in the Rowe residence to try to figure out who they were, what they were doing, why they were there. And then, that's when we later found out about Ms. Turner. We had no idea who she was, what had happened, what had transpired. Luckily, Sheriff Bailey had come to me about two months prior to this event [00:16:30] and told me they were watching this group. They would be inundated with people on the weekends to come and do their firearms training, their practice, their shooting their automatic weapons. And he was very concerned. The problem was, they really hadn't broken any laws up to that point.

But whenever they took the Rowes hostage, that gave us legitimate law enforcement concern and criminal charges that we could use to do what we needed to do. But like Jess said, we had, probably 250- [00:17:00] plus troopers there, all kinds of other firefighting equipment. And my son is here, he's a captain with the fire department. He can appreciate this. I had no idea what incident command was. We'd never had a necessity to use that. So luckily, we called the

Texas Forest Service. They came out with their masses of bulldozers, tractors because at one point in time, McLaren threatened to burn the valley down, including us with it.

Jess Malone [00:17:29]:

And would've been [00:17:30] successful.

Donna Marie Miller [00:17:31]

Yeah.

Barry Caver [00:17:32]:

Yeah. The winds were just right. The valley was shaped in such way it would come right into our command post, and he would've succeeded in doing that. So luckily, with their incident command experience and bringing that system on board, they were able to handle all the daily manpower issues. I didn't have to worry about that. But eventually, I was able to negotiate with the bunch, figure out it was McLaren, figure he ordered the attack. And they told me why, because of the arrest of [00:18:00] Robert Scheidt by Steve Bailey, whom they thought had been killed. And Jess will touch on this too, I'm sure. The fact that they overheard a radio conversation of a death, unintended death, as we call it in the business, where somebody just dies at home for no apparent reason, maybe sick, something like that.

They thought Robert Scheidt was the one that Sheriff Bailey just killed, which is totally not accurate as you'll find out. But, that's what led up into this whole siege [00:18:30] and the whole taking of the hostages. And once we were able to negotiate that release, and it was a whole other experience on how we were able to negotiate and make that happen, to make sure that I didn't get double-crossed in the process as we sent Rangers and other personnel in the ambulances followed by some deputies and other Rangers to make sure that the trade went like it's supposed to go. Luckily, everything worked out. And that's when I realized as the commander, [00:19:00] I could not command this incident and be a negotiator. That's when I asked this man to take over. And, I'll let him go from there.

Jess Malone [00:19:08]:

Yeah. I said, gee, thanks. Just what I want to do, talk to crazy people for the next week or the rest of my life. But they just had their beliefs. And I want to touch on something that might be a little bit enlightening. We had no formal training, but we had good common sense. And, that's always been the trademark of the Rangers, [00:19:30] Incident command? What incident command? You call us, we're going to kill you. That's what we were trained in. That's what the Rangers have been called in. If you've got something that's really evil, call the Rangers. And it went against everything that we had been taught, because we're the last line when it comes to events like this. And it changed our thinking and our thought process.

And Gary Noesner being there from the FBI, and he's good friends of [00:20:00] Captain Caver and I, it taught us, and even going forward, and I'll introduce you to the 2008 incident commander at the polygamist standoff at Eldorado, Texas. And, some of you may remember that, people called it Little House on the Prairie. Barry Caver, and guess who he brought with him? But the philosophy of somebody who has a religious belief versus a philosophy, and when [00:20:30] I say religious belief, like our good friend here in Waco, David Koresh, who led the folks here. And then, we've got people who are separatists, so you've got to understand the difference in the mindset. I would say it's fair to believe our religious beliefs are a lot stronger than our beliefs against the government. Most people are. So, you're dealing with a different mindset when you're negotiating with these people.

And in true law enforcement fashion, once I went through this hail storm, [00:21:00] then they decided to send me to school. So, I went to Quantico, Virginia, Washington DC. And Dr. Michael Webster is the foremost expert in crisis negotiations. And they use what's called an incremental pressure. And incremental pressure is, you use negotiations, but occasionally you show somebody you can put the clamp on, you can use force. And so, you [00:21:30] bring somebody from a very irrational stage back into a rational stage. And you have to do it slowly but surely. But again, I'll emphasize to you, you have to understand a mindset and the background of somebody. Is it a religious thing that we're fighting against? Is it an anti-government thing that we're fighting against? Is it a domestic dispute between a man and a woman? So, you have to just know what you're dealing with.

And, you've got to have a great leader behind you. And I can't brag on Captain Caver. [00:22:00] Like I said, he was my captain for 15 years, but he's a friend for life. And, he had the latitude within the Rangers to handle the situation in such a way that it had a successful resolution for the most part. The negotiations, the incremental pressure I was telling you about, and I've told this story, he asked me what I wanted, what I needed. I said, I need a tank. He never batted his eye, how big a tank? Biggest [00:22:30] one you can get me. And so, what we did is we got a actual M-88 tank retriever. It's not a tank, it's the wrecker they used to pick up tanks. You can imagine how big this thing was.

And, as part of our strategy, we actually paraded it by Satellite City. And, that was where all the media was. And the big trucks, I mean, there was thousands of people out there, 12 miles from this event. [00:23:00] They were broadcasting all this. And they were sending pictures back inside of this tank. Well, during the negotiations, it got pretty tense at times. And at times, the people inside would get downright vulgar. And I mean, just break down screaming at me, calling me everything but white man. And we were talking about it this morning with Donna's husband, you had to bring them back into rational. And I said, listen, don't talk to me that way. I said, let's be civil. We can agree to disagree. [00:23:30] And, the rhetoric would continue.

And I finally asked that tank commander, I said, tell me what you can do with that tank. National Guard, correct? And he said, I can run over everything but a domicile. And I said, that's a big word for a country boy. Domicile, being a house? He said, yeah, can't run over a house. I said, go over there and flatten some of them cars. They had the cars around there.

Barry Caver [00:23:54]:

They were blocking the roads in with old cars and other things like that.

Jess Malone [00:23:57]:

Yeah. And you have to understand [00:24:00] the terrain, too. Mount Livermore, second highest peak in Texas, about 8,000 foot, temperature's 20 degrees during the night, 85, 90 in the daytime. Crazy variations. And the winds, 40, 50 miles an hour. Just brutal conditions. And, we ran the tank up there and ran over the houses. I mean, they hung up on me they were cussing me so bad. And boy, the

phone rang and it sounded [00:24:30] like a bunch of kids in puberty. They were screaming.

Barry Caver [00:24:32]:

We got their attention.

Jess Malone [00:24:33]:

Yeah, they were screaming. But, just good old country boy tactics. One more funny story, or I thought it was humorous. They probably didn't. Again, they were being very difficult to deal with. And I'll tell you, being in law enforcement, I was in highway patrol and the most dangerous person, and we can all attest to this, is somebody that's sleep-deprived. I see people on drugs. I see people drunk. [00:25:00] You get somebody that hadn't been asleep about three or four days, they can get really ugly, especially if they've got mental conditions to go with it. And they were again, they were being very, very combative. And we'd take one step forward and two steps backward during negotiation. And this wasn't my idea, it may have been Captain Caver's, but we had the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, and they're the prison system. We had their tracking dogs there.

And thank God for Texas. We had all of [00:25:30] these resources to support us. The Rangers got the credit. Had this thing went down in a burning flame, we'd have got the blame for it too. But, we had all of these good people from Texas, fire service, forest service, everybody. We had the game wardens there. We had all of these things we could fall back on. About 40 of those hound dogs that are trained to track you, not attack you, but you can't make them hound dogs shut up at night. [00:26:00] They will bark, and bark, and bark. And so, you just take them up there as close as you can get in a stock trailer and let them bark all night. And again, it's just a tactic that was used to bring these people back to earth. And, I didn't want to get them to the point where they were psychotic and they hadn't slept in four or five days, but every now and then, you give them a little dose reality.

I mean, we're in control here. [00:26:30] We're in charge. You just need to realize that. I need to bring you back to that rational state. And I guarantee you, 40 hound dogs barking all night outside your front door, you ain't going to sleep. And I said, look, if you quit talking ugly to me, I'll tell the puppies to come home.

But, you've got to stop this nonsense, and we've got to have some substantive talks. And, Captain Caver was involved in this. He can talk to you about some of their demands, which [00:27:00] I don't know, they wanted to ride to Mars at one time or something in a four-star carriage. I mean, it was just crazy. And, he was the one that negotiated them back into reality. We can guarantee you things that we can guarantee you, and a negotiator will never lie to you, a good one. And, we never lied to them one time. Never led them on. We just told them, hey, this is how it is.

They kept refusing all these things. And giving us all this. I'm like, let's go back to this thing about [00:27:30] shooting up Joe and Margaret Ann's house, and shooting Joe. And y'all claim that you have all these beliefs and all these rights. I think we can agree on this one thing. When you're in your home, you should be safe. And you should be safe against anybody. I don't know you, you don't know me, but I wouldn't appreciate somebody breaking into your house and shooting at you, and you wouldn't appreciate somebody breaking into my house and shooting at me. So, here we are. You started this by shooting into these people's [00:28:00] houses. Regardless for what they've done, you're not justified in doing that. And that's the law of the land.

And all these beliefs that you have about, let's not have a driver's license, let's not have a license plate, let's not have a license plate, let's not believe in the law. We can all agree that what you did is not right. Not only is it not right, it's against the law. And that's why we're here. We're not here to debate with you or rhetoric with you over your beliefs. We're here to debate with you and rhetoric [00:28:30] with you over you broke the law and you have to suffer the consequences. And Captain, you want to reiterate?

Barry Caver [00:28:39]:

Yeah, I was just going to say that the fact that I studied history in high school, I never really studied or gotten into how Texas was annexed into the union in 1845. To be honest with you, I didn't really care. I mean, it happened, it's history. Okay, let's move on. Well, that was his whole thing. That was his whole concept [00:29:00] on the Republic of Texas, which we all know actually did exist from 1836 to 1845. Whether it was illegally annexed or not, I have no idea. None of us were alive at that point in time, and there's no history that I'm aware of, no

history books that talk about whether that really happened. So we had to rely on all of this stuff that he was telling Jess and I that made absolutely no sense. And you can't reason with an irrational person. [00:29:30] That's what he was.

But what it all came down to is the fact that in 1823, the Texas Rangers were born. Some 13 years before the Republic of Texas. So he didn't know me as a person, but he recognized my authority as the captain of the Texas Rangers, that I had the authority to be there and had the authority to handle this. And once we got that out there, he realized he had to deal with me and whatever I said was the law, because [00:30:00] I was the law. Way before the Texas was in existence. So once we got all that out, as Jess mentioned, he started coming up with these cease fire agreements, which I had no idea what that even was, with all these stipulations in it, some 12 or 13 as I recall, things that I had no absolutely no control over. One of them being something about the Geneva Convention and The Hague. I said, I asked Jeff, where's The Hague? [00:30:30] I don't even know that place.

Jess Malone [00:30:33]:

It's just east of Dallas.

Barry Caver [00:30:34]:

Yeah, yeah. So luckily Albert Valadez, our district attorney, was there on scene. And he was there to totally support us and help us in any way he could. And as Albert and I are discussing all of this stuff, as to whether or not I wanted to sign this document or not, he said, if your bosses are okay with it, sign it. He said, because under Texas law, if you sign a document under duress, [00:31:00] which is what this was, he said, you're not legally bound to whatever you sign or agree to. And I said, okay. So after talking with the colonel in Austin and Chief Castile, because none of them had ever gone through this either, so we're all learning this as we go.

They said, sign it. I said, okay. So I signed my name to this. And you would've thought the heavens opened up and the water's parted, and everything is good now. If I'd have known signing this document six days ago was going to solve this, [00:31:30] I'd have done it then. But nobody knew. And so there was a constant negotiation back and forth. We used the armor personnel carriers to

carry these documents, these legal documents back and forth. And we were just going through the motions, trying to figure out what he was trying to accomplish. What his goal was. But again, once I agreed to sign this document, it was like, it's over. And Jess negotiated with [00:32:00] Mrs. McLaren, Evelyn was there, who was inside with him, but we were able to use his daughters on scene. And I'll let Jess touch on that because he talked with them directly about what's the weakest link here, who inside of here is the weakest link that we can identify to help us resolve this peacefully.

Jess Malone [00:32:21]:

And when he talks about signing the document under duress, let me tell you what the definition of duress is. Duress is when you're negotiating with these people and [00:32:30] you reach an impasse, and they said, we're sending out our last will and testaments, which basically told us they were going to kill themselves or we were going to have to kill them. And so there's your duress right there. That's how you can define it. And so we got Evelyn's daughters, and we're making what we felt like was a last minute appeal. And the girls were fabulous. I coached them just a little bit. I said, but just be yourself [00:33:00] and speak from your heart. We don't want our kids to go to their grandmother's funeral. And that's the kind of thing, again, it was getting down the crunch time and we felt like maybe we could tip it over a little bit. And we convinced her, and she was one woman out there by herself. And that's another thing I'll touch on briefly. We weren't sure, at that time, how many people we had. Turned out we had handfuls. Seven or eight, nine [00:33:30].

Barry Caver [00:33:31]:

Yeah.

Jess Malone [00:33:31]:

At some point during their training exercises, they had 50 to 100, 150 people out there. So we're talking and dealing with them from afar. And I mean, we had aero surveillance. We had Lorex cameras, which are these great big military cameras. You can see five miles and see somebody's eyelid. But we just weren't sure what they had. But we were able to bring her over onto our side, in the fact that she told me that evening, after talking [00:34:00] to the daughters, in

a collective sigh of relief, that she would come out the next morning. Instead of this previous conversation about, we're going to send out her last will and testaments. And of course, in true ladylike fashion, she agreed to come out at 8:30 the next morning, and she didn't show up.

I thought, well, she's a woman, give her a little time. And a little time passed [00:34:30] and I started becoming concerned. I think Captain Caver came by and he said, is she coming out? I said, she swore she was coming out. And it's one of those deals, you don't want to pester them. You've got her on your side, you want to kind of go with what you've got. I thought I'd better call in there and just ask again where we're at. So I called in and McLaren, I think, answered the phone. I said, may I speak to Evelyn? Sure. Cursory 10-minute wait, she finally gets on the phone, [00:35:00] I said, Evelyn, are you coming out? She says, I'm doing my makeup.

Take your time, honey. Take your time. No big deal. And, yeah, it was quite some time later that she came out. I know my wife and I know Tammy takes care, Barry. They get everything in order when we're ready to go. In typical lady fashion. And she was just getting everything in order so she could come out, because that had been her home. [00:35:30] But yeah, that's my best definition of duress during negotiations, somebody tells you very somberly, we want to send out our last will and testaments. I'm thinking, this doesn't look good at all. So let me pass it back to you.

Barry Caver [00:35:50]:

So Evelyn came out. Jess met her at the command post negotiation area, and McLaren wanted to be assured [00:36:00] that she was in our custody safely. But in her hand, she also brought that ceasefire document. So Jess met her, gave her a big hug. I believe her attorney, O'Rourke, was still there at the time.

Jess Malone [00:36:13]:

Terry O'Rourke.

Barry Caver [00:36:14]:

He was also there to verify that everything was good, we were honoring our end of the bargain, so to speak. And she was allowed to get on the phone with

him to call back in and say, hey, everything's good, Captain Caver signed the cease fire agreement, [00:36:30] we have what we want. It was almost like it kind of surprised him, I think, in a way. Really? I mean, okay. But what it boiled down to later on, we found out, that by me signing that document, it gave them legitimacy as to him being the ambassador to the Republic of Texas, which obviously didn't exist. But by me, again, as my position as a captain with the Texas Rangers, that started in 1823, [00:37:00] I said it was legitimate. That's his logic. That's his mindset.

Finally, they gathered all their belongings. McLaren and Robert "White Eagle" Otto agreed to come out. They start walking down the road. They were met by the Rangers and state troopers, taken into custody. But McLaren wanted to see me. He wanted to shake my hand. And I thought that was really odd. I never would've dreamed, [00:37:30] of everything that we just went through for seven days, he wants to meet me and shake my hand. But again, we figured out at some point, too, that they wanted to be treated with dignity, respect, and again, to show their legitimacy on what they represented and who they represented. So there is a picture in Donna's book that is very fond to me, of me shaking his hand. But of course he's got handcuffs behind his back.

Jess Malone [00:38:00]:

Looks like Barry is picking his pocket.

Barry Caver [00:38:02]:

Yeah, I got a little jab here and there about that. But again, I don't remember if it was Donna's husband or who I was telling, I've never had anyone... Later on this went to federal court in Pecos. McLaren represented himself in court. He stood up in front of the judge and the jury to thank me. I was on the stand at the time. To thank me for handling him in such a way, giving him the dignity and respect he felt like he deserved. [00:38:30] It was really weird. I've never since then, probably never will again. But that's the kind of mindset that we were dealing with. But what happened, even though Evelyn came out, McLaren came out, Otto came out. We still had four people still in there, but they were willing to surrender in a military style of fashion. So in the back of Donna's book, there's a photograph that we took that symbolizes the [00:39:00] military-type surrender, when they line their guns up in a circular fashion. I'm not military, so I didn't

understand that concept, but that's what that is. That's why they wanted to do that.

So as we infiltrated the perimeter of the compound, we took Greg Paulson and Karen Paulson, took them into custody, but two [00:39:30] haul booty out the back way. So then we knew we had a totally different circumstance. Now we had everybody in custody. The scene was not secure, as Jess mentioned, of all the pipe bombs and these five-gallon propane tanks that rigged to blow up if we tried to ambush or tried to infiltrate their compound. So we knew what we were dealing with and we couldn't go after these other two. So that's where the TDC tracking dogs came in to assist us in tracking these people [00:40:00] down. And that's where Eric Pechacek, the TDC dog sergeant, used his own personal .30-06, as I recall, deer rifle, or may have been a 270, to kill one of the members after he shot one of the dogs that tried to attack him on the chase.

Jess Malone [00:40:21]:

Any questions or anything? I mean, we're kind of jumping around and everything. Again, when Evelyn McLaren came out, Terry O'Rourke [00:40:30] was her lawyer and his lawyer, representing them. Brilliant lawyer. I mean, they'd been talking to Dick DeGuerin. A lot of y'all have heard of Dick DeGuerin, and he's one of the most famous criminal lawyers in the world. And he was insisting that they talked to Evelyn first. And I said, no, we need Evelyn to come with us, and Evelyn needs to go in to the control room, which is a trailer that we were talking back to him, so we can get these people out. And he said, the Constitution. [00:41:00] I said, the Constitution has been suspended. She's coming with me. And she did. And of course, the next morning he's on Good Morning America and I'm going, oh God, I hope he doesn't say that.

But he didn't, he was a true gentleman. And it had a good outcome. I said, I'm not going to ask her anything regarding criminal charges. I just need her to call in to say everything is okay. And she did and it was fabulous. And like I said, they came out [00:41:30] and Captain Caver made the decision. Like I said, it's a fast timeline. But once they came out and the two absconded, we had to spend literally an entire day with multiple teams going up the canyon, defusing all of these bombs. And there were propane tanks wired. There was gasoline. Very volatile area. I mean, it's like a national forest. If you drop a match, and the wind

blowing like it was, it was perfect time of year for it. [00:42:00] Very dry. A lot of snakes, a lot of big rattlesnakes.

So we had to make a measured approach. And so we gave them eventually a day head start to get through this maze of obstacles and bombs and everything. But I'll pass it over to our author. Like I said, again, folks, it is been a blessing to me to look at the story beginning with Jo Ann Kennedy Turner and what precipitated this, because [00:42:30] we're results oriented. I didn't know who this lady was. I didn't know. I mean, I really didn't know much about the Republic of Texas. Quick story about what came of it that I enjoyed. I was sued by the Republic of Texas for \$750 million.

Barry Caver [00:42:48]:

Me too.

Jess Malone [00:42:51]

And they were notorious for this. And they would put these bogus liens on you. Try to go buy a car with a \$750 million lien on you. We had to get [00:43:00] the Attorney General's office involved and contact the three credit bureaus, Experian and all those people, to get this off my credit record. And these people would call, and even after all this happened, they would contact me and say, we had a trial based on your participation in Arkansas. And the results are the jury found you guilty and you're supposed to be hung. I mean, these people, although we cut [00:43:30] the head off the snake, the snake continues to exist. But the Texas legislature, and tell me politicians can't act in a fast form when they have to. They enacted three felony laws within three weeks. The legislature's never done anything in three weeks in their life, except chase women and get drunk.

Barry Caver [00:43:52]:

This was May 7th and the legislature stopped at May 30th of that month.

Jess Malone [00:43:56]:

Yeah. In 23 days, they enacted these three laws, which put [00:44:00] some teeth. I mean, I'll give McLaren credit where credit's due. He knew how to work the system. And he went down and filed these bogus liens. I mean, you could file a lien about anything. Well, this guy's wearing a purple pair of socks in my yard and

I'm going to file a lien against him. And that's kind of the way they were doing it. Texas didn't have real strong lien laws. Well, the legislature did that. And finally, boy, that put a stop to it, we had some around the middle of the Odessa area where we were stationed, and I put two or three of them in jail on felony charges. [00:44:30] And that stopped that nonsense.

Barry Caver [00:44:32]:

It also helps when they issued arrest warrants for then Governor George Bush and Attorney General Dan Morales. So we kind of had them on our side a little bit. So they had some vested interest.

Jess Malone [00:44:42]:

They were a little upset, and it was a little frustrating too. And one of those moments.

Audience Member 1 [00:44:46]:

In the State of Texas, they issued arrest warrants?

Jess Malone [00:44:49]:

Yes, for the Governor of Texas.

Barry Caver [00:44:49]:

In the Republic of Texas courts.

Jess Malone [00:44:52]:

Yep.

Barry Caver [00:44:53]:

Yes.

Audience Member 1 [00:44:55]:

As their independent?

Barry Caver [00:44:57]:

Yes.

Jess Malone [00:44:57]:

Yeah, they had their own independent court system, they were quite elaborate. [00:45:00] And like I said, we cut the head off the snake, but a huge group follows. Somebody put a \$750 million lien on you, it can really mess up your life. And they would call me on the phone. When are you going to pay your lien? And I just got so much of it, kind of frustrated. I mean, you can't do anything with that. Even the banks don't have any common sense. You've got a \$750 million lien. Me? Do I look like a \$750 million [00:45:30] kind of guy? I'd say, look, okay, all right, you're right. I owe you \$750 million. I said, I've got this dark alley that I'd like to meet you in, and I'll bring my checkbook.

Barry Caver [00:45:43]:

I'll pay you cash.

Jess Malone [00:45:45]:

Yeah, I'll pay you cash. And they would get kind of quiet and then just no. Hang up on you. God, it got so frustrating. They even put it on the District Attorney. A big lien on him, you know, and that's when he really started...

Audience Member 1 [00:46:00]:

So that's when the legislature...

Jess Malone [00:46:02]:

I mean, within 23 days, it was unbelievable. Because to pass a bill, much less a law. Yes, sir?

Audience Member 2 [00:46:10]

So did you end up with personal legal costs?

Jess Malone [00:46:13]:

No. The State of Texas bore any cost. Who was the Attorney General then? I don't remember.

Barry Caver [00:46:18]:

Dan Morales.

Jess Malone [00:46:19]:

Dan Morales. He sent Experian a fax.

Barry Caver [00:46:24]:

It was all quashed. It was totally bogus.

Jess Malone [00:46:26]:

Yeah. They said, oh, we'll remove that immediately.

Barry Caver [00:46:28]:

Yeah.

Jess Malone [00:46:28]:

And that's why I say God bless Texas, [00:46:30] Barry and I, and I don't want to offend anybody here from another state, but I would hate to see anything like this happen in another state. Because Barry and I went on a whirlwind speaking tour, and we would go and encounter these various agencies in other states and stuff. And the reputation, and the hierarchy, and the abilities of the Rangers played a crucial role in resolving this. And we would talk to frustrated, frustrated... Four corners area in North America, [00:47:00] had two deputies killed up there, and the convicts were running in the four corners, which is four different states.

Okay, now you got four different state police agencies involved. You got four different sheriff's offices involved from four different states. You've got four different Indian reservations involved from four different states. My God, they said it was a mess. They were trying to get somebody to do something, well, that's not my responsibility. You're not supposed to be over here. [00:47:30] You know, and that's what I say. We got all the credit thanks to him. He did a hell of a job and the Rangers did a good job. If it had went south, it would've been a bad job. But at the end of the day, there was no doubt who was running the show. And that was us. And thank God for Texas, for that. Yes, ma'am.

Audience Member 2 [00:47:48]:

Okay. And I may have misread or misunderstood, but the comment about, because of Waco, Janet Reno was hesitant to have the FBI involved. I know you

had that volunteer... [00:48:00] Well, first of all, as a public person, I'm kind of offended. I mean, would think the FBI should be involved. That sort of disturbed me to read that. Was that a good thing or a bad thing?

Jess Malone [00:48:16]:

Let me explain my view and then I'll let Barry explain his view.

Audience Member 2 [00:48:18]:

Okay.

Jess Malone [00:48:20]:

We had a massive federal agency response. Janet Reno, I think, called out there and spoke to Rich Garcia, who was the number two [00:48:30] FBI man for that area. It looked like the end of a University of Texas football game, they were leaving there so fast. Because they had already been exposed to all of this and they didn't see a good outcome for them. And it really wasn't a federal matter, for the most part. It was a state matter. But there's no use them risking the reputation. But they did. And I think Captain Caver asked, and you correct me. We asked for them [00:49:00] to leave a member of each agency there, and thus, Gary Noesner came out from FBI crisis. We had what they call the BORTAC unit, which that's the Border Patrol Tactical Unit. We didn't need the city tactical unit. There wasn't any cities within 100 miles of us. We needed these jungle warfare fighters from the border patrol. So we got specific guys that Captain Caver asked for. Let me give it back to you.

Barry Caver [00:49:27]:

Yeah. I mean, you look back at the track record [00:49:30] of FBI, they've got all kinds of black marks. Between Waco, Ruby Ridge, Oklahoma City, all these things led up to this.

Audience Member 2 [00:49:42]:

Yeah.

Barry Caver [00:49:42]:

They could not afford another black eye. And the public sentiment towards the FBI had drastically changed because of all those things. So personally, other

than Gary Noesner and Al Brantley, who was there as well, I mean, they helped us tremendously, as we touched on in the book. But [00:50:00] to be honest with you, we didn't want their help. We didn't need their help.

Audience Member 2 [00:50:04]:

But so the rationale was really, this isn't a federal matter, this is just a state matter.

Barry Caver [00:50:07]:

Correct. There was no federal nexus, as we call it in the business, to give them the authority or jurisdiction to handle that from a federal. They could have probably come up with some tax evasion or some off the wall something. But at the time, they wanted nothing to do with it other than our local FBI's. Well, Terry. What was Terry's last name? Anyway.

Donna Marie Miller [00:50:30]:

O'Rourke? Terry O'Rourke?

Barry Caver [00:50:32]:

No, it was the local FBI.

Jess Malone [00:50:333]:

No, he was the local FBI guy.

Barry Caver [00:50:33]:

Anyway, we had local support, but they were ordered by Janet Reno and President Clinton to get out. And again, we felt abandoned at first.

Audience Member 2 [00:50:42]:

Yeah.

Barry Caver [00:50:43]:

We don't need you.

Audience Member 2 [00:50:44]:

Yeah.

Barry Caver [00:50:45]:

We can handle this.

Jess Malone [00:50:46]:

And that's the great thing about Texas.

Audience Member 2 [00:50:48]:

That's what I said.

Jess Malone [00:50:48]:

I talked to David McEathron one night because we didn't know the forces we were up against. And in talking to David, he was assistant director of Texas Department Public Safety, [00:51:00] who is an army unto itself, about 8,000 state troopers and agents and everything. And I said, I think I need a 125 highway patrol cars. And this is one, even the next morning, I look up to my cup of coffee after my two hours sleep and there's 125 black and white patrol cars with engines running. Two in each car. There's 250 troopers. Talked to David, which we called him Peanut, and he said, [00:51:30] I want to make sure you had plenty. No place but Texas could you could do something like that. But the resources that we had to pull upon, and the support that we had all the way to the governor's office, enabled us to do our job.

Barry Caver [00:51:48]:

Yeah, we had one of the DPS commissioners in the command post with us, who's a good friend of ours from Midland, so we knew him before. But he was in direct communications with the governor's chief of staff and the governor. The governor actually called [00:52:00] me the morning of once we got resolved, to thank me for the way we handled it. So we have every resource we could think of at our disposal.

Jess Malone [00:52:10]:

And funny stories about these things. I'm in negotiations and this guy was a public safety commissioner. Affluent, appointed by the governor. And he walks in while I'm in negotiations and doesn't realize I'm on the phone. And it was one of those, "kids, I'm on the phone" moments. Except I turned around and cussed

[00:52:30] about four times and I said, shut the hell up. And I looked and I thought, I can't believe I just said that. And he comes by in about five minutes and I said, I'm going to need another job after this one. I just told the commissioner for the Public Safety Commission to shut the hell up. And he's going, it's fine. He came in about five minutes later.

Barry Caver [00:52:52]:

What are they going to do?

Jess Malone [00:52:54]:

I didn't know you were on the phone. Sorry.

Donna Marie Miller [00:53:00]:

I wanted to also add that once Mike Matson and Richard Keyes escaped into the mountains, and then Mike Matson was shot, Richard Keyes escaped and was not captured for months. It was about three months later. But you know, when this finally went to trial, the state prosecuted first on the main people who were responsible for the [00:53:30] hostage situation. And then they held the McLarens, and they held Otto, and they held Scheidt, and they held the Paulsons, and they held Keyes to await federal trial. The federal trial that was held in Dallas, first one was held in Dallas, was the mail fraud and bank fraud. And at the time of the standoff, there weren't a lot of people [00:54:00] that knew the type of mail and bank fraud that the ROT had been conducting. We're talking millions of dollars. And they were writing checks from the state's coffers using the official state seal to buy ammo, weapons, airfare, jewels, furs, you name it, and millions of dollars.

And they had a jeweler, [00:54:30] that I mentioned in my book, in Austin who was making them badges that resembled the Texas Ranger badges, out of silver. And they weren't paid for. But they had the gumption to write these checks and try to cash them in different banks around the country, one of which was in Puerto Rico. And it's so strange that it was cashed, because at least \$1 million was some of the money that McLaren was spending [00:55:00] before he actually was arrested and brought to trial. So we know that they were conducting these types of habits or whatever with different banks. But when they came to trial, they also tried them on violating the National Firearms Act, because they had modified so

many weapons and had used them [00:55:30] not just for target practice, but were planning to use them against certain individuals, one of which was Governor George W. Bush.

They really and truly, they would like to say now, well, we weren't going to hurt anyone. But they hurt a lot of people financially, with liens and writing these bogus checks. And they were threatening to kill people. Not just [00:56:00] people in big United States offices, but there's a rancher, the Walfords, that lived there in the Davis Mountain Resort, and they were threatening to kill him and his whole family at one point. So they might have been just blowing hot air, but it doesn't matter because they had plans. And when the Rangers went into the house, you'll see the pictures that Jess took of the house that they lived in. [00:56:30] They had books on how to make these modified weapons, and they created a magazine to invite other people to join up with them and to fight the US government to reclaim Texas as a nation of its own.

And when I interviewed Richard McLaren in 2018 in Amarillo, at William P. Clements Unit, he was [00:57:00] just as delusional as the day is long. He still believed that he was the rightful owner of this country, this nation of Texas. And he says, I was elected by the people. And I said, well, how many people? Who were the people? But he believed that he had the right to organize and run Texas as an independent nation. And many of the people that [00:57:30] fought with him that day in the standoff remain in jail. The only one that's really out and free, of course, is his ex-common-law wife, Evelyn. She lives in Dallas, the Fort Worth area. And then Otto was released under mandatory supervision in 2020, and Scheidt died of cancer in Colorado. But everybody else is still in prison. And Richard McLaren is not just in prison, he's in [00:58:00] isolation in prison. So he spent 25 years so far in isolation, being allowed out maybe once a day to get some fresh air.

Audience Member 3 [00:58:13]:

Is that federal prison?

Donna Marie Miller [00:58:14]:

This is a state prison, though. Because he has to serve his 99 years before he serves the 12 years the federal government sentenced him to.

Audience Member 3 [00:58:25]:

I was wondering, when you said he's in Clements Prison, if he knows [00:58:30] the name of the prison and the significance of that.

Barry Caver [00:58:35]:

Probably not.

Donna Marie Miller [00:58:36]:

I, probably, you know, we didn't get to that, because when you read the interview in the book, you'll see why. He really does feel that he's been wronged by the federal government. That he is the rightful owner of the nation of Texas.

Jess Malone [00:58:54]:

Judy, you know, a key point in there, just kind of a polite jab every now and then, when we were talking to these people. And they were all, [00:59:00] the Republic of Texas was illegally annexed, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. I said, where are you people from? And they're from Missouri.

Audience Member 3 [00:59:06]:

Oh, yeah?

Jess Malone [00:59:08]:

Evelyn was the only one that was a Texas resident. And of course that's when you hold the phone and you go, dear God, what are these people doing here from Missouri?

Audience Member 3 [00:59:16]:

Well, that would be my next question, why'd you come down here?

Jess Malone [00:59:20]

Why don't you go do this in Missouri?

Donna Marie Miller [00:59:21]:

When he was a boy, he fell in love with the whole mythology of Texas, and like the heroes of the Alamo, [00:59:30] many of them were not originally from

Texas. And he thought that he had a right to be the next hero to save Texas as a nation. And he really fell in love with the whole culture of Texas and moved here with his mom, and she became a librarian at the university there in...

Audience Member 2 [00:59:54]:

A&M.

Donna Marie Miller [00:59:55]

A&M, sorry. I had a moment. Yeah, Texas A&M University where she became a librarian [01:00:00].

Audience Member 2 [01:00:01]:

But the reason that I, and Chetney correct me, that I think took Rick to Fort Davis was he got into the wine business. Is that not true?

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:12]:

He was fascinated.

Audience Member 2 [01:00:03]:

He set up a winery.

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:14]:

That's right.

Barry Caver [01:00:15]:

Yes.

Jess Malone [01:00:16]:

I believe that is correct.

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:17]:

Yeah.

Audience Member 2 [01:00:17]:

Yeah.

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:18]:

And he did start working in a winery.

Audience Member 2 [01:00:14]:

He did?

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:14]:

And then he eventually, through adverse possession and writing liens on titles, he was able to get several lots and plant [01:00:30] his own vineyard. Yep.

Barry Caver [01:00:32]:

Yep.

Donna Marie Miller [01:00:33]:

That was his goal. Yes?

Audience Member 4 [01:00:36]:

Captain, can you comment? I never heard how Keyes was caught. I know he was caught some period of time later.

Barry Caver [01:00:43]:

Yeah, it was probably a week after we called the ordnance disposal team in to do away with the bombs. And then we finally started trying to track him. Of course, as you know, Doug, a week later is almost impossible. But because [01:01:00] the area and the mountains in Fort Davis are so remote, we knew he had to have had some kind of help. So we started getting tips through the FBI, finally came back and tried to help us a little bit with intelligence. And so we started getting tips of another group out of, I believe, New Mexico, wasn't it, Jess?

Jess Malone [01:01:19]:

Yes.

Donna Marie Miller [01:01:19]:

Yeah.

Barry Caver [01:01:20]:

The same kind of group out of New Mexico supposedly came and provided him transportation out of that area. He never would cooperate with us so we don't know exactly, [01:01:30] but we're pretty sure that's the way it went down. But he was subsequently found in the Houston area, just south of Huntsville in the National Forest there. FBI had done some surveillance on some other people that he knew and was involved with. So we started getting more tips and more information and they did surveillance. And finally he found where this gentleman was going out to the woods, providing him supplies and so forth. And we were able to get him out and was arrested in Houston about six months later, I believe.

Jess Malone [01:01:58]

Yeah. Cop to cop, I'll tell you during the break [01:02:00] what investigative technique was used. And Captain Caver and I believe the same. We've done some TV shows on this, or a TV show. And in law enforcement, there's a lot of things that... I mean, crooks watch TV. And so there's some things that we just don't talk about publicly. But there was one technique that was used that led to his apprehension.

Audience Member 2 [01:02:24]:

Who was the captain in Houston at that time?

Barry Caver [01:02:29]:

Let's see, that would've been '97.

Donna Marie Miller [01:02:30]:

Swiker? No, no, that's FBI.

Barry Caver [01:02:33]:

Earl. Earl Pearson, I believe, was still captain then. Yeah. But the FBI actually made the arrest on Keyes in the National Forest.

Jess Malone [01:02:43]:

And the way the law is, and you're familiar with it, Judy. Once he has a state charge and he absconds, you can automatically get a federal UFAP warrant. Unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. And that way, if he leaves Texas, if he goes to the Virgin Islands, the FBI can trail him.

Barry Caver [01:03:00]:

And he was from another state. Kansas, I recall. So we knew he possibly went out state. So we got the FBI from the UFAP side to help us with that.

Jess Malone [01:03:08]:

A lot of people, how'd he get away? How'd he get away? You just go out there in that country. I was stationed Pacos County as a highway patrol. It's larger than the state of Rhode Island.

Audience Member 2 [01:03:18]:

Yeah.

Jess Malone [01:03:18]:

One county.

Audience Member 2 [01:03:19]:

Yeah.

Jess Malone [01:03:20]:

And even given the vast resources we had, if you got the wherewithal to walk out of there, he was a tubby little guy. Let me tell you what. [01:03:30] We figured he was dead. But when they caught him in North Houston the guy looked like he'd been on Lean Cuisine and doing some workouts. What'd he lose, 100 pounds?

Barry Caver [01:03:43]:

Probably.

Donna Marie Miller [01:03:43]:

Wow.

Jess Malone [01:03:43]:

Life on the run. It trimmed him down.

Audience Member 1 [01:03:51]:

If we hadn't had Jo Ann in charge of filing the liens at that time, would we have ended up with a standoff by some other means?

Donna Marie Miller [01:03:59]:

I believe so. [01:04:00] Richard McLaren had been writing liens of his own for more than a year in the Davis Mountain Resort, against his neighbors and against Stewart Title Company. He had already been in jail for a month on contempt charges, and asked to stop writing liens. The people around the Davis Mountain Resort like their privacy, and they live there for that reason. [01:04:30] Some of the houses, Joe Rowe's house is just amazing. It's elaborate. We spent an afternoon, my husband and I, with him. But there's a lot of different variations of homes there. Like Richard McLaren's was just a trailer with a lean-to, and there are some sort of slapped together homes up there, but a lot of the people are retired oil company executives, and they want to live off the land and get off the grid. [01:05:00] And when Richard McLaren was bringing in all these people on the weekends for these war games, it was infringing upon their time.

When he set up his own court in the Jeff Davis County Courthouse, and he was writing wills, and he was doing marriages, and he was even giving immigrants right to live in Texas. There were a lot of things going on that were angering the neighbors. [01:05:30] It was only a matter of time. Albert Valadez had met with local sheriff and other people in town. Of course, Captain Caver had met with Bailey and other people about this. Several people knew that it was just a matter of time, that this was going to blow up. And the standoff may have had a catalyst with Jo Ann. I think it definitely did. Because [01:06:00] Richard McLaren saw, okay, she's been arrested, I'm next. What am I going to do to offset that from happening? And then when Robert Scheidt was arrested and almost killed, it did worry them that this was going to escalate very quickly.