

Otto: Copyright 1993, Otto Snow all rights reserved.

Marie: Should I start?

Otto: Sure.

Marie: My name is Marie Snow and I am the mother of Otto Snow and we live in Spring Hill, and I would like to tell you about the most horrible experience that we had. We lived in Hancock Maine before in 1985, oct 1985. At 11:00 at night we were all in bed and we heard this pounding on the door so I ran downstairs, and my husband and my son after me. And they were saying open the door or we'll break it in. And then six or seven officer after I opened the door barge in the house and push against the counter, like they were treating us like if we were criminal. And we asked them what it was all about. And they told us they had a warrant. To search our sons room. With the warrant they searched the whole house. They were there from 11:00 at night until 4 o clock in the morning. And none of this was true, there was nothing that was true.

Otto: maybe I should get into it. There was pounding on the side of the house what they were doing is they were taking their flashlights these big long hard plastic flashlights and banging and banging on the side of the house and we could hear let us in, let us in.

Marie: (inaudible) the door down.

Otto: my mother came down and opened the door and they came in. There was an officer, his name was Dennis Hayden and he forced both my mother and my father against the wall in the kitchen. They came in through the kitchen. He had them with their hands on the walls spread eagle. He was saying that he had a warrant to search the house for a drug lab. And I came downs stairs and the officers were yelling at me, where's the "stuff where's the stuff!" And I had a corporation, a chemical corporation that I started in 1985 it was incorporated with the state. And that day I received a package from Lancaster Synthesis in New Hampshire with one bottle of 500 grams of nitro methane and two bottles of 500 grams of nitro ethane and I just gave them the box, I said "here take it, get it out of here. I don't know what the story is with this if there's a problem with it." And they kept yelling at me "where's the stuff! Where's the stuff!"

My father asked to see the warrant. Dennis Hayden pulled out a sheet of paper and slammed in on counter in the kitchen and

slammed his fist on it and says here's your warrant. And the officers it was Dennis Hayden and Micheal Pratt continued yelling at me where's the stuff, they had their flashlights inches to my head. And I didn't know what they were talking about, and I said let me see the warrant, and I looked at it and it was for a controlled substance 2,5 dimethoxyamphetamine and it was written in there and its chemical precursors 2,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde and nitro ethane and nitro methane, and I said to them I'm not interested in producing any illegal substances, and I didn't have any. At that point my father said, my mother was leaning her hands were on the wall in the kitchen and she said she was feeling dizzy and was going to pass out, and Hayden kept yelling at her stay there and my father says no come into the dining room. So he went and sat in the dining room and my mother followed. I felt that these guys were going to kill my family. I said to them, I had given them the box before even seeing the warrant, he would get out of here. And then they wanted to see the dimethoxybenzaldehyde, because I had ten 100-gram bottles of this that were sealed. There was no laboratory. And I said I'll get it for you. And I went upstairs and trooper Appleton followed me and the slew of officers. Doctor James young was also present. he witnessed this. I opened my closet and I pulled out a knapsack that I had of 2,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde bottles and showed it to them. That all the bottles were sealed and I wasn't making anything illegal and Appleton looked at that he took that. At that point.

Marie: (inaudible)

Otto: Well its gonna take a little bit to get it out I don't want to keep going over this thing for years and years. Dennis Hayden and this Micheal Pratt began yelling at me where's the stuff where's the money, holding their flashlights next to my head and yelling in my ears and I didn't know what they were talking about, there was no money there was no stuff or controlled substances. Then Dennis Hayden says why don't we go downstairs I'll take you downstairs and he says to me do you want to sleep here tonight. And I says yeah and he says well if your cooperative then you can sleep here tonight. And I says well I am being cooperative there's nothing here. And he says well let's go out into the car, outside into his car. And we go out into his car and I'm sitting there in his car and he reads me my miranda and before this he was saying to me if your not cooperative your

going to spend the night in jail and if you are cooperative you'll get to sleep at home. So I waived my miranda rights, he had his flashlight next to my head. His eyes were glaring out like he's a madman. He smelt like dirty socks I don't know,

Marie: (inaudible)

Otto: yeah but it was true the guy stunk. And I explained some chemistry to him. And he had a little recorder on him and he stops it and he says are you going to be cooperative or not and rewinds this thing and then starts again, asking me what I was intending on producing or what I was doing with these things, so I explained it out to them various molecules. He stops it again and he says do you want to stay here tonight, and I says yes I do. And he says then you better start being cooperative, he asked me what I'm doing with these chemicals and I said I don't know, what does he want me to say. And then I mentioned to him, he said did you know that when dimethoxybenzaldehyde and nitro ethane are mixed they produce DMA and only DMA, which is a controlled substance. And I said no I don't know that. Because it's not true. I said I can give you a whole list on what chemicals that can be used to create. That was it, he wasn't interested in any of that. I was taken back into the house, he says I wasn't being placed under arrest or anything like that. And then I was brought back upstairs where they continued to- they tore my room apart, throwing my books, my paperwork, going through everything I had. The put the flashlights next to my head and kept repeatedly yelling into my ears, where's the stuff, where's the money where's the stuff over and over. We're not going to make it quick, I'm sick of keeping this thing silent. I want to get it over with, he says- forget it, fuck it, sick of it, fuck it.

Marie: it wasn't that Otto but lets not stretch it, that's what I mean,

Otto: well that's what they did with my fucking life is stretch it and I want to get it on tape, I'm sick of keeping quiet about it.

Marie: okay lets finish it. (inaudible)

Otto: no I want to say what they did to my room, and I had- doctor young was there and I had quite a few mushroom cultures, I've had these cultures for years there all obtained legally. And Pratt starts yelling at me that all mushrooms are illegal and then he's taking my girly magazines and he's throwing it at me bouncing them off my head, they're still yelling at me where's the stuff where's the money.

They tore apart my closet, I had miscellaneous lab equipment from when I went to college for chemistry, then I was shaking all over. I didn't know what was going on with these people. Just destroying my room throwing everything and I had about 300 books and they tore them, just threw them all over the place. All my paperwork. I was trying to talk to Dr. Young, as soon as we started getting into conversation I was explaining the chemistry, these guys these officers started yelling at me some more. I was so shook up from this whole thing, I went for a valium, and I hadn't taken valiums in years, and I don't like taking any of that crap, and I went for a valium, and Hayden grabbed the bottle out of my hands and says oh well we don't want you committing suicide. And I said I'm just taking one valium I'm not going to commit suicide. And he takes a valium out of the bottle and gives it to me. And doctor young said to bring me downstairs and at that point Hayden scored me downstairs. I was sitting with my mother and my father in the dining room, and there was an officer there and he was telling us about how he was told that each bottle of these chemicals were worth something like what was he saying like \$100,000 a piece.

Marie: (inaudible)

Otto: and he was talking about how he was having a hard time, the officers were having a hard time getting overtime, and how could someone live with what they were getting paid, and he would have to make phone calls every so often into somewhere throughout the time that were sitting there. And my mother had to go to the bathroom, and he's following her into the bathroom and he's saying to me and my father you're not going to leave. Like where are we going to go. No were not going to leave. And then Hayden comes back downstairs, oh um this officer was saying that he was told by some of these officers that these bottles could be sold for \$100,000 or some figure down at a local bar. I'm not even sure that the bars worth \$100,000. None of this made any sense, and then Hayden comes down and he says I'm under arrest. And I ask him for what, and he said for the stuff. And that's all I was told, I was taken into his car. I was driven to the Hancock, the Ellsworth jail, the book there that was after one of the book

Marie: Yes it was.

Otto: and this was on the 19th by that point, all the papers he had put down the 18th it wasn't. The officers by this point I was as white as a ghost I thought I was going to pass out, I stopped. I couldn't sweat, I didn't sweat for years afterwards I don't know what that was. And then Hayden took off and the officers printed me and went through whatever in the Ellsworth jail and I was ready to pass out and they got me a chair that I could sit in, and they said was there a laboratory there and I said no there was no laboratory. And they told me what I was being booked for, and Hayden giving me some yellow piece of paper, a summons of some traffic violation summons of psilocybin and dimethoxyamphetamine

Marie: \$17 for the bail.

Otto: yeah it was \$17 for me to get out in the morning. But during the whole night the officers asked if the officers had asked me if I wanted to go to the hospital, and i'm petrified of hospitals. I wouldn't go to the hospital. every hour throughout the night, they came and looked on me and asked me if I was alright. They were real kind. they gave me water and they left the light on in the cell area because I can't be in dark rooms, terrified. In the morning I was let out on \$17 bail. Went back home and my room was just totally torn apart. There was miscellenaous chemicals on the floor. They had taken my organic chemistry journal articles that I had photocopied over period of something 10 years. The rest of my chemistry papers were spewed about the room I have photos of it. Hayden had searched not only my room but searched your room

Marie: yes they were, because we found drawers that were open a little. And we never leave a drawer open. And also they had gone into the living room and they had opened the desk and they had looked at different things in the living room, which we couldn't see them from the dining room but we could tell that things were disturbed (inaudible)

Harry: I think that everything has been covered pretty well. (inaudible) to say is what did happened

Otto: we're in fear of our lives. I thought that they were going to kill my family. I thought that they were going to kill me. Those flashlights weren't held for helping their lighting they were held like billy clubs next to my head as they screamed in my ear. It continued it wasn't

something where- they just kept doing it over and over for an extended period of time, there was nothing there.

Marie: so we went and got a lawyer, and he wasn't what you call a real-

Otto: no, I don't want to have you to get into your personal peeves. Got an attorney and I was supposed to appear in court, I appear in court they didn't call my case up. So I'm wondering what's going on. My attorney appears it was who I had I don't know which attorney were talking about, at this time I had attorney Kasaris handling the case. And he motions to me on the door and I go out of the court room and say, has this been straightened out or what. And he mentions that there was no state charges against me. And I said well its good they came to their senses. And he said their going to bring it to a grand jury because its a hot potato for the state. And they want to get it out of their hands. Another thing he mentioned was that they ha- he was told that they had come in too early. Other terms for this are usually civil rights violation. I said well I wanted to see the affidavit for the warrant, cause Hayden kept saying when you mix dimethoxybenzoyldehyde with nitro ethylene it makes dma. And he said attorney Karsaris couldn't get me the affidavit for the warrant until after the grand jury but I could have a look at it in the clerks office. So I went into the clerks office he said not to take it, so I went into the clerks office and there sits the affidavit to the warrant on the counter and I start reading it. And it said that supposedly the dea had called up this Dennis Hayden of the Maine state police and told him that when the 2 5 dimethoxy benzaldehyde and nitro ethylene are mixed together that they produce dimethoxy amphetamine and only dimethoxy amphetamine which is an outright lie. No dea agent or a chemist from the dea- no chemist from the dea would say something like that. This was an outright lie. Also in the affidavit to the warrant it mentioned that in order to confirm that mr snow was making a controlled substance that he would be ordering nitro ethane and nitro methane which are chemical precursors to dma. And that would confirm this. Nitro methane would attach a straight chain its not used to make amphetamines. It didn't make any sense. So I told attorney Karsaris and he went and spoke with these judges, and that's what these judges had said oh that was a hot potato this and that and- so Karsaris made a motion to the court during the grand jury a court

reporter present and he gave this to- there was no court reporter present, it was dirty laundry they wanted to get rid of it. and the next thing you know its at a federal level. From this point I can't get any of my papers to defend myself in court.

Marie: they took everything else

Otto: yeah they took all my papers. Meanwhile this thing drags on for a year and all sorts of motions, and all these motions denied. We wanted to bill of particulars? wanted to know exactly how I was going to continue making this controlled substance. The judge was saying oh, he went along with the US AG assistant AG Nichola guess that have to have a bill of particulars? I mean yeah its like guilty before proven innocent. Terrible I had no rights whatsoever. I kept saying, ill just shut it off. Back again, what was I discussing. Anyways it was going to go to a grand jury and after I came out of the court room in Hancock- in Ellsworth I developed a migraine headache, I still have this headache, I still feel pain right in here. It got so severe that I began shaking all over and the blood began pouring out of my nostrils. I was afraid it was going to stop. I was treated like garbage in the area at that time. It was all over the paper. The papers just full of garbage. It says I was intending on making mda and I ordered these two chemicals used to make mda, and \$600 it worked out to-

Marie: 600,000

Otto: \$600 a gram or something ridiculous. I just had to leave the area . So I went into Portland and stayed with a friend down there. And I was getting such terrible headaches and nightmares, insomnia. I was constantly in fear. I knew I had no rights whatsoever if they can come busting in to someones house on a warrant that's a lie, then they can do anything. I was petrified. I was brought into the hospital in Portland and I was examined and they wanted to give me a medication for my migraines but I didn't want to take that because I wanted to keep my faculties. They wrote down, caused from the arrest. I had to go back a second time because I was losing it so I couldn't sleep at all. They gave me sleeping pills. All the drugs that I fought against for years, nutrition we should do research on neurochemicals, now because of this im having to take all these drugs. Some friends said maybe if I get a job. They found some job for me at a camera shop, and I didn't know what I was doing. I was just walking around in circles there for three days. I didn't know what

was going on. The ups man came in he looked like Darth Vader to me. Some sort of, anything with a uniform petrified me. I had to stop. I couldn't continue working there I wasn't sleeping. My bowel movements I was so constipated I was passing blood. It was a really bad. I went into to get some help at the clinic

Marie: Maine medical

Otto: yeah Maine medical and they continued to give me, I got another prescription for halcyon sleeping pills tablets. and then I went and saw a psych? and I think a psychologist. I went and saw a psychiatrist, he was kinda (inaudible) but that's just my personal opinion. He told me to discontinue the tranquilizers I was taking centrax I think at the time, I received some centrax in Ellsworth from a psychiatrist and physician up there. And discontinued the halcyon sleeping pills to taking nor a tricyclic antidepressant which has stimulant effects. And I argued with him over it. I said my mothers allergic to all these serotonin reuptake blocking tricyclic antidepressants and I didn't think it would be safe for me to take them. And he says oh no it will help you sleep. I was diagnosed with all sorts of things. I took one of those tablets and it woke me right up, and I didn't sleep at all, pure insomnia. Following day I hopped on a bus and came back to Ellsworth. At times in between all this I didn't have a car, I would break down. I didn't know what I was doing or where I was going on these buses. I got to Ellsworth, my folks came and got me. I began seeing a psychiatrist who provided sedatives for me. This thing- I had an attorney from old orchard and we tried getting the affidavit to the warrant and all we got was papers that were crumbled up kind crumbled up and photocopied from the us age office, I guess a Nicholas guess was in charge of that. He used to work for the state AG's office and had some advancement and this was his first case. We couldn't get photocopies that we could read. Kinda crumbled up I still have these photocopies. This is ridiculous. I had asked for my paperwork so I could defend my case. I couldn't get my paperwork. I was getting into states of deep depression. When I got into Ellsworth I went and saw a psychiatrist who was providing sedatives and I change lawyers again, because I felt that I should get an attorney that was familiar with the federal system. I went an got attorney stern, and at this point attorney stern had put a motion to suppress the warrant because the affidavit to the warrant

was done, he lied in it. The judge said that we would have to get our own authorities to investigate this cop and these lies. I mean this is so ridiculous. I went before getting stern and I went with attorney Weinstein to meet with mr guess and explain the chemistry out to him. Everytime we received the transcripts Hayden was there and I tried to explain the chemistry to them and the transcripts everytime I would explain the chemistry to them there was a line, just put a line, they couldn't even spell. They weren't interested in what I was doing. They just wanted to screw me.

Marie: well you going to keep on talking or what

Otto: yeah for a little bit. my mother was mentioning I bounce around a lot, i'm always pressured its always working on this thing and pressured. I have to go back to where Neil Weinstein, attorney Weinstein and myself met with guess and this Dennis Hayden was present. And attorney Weinstein asks we couldn't even make out who had signed this warrant, who would allow this warrant, and he asked Hayden who signed this warrant, Cortland perry. At first he said the blind justice- the blind judge had signed the warrant, and attorney Weinstein said what do you mean by that, and he said he will sign anything. Both of us were appalled. What's going on, Haydens a liar and had to go to Augusta to get some judge. I didn't comprehend what he meant from this. I thought is this judge actually blind. There was no facts from the DEA saying that this reaction that Hayden was talking about was true. There was no statement that this Dennis Hayden spoke with doctor young, which was the chemist called in by the state, that when you poured these two chemicals together that it made this. Or that any other chemicals could be produced using these chemicals. Its pretty poor. Let me tell you its pretty poor. If this is what they call law enforcement and justice.

Marie: inaudible later on

Otto: yeah well. Stern went and saw a judge and mentioned that he wanted the warrants suppressed. They said we would have to get an authority, our own authority. I mean was saying that there was a law enforcement officer who is a liar that should be looked into. At that point I was telling the people around what was going on and they were giving me all sorts of information on not only the law enforcement but also the smugglers in the area. I can't at this time go into it but I am willing to give this information to the justice

department and not the drug enforcement administration. From there this thing ? On for a year. When we tried to- when attorney stern tried to get the bill of particulars, we couldn't get the bill of particulars. I was going to be put on trial they take out my miscellanous hobby sized equipment and my paperwork. I ? On trial for being a neuro chemist in the state of maine. The state of Maine doesn't want neuro chemist. They can just kick them out. I think it was Robert ? The father of ? He was kicked out of Massecheusett. Well mass didn't want him there at the time, kick them out. But Maine they take you through the system. It was horrible. It finally got to the point where I was on Xanax Navane halcyon all these sedatives and sleeping pills. And I couldn't get the papers we couldn't get the exculpatory evidence so that I could build a case. So I had to drive to the university of Orono to go through start doing searches to build the case. I went 40 miles on these drugs, terrible. So I wrote out all the chemistry I wrote a thick thing I call it justice. I gave it to my attorneys. At that point stern had passed the case to billings. Stern had to go into an operation on his back. Then they said that I could do a plea bargain using the Alford plea not admitting guilt. I couldn't get a fair trial. Simultotanouly when I signed this paper the FBI and the state were investigating Dennis Hayden and Micheal Pratt and another officer for coursing witnesses to lie in court, committing purgery, lying to get warrants. No-one told me anything about any of this. This is what I said right from the beginning that this guy was a liar and they threatened us and intimidated us.

Marie: and they were fired

Otto: and they were fired. After I signed that thing. After I signed and my case wasn't processed. I was supposed to be some big drug lab, I don't know king pin or something and then the case isn't processed. These guys get fired, i'm screaming for justice and everyones trying to shut me up. I developed severe post traumatic stress disorder. Im suffering with it today. I went through a free information act, to get information on the FBI investigation which was denied because it would be a violation of their privacy. To me that's kind of- that's why I'm setting this tape up because I'd like to see that FBI investigation. I wasn't given that. I was the one who was screaming out that these guys were liars. I applied afterwards, I was told I should apply for SSI, I didn't know what was going on. I'm having nightmares,

gastrointestinal problems by this point, no sex drive, constipation, migraine headache, this was during when they were investigating, they had fired one officer. There was another one. This Hayden was still on the loose. I was told by one of these probation officer that if any of these officers approached me at all to immediately call him. If they contacted us by phone or anything. We were petrified, we had just been taken through the ringer, and I called social security and I said just cancel my application. And now they're telling me they denied me. They didn't even get my medical paperwork. Swept under the rug.

Marie: and then (inaudible)

Otto: no one told me I had post trauma, I saw it in one of the papers and I asked the psychiatrist what is this post trauma, he's says oh your nightmares. And simultaneously I was having nightmares with the police. I was getting flashbacks, its just triggered the flashbacks of what had happened with my parents in New Hampshire. I was just bouncing all over the place. I didn't know all these problems I was getting was the post trauma. No one told me

Marie: we thought you was going insane .

Otto: thought I was losing my mind, until a Vietnam war veteran told me it sounded like post trauma and that's when I started looking into it, started asking for help. My father afterwards, the pressure was so severe on him he started smoking cigarettes and developed cancer again. And three quarters of his vocal cords were removed. I passed out in the hospital. He died in the intensive care and the doctor brought him back to life. Show him the scars.

Harry: there's no scars as you can see

Marie: just the scars from his voice because he can't talk very long now. His normal voice is gone.

Otto: since 85 I have suffered with this post traumatic stress disorder I'm still taking tranquilizers, still having sleeping problems, gastrointestinal problems the whole bubble wax, I received 6 months of psychotherapy and its allowed me the strength to even do this tape. Even when I started going over this thing it was overwhelming. It seems to me that the united states of America and the government wants to see scientists and wants to have technology, then they should assist people with it instead of allowing like nick guess to use it for his political career and the court systems to conceal that these

officers were dishonest. And i'm not saying all officers are dishonest because that isn't true. But when you point and you say these people are doing wrong and they just toss you aside. There's a lot of people crying out that there's a lot of things wrong.

Marie: Hayden was the head of the

Otto: tri country cocaine task force

Marie: he was the head of that

Otto: and I don't know what he was does or what he was doing was being-

Marie: but he was fired

Otto: he was fired Pratt was fired, another officer. But it was Hayden Pratt who were the real nasty dudes.

Marie: they offered him a felony

Otto: I wouldn't take the felony

Marie: and then they offered him a misdemeanor. And then finally they decide that they would, what did they do with the case

Otto: they just didn't process it, they just sealed it.

Marie: they didn't process it sealed it

Otto: but i'm left with my head is killing me, terrible migraine built up from trying to build up to do this tape. I get very feisty over the whole thing. I can't concentrate.

Marie: its very hard for us to isn't it

Harry: that is very true

Marie: to live with it very hard

Otto: I didn't have all these problems before that happened. And it started at that point the severity of these things I can- Ill just read through them so these people might be able to wake up who might be watching this

Harry: (inaudible) paperwork

Otto: I have anxiety, I had a little anxiety before that. repetitive nightmares I never had repetitive nightmares until that arrest, depression, I never had depression, insomnia, poor concentration,

Marie: post trauma

Otto: yeah this is the post trauma, I get weakness every day I have to lay down. I can't work on paperwork too long. I'm pretty aggressive I don't like people screwing with me. I have an anal fissure that at times really drives me up the wall. Gastrointestinal pain into my Lower abdomen and into my ? I had this since, migraines, I had this spot

right here it hurts now, it hurts since I came in, rage reactions, phobias I don't like seeing uniforms or cop hats. I've talked with officers after that and they were good people. But They just can't wear hats or anything like that. I can't watch tv shows where there- anything with-

Marie: violence

Otto: yeah violence and stuff like that. I get panic attacks. I was having three panic attacks a day. I didn't know what these things were. I have eating disorders. I have to be careful of food I eat. I've also been diagnosed with obsessive compulsive traits. Ive been working on trying to get through this things since it happened. When we went to Maine the last time attorney Stern was nice enough to allow me to photocopy all of my court documents so I could really look into these things. I was gradually able to piece meal, put the thing together, and I have it on disk, I have print outs of it. You guys add something, I know I forgot some things on here.

Marie: this is a terrible thing to let go on like this. Those officer were dishonest, they were liars, they prove it because the FBI investigated the state troopers in Maine, and the head of the state trooper was replaced by another one, so something wasn't right, don't you think so

Harry: that is true. Something- I don't know how they came up with this so called procedure that they went through because its not according to law.

Marie: and my husband was never arrested, I was never arrested. So I don't know where they took information to come into our house like that. My son went to a lawyer and he had all the papers that he needed. And all that they were, were liars and they were getting away with it because they figured they're getting advancement. And that's why those two men were fired. There were three men that were fired. And that's a good thing. More of them should be fired when their dishonest because there's a lot of good honest police men.

Otto: it gives good law enforcement a bad name when they get trash like this and then everyone conceals it and covers it up

Marie: well I guess that's about all, we could keep on going.

Otto: it was hard enough doing this

Marie: yes it was. To relive it.

Otto: just look at the affidavit to the warrant. It's an outright lie. He didn't ask anyone. There was no facts from the DEA. Maybe the DEA called him, so what. The chemicals I was interest, I have all the equations, I gave the equations to my attorneys and the references to them. There still legal today as long as there not intended for human consumption, used for research. I can't do chemistry now. I couldn't get near a test tube. I get this constant going through my mind. Got to be justice here somewhere.