

PART II

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**DEFENDING
THE ART**

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THE DEPOSITION

Shortly after my meeting with Kevin Ward, the defense counsel accompanied me to the office of the chief deputy prosecutor, Bill Williams, in the courthouse. A tall, relaxed, and clean-cut man, Williams had a genial manner and was courteous and friendly throughout the deposition. He had worked as a deputy prosecutor in various counties since graduating from law school in 1999. Before earning his law degree, he was a certified legal intern in a prosecutor's office, a caseworker in a "child support division," and a receptionist in another prosecutor's office. He had even served as a probation officer for a period of time, "so . . . I primarily went back to law school to be involved in the law enforcement side of the legal system." Williams indicated that his opinion about the death penalty had evolved over the years. He was supportive of the death penalty; however, time spent trying death row and murder cases had "certainly tempered" his view. He believed that it should be conservatively applied in only the most egregious circumstances. We convened in a conference room with a court transcriber.

Ward was brought in soon after. He appeared almost jovial, saying hello to Williams, Jackie Chief, and her co-counsel before greeting the court reporter by her first name. However, when Ward heard that he was to sit quietly and would not be allowed to ask questions, it visibly upset him. His defense counsel requested a few moments to speak with Ward alone; Williams, the court reporter, and I left the room and waited outside for about 10 minutes.

Williams and the court reporter were friendly, asking many questions about Tallahassee and Florida State University, and making some vague inquiries about art therapy. We were quite careful not to discuss