

Appendix A: Summary of Text Messages Between Smith and Nelson

The text messages are between Lyle Nelson and Susan Smith from the dates of 6/7/2022 through 10/3/22 and 3/23/23 through 6/4/2023, and they span 232 pages.

The text messages were recovered from the iPad of Susan Smith, the former CEO of Visit Bastrop by City of Bastrop IT staff. The iPad was purchased with public funds and the cellular account Susan used to send these messages were purchased with public funds from the City of Bastrop.

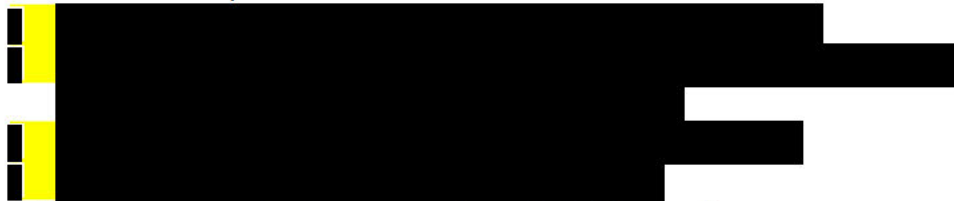
Lyle and Susan use code names for each other – **Jett** for Lyle and **D. Springs** (Dripping Springs) for Susan so that the names Lyle and Susan do not pop up on each other’s phone notifications in a way that might alert others to their relationship. Lyle’s wife’s code name is, **The Warden**.

Relationship Status

The relationship forms around the following dates:

- 6/18/22 – 8/25/22: playful flirting (p. 4-27)
- Starting 8/25/22: implied and explicit intimacy references (p. 28, 32, 36, 44, 47, 48, 51, 52, 53, 56-59, 60, 66, 67, 68, 71-73, 80, 116, 117, 144, 160, 170, 172-173, 181-182, 184, 188, 229)

○ Some of the most explicit are:



- Starting 10/1/22: Susan started referring to Lyle as ‘baby’ (p. 118)
- 10/3/22 to 3/23/23: 5.5 months of missing messages
- Starting 3/23/23, Susan and Lyle exchanging near-daily “I Love You” text messages. (p. 122-232).
- Starting 3/28/23, Lyle started referring to Susan as his “girlfriend” (p. 129, 175, 177)

Index to other information contained within the text messages:

- Various mentions of Lyle’s wife, Jennifer, also nicknamed, **The Warden** (p. 136, 103-105, 118, 153-154, 162, 179, 223).
- Susan concerned about people knowing about their relationship or getting caught (p. 38, 69, 99, 153, 181, 207)
- Directives to delete messages from each other (p. 51, 66, 117)
- Susan telling Lyle that she is proud of him (p. 131, 156, 166, 190), just like in the phone call described by Stephanie Doradea in her official statement to the city of Bastrop. This demonstrates this phrase, along with ‘baby’, was commonly used by Susan to refer to Lyle.
- Visit Bastrop Funding Discussions (p. 202-203, 207, 208, 229)

- Meal & Entertainment Expense references, many with Lyle Nelson in attendance (p. 2x1, 3-4, 6, 5-6, 7, 10, 12, 14-18, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31-47, 31, 33, 35, 42, 55, 57, 61, 62-64, 2x69, 71-75, 78, 2x82, 92, 94, 99, 101, 111, 113-114, 123, 126, 133-145, 166, 171, 174, 177, 178, 183-184, 187, 191-192, 196, 201, 216, 220, 230)