

On 9/15/20 I, SSA Brent Gromer, was in Pierre at DCI Headquarters for new Agent interviews. I was sitting in Asst. Director Scott Rechtenbaugh's office waiting for the interviews to begin. Dir. Natvig was also in AD Rechtenbaugh's office and we were making small talk. Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg came to the door of the office and Dir. Natvig exited AD Rechtenbaugh's office and I heard the door to Dir. Natvig's office close a short time after he left with AG Ravnsborg. A few minutes later AG Ravnsborg came to the open door of AD Rechtenbaugh's Office and motioned me to come with him. I followed AG Ravnsborg to Dir. Natvig's office. I partially closed the door behind me, but did not close it completely. AG Ravnsborg invited me to sit. I moved an item from the chair and sat. AG Ravnsborg was initially sitting on the sofa. He informed me that he had 2 cell phones. He said one of the phones was a personal or "campaign phone" and the other phone he referred to as an "AG" phone. He started to ask me questions about digital forensics on the phones. He explained he has an app called "On My Way". He stated this app provides benefits to users who do not use their phone while driving. He stated this app continually "pings" and it was sending notifications after the phone had been placed into "airplane mode". He asked if this app would make it look like he was using his phone. I explained that cellular telephones are constantly on the network and the towers will handshake when a device is moved from one tower to the next. He then explained that phone was powered on, but locked on the seat of his vehicle until the accident occurred. He told me during the accident the phone slid off of the seat and onto the floor board. He then informed me that he was not on either phone at the time of the accident. He stated he left Redfield and called his father and talked to his father for 23 minutes. He advised the call with his father was dropped when he lost cellular service near Miller. AG Ravnsborg stated when he regained cellular service he called his father back to inform him he had not hung up on his father. AG Ravnsborg advised this was the last time he had used his phone prior to the accident. AG Ravnsborg told me he just wanted to educate himself about any data which may be recovered from the phones. Dir. Natvig came into his office and took a seat behind his desk. Zach Merrill, DCI IT, came into Dir. Natvig's office and retrieved an iPhone from Dir. Natvig. AG Ravnsborg provided Zach with a blue and tan case for the phone. He told Zach that he would like to activate the new phone with his same number. I relayed a story about a case I had worked in a fatality accident where the phone created a screenshot of a subject's Facebook page. I told them in that case the image was created near the time of the accident. I explained to them that the evidence in the phone was supported by the evidence on the scene of the accident related to the phone in the case I was referring. AG Ravnsborg told me he was not on either phone at the time of the accident. He told me that he called 911 within seconds of the accident. He said he then activated the flashlight on the phone and looked around the scene of the accident. I told him the 911 call would show up in the forensic analysis of the phone and indicated the activation of the flashlight may also be available in the phones data. He then asked me if an email would show up. I told him an email sent would log the date and time it was sent. He asked about other data that could be recovered. I told him that I knew the ICAC Commander from North Dakota and explained he is highly trained in Mobile Device Examinations and assured him that North Dakota would conduct a thorough investigation of the data extracted from his mobile devices. I assured him that their investigation will reveal any evidence contained in the cellular phones. I told AG Ravnsborg that I was sorry that this happened and stood and left the room. I relayed all of the activities during this meeting to AD Rechtenbaugh

and AD Brian Zeeb.