

The rancher was asked if he had ever given Smith any type of gratuity or thing of value without Smith paying for it. The rancher stated that, given Smith's position, he knew he was unable to accept gifts, and he could not recall ever giving Smith anything of value without charging him. The rancher stated that Smith would have paid for the bison skull. Likewise, had Smith killed the bison elsewhere, there would have been a \$300 or \$400 price tag attached to the hunt alone, so Smith would have paid for the hunt as well.

When asked if there was any discussion about the designation of the Houston port at this event, the rancher said he could not recall specifically, as there were roughly 30 people in attendance and he was not privy to all of the conversations, but he vaguely recalled some brief mention of it. The rancher advised that those in attendance were aware of the pending designation at the time of the meeting.

The rancher advised that he has never been hunting with Smith and does not interact with Smith outside of formal meetings or conventions. He stated that as far as he knew, the bison was the only animal Smith had ever shot on his ranch.

The rancher agreed to provide agents with any invoices he could locate where either the ranch or his other business had billed Smith. The rancher subsequently supplied this office with invoices, business notes, bills, and copies of checks written by David Smith to the ranch. *Agent's note: The taxidermy invoice provided by the rancher, and one of Smith's checks, were written after this case was initiated and interviews conducted. A previous check from Smith to the rancher is dated 6/2/2005 but appears to be unrelated to the December 2004 bison hunt. The note in the memo item references "Sika Deer Taxidermy."*

The taxidermist was also asked about the December 3, 2004 SCI meeting at his ranch. The taxidermist advised that for the past few years, SCI has been holding their annual meeting at the Smith's friend's ranch. According to the taxidermist, it is typical for SCI to invite prominent figures in government and politics to these annual events, as well as the heads of different hunting groups, so everyone could meet, have lunch, and talk about making things better and educating hunters. The taxidermist stated that he invited both David Smith and one of the FWS law enforcement officials to the December 2004 meeting at the ranch. In fact, the taxidermist advised that Smith had attended the past few annual meetings at the ranch. The taxidermist stated that he would contact Smith to make sure Smith's schedule was clear and that Smith would also have business in Houston at that time, which would permit him to travel on the government and also attend the SCI event.

When asked if the designation of the Houston port was discussed at this event, the taxidermist said he could recall Smith saying something about it, but nothing specific.

When asked if David Smith had shot and killed a bison while on the ranch, the taxidermist advised that he had. According to the taxidermist, they were going to kill one animal on the ranch and the group decided David Smith should have the honors. The taxidermist said they trailed a bison in a vehicle and, when they were close enough, David Smith got out of the vehicle, along with a guide, and shot the bison in the eye from approximately 20 yards away. When asked what happened to the meat from the kill, the taxidermist stated that it was his belief that individuals in attendance took some of the meat home. He stated that David Smith may have taken some of the meat. He also stated that Smith wanted to keep the bison's skull and that he had it sent to his friend's taxidermy shop to be cleaned and mounted. When asked how much he charged Smith for the skull, the taxidermist said he did not think he charged Smith. According to the taxidermist, the skull would have been sent to him via the ranch or