

Text Messages Between David Anthony Burke and Celeste Rivas Hernandez

Transcribed by Justice Case Analysis from Day 5 Preliminary Hearing – 7/27/26

The following is a written transcript of the text exchanges between David Anthony Burke and Celeste Rivas Hernandez from April 23, 2024, the day that Celeste was allegedly killed.

This transcript was extracted from a YouTube Video presented by Trap More Ross who was at the hearing and took incredible notes to share with the public.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARuCj55PgS4>

Please note that these text communications may be heavily paraphrased and not verbatim, but it gives the general idea of the conversation that took place. I also kept in some of the commentary (in green) for context because Trap has followed this case closely and knows a great deal of background.

David came in court. He was in a chatty decent mood. He was kind of cracking some jokes with the courtroom clerk and his lawyer about being really thirsty and he wanted some water. We saw him have a drink. Celeste's parents were in the courtroom today. So basically they said that there were literally 8 or 9,000 texts from the last bit of testimony up until um the day that Celeste was killed. his supposed love triangle between David Celeste and Asia, it came up.

April the 22nd, the day before Celeste was allegedly murdered.

Celeste messaged David and said, "**But can you tell me why you want to be friends with Asia?**"

David replied basically saying she was a friend of his.

She then followed up and said, "**Bro, just bump into her. There's no need for friendship. Keep her as an acquaintance like Lane (Cooperstein) or Rob (Morganroth).**"

So, Aysia, Lane, and Rob all came up.

Celeste follow that up by saying, "**And you're really saying you'd end our friendship just to be friends with her over me.**"

And then she said, "**That's disturbing and disgusting to me on a deeper level.**"

David replied and said, "**When did I say I'd end my friendship with her for you?**"

And then Celeste replied, "**Uh, someone who's known you for years over someone who knows you for one year. I didn't want to be friends with you if you still want to be friends with her.**"

So Celeste was jealous of Asia. That's now been proven. Okay. The day before David allegedly murdered her, she basically was kind of like going back and forth with David, calling him out. I don't Look, I'll admit I don't know if Asia had knowledge of Celeste's feelings towards her. uh the jealousy these allegations I don't

know to what extent Asia was aware but Celeste was aware of Asia and she was jealous of her and was suspicious of David's relationship.

Celeste basically went on to say, **"Why was she at your house then?"**

And David was like, **"At my house? Oh, well for Coachella. Everybody came to get wristband."**

Basically, there was a good reason that she came over. And this is where it got crazy.

Celeste then threatened to kill David. It's damning, but that's what happened.

Celeste basically said, **"Oh my effing god, I swear to God I will kill you. She was in my seat."**

I think he's she's talking about maybe seeing Aysia sat in the seat of the Tesla that Celeste usually sits in or perhaps maybe there's a seat in the house that's usually reserved for Celeste that Aysia was in. But she was jealous.

She said, **"I will kill you. I will strangle you and tell my dad so many lies and do so much damage to you and end your career."**

So she went on to basically say **"she posted at your house you weirdo."**

And then on the day of the murder they continued talking to each other. They talked about seeing each other. He sent an Uber.

David said to her, **"Are you coming at 9:00 or is it too early or late for you?"**

Celeste said, **"I said I can go whenever."**

David basically leaned forward and stared at the screen. While these messages were going on, David was locked in.

Celeste said, **"Uh, what what do you mean leave at 9:00 or get there at 9:00?"**

David said, **"Leave at 9:00."**

Celeste said, **"Actually, yeah, or I can be in Riverside for it, too, if you want."**

She went on to say, **"By the way, is it chill if you get the Uber for me at 8:30? I'll be back in Lake Elsnor. It's hard to get Ubers there."**

And then later on, David said, **"So, get it to your house or down the street or something."**

And Celeste said, **"Let me check."**

She sent him an address.

David went on to say, **"Why do I have to show you everything I get?"**

And Celeste said **"because you made me pregnant."**

Celeste kept calling David queen and girl.

She was like, **"Get my Uber queen."**

They went back and forth. David saying 4 minutes, 1 minute. Okay, he's there.

And she saying okay.

She arrived to his house allegedly at 10:10pm.

And then while she's in the car, she said, **"Girly pop. I'm almost at your door if you're home."**

These were Celeste's last words of her life in this Text to David Anthony Burke.

He replied, **"Got you. Gate open, door unlocked."**

At around 10:31 p.m. David Texted: "Uber said, "You're here where you're at?"

"Hello, bro. Celeste, where you at?"

11:30 p.m David then messages her and says, **"Bro, blocking me. Hello, bro. I'm going to call you, bro. You're scaring me."**

He was lying. So, allegedly, um, so then by

11:41 he's saying, **"Dude, what the f? Um, where are you? Please."**
and then he never texts her ever again.

She never sends a text ever again after that. It's over with at this point. It's completely over with

The detective made it clear that he reviewed the Uber records. The victim did arrive at the property at 10:10 p.m. And then at 11:30 p.m., and bear in mind, he's texting while this is going on, but 11:30 p.m., Burke's cell phone and his Tesla begin moving north towards Santa Barbara.

This was all while David was planning the roll out for his album uh Withered. Actually, he had been at a meeting with Interscope that day about his album roll out.

During the cross examination:

The first contact with David and Celeste on iMessage was August 2020, when Celeste was nine years old, one month before she turned 10 years old.

They met first met in person in November 2023, when she was 13.

The first message or within the first couple of messages that David and Celeste actually shared, Celeste asked David his age and he apparently he said 17.

Editor’s note: Looks like Blair Berk was wrong, he was 18 when they first met in person, November, 2023.

This became a point of contention because when the last set of text messages were read, The witness stated David was 18, and Celeste was 13. But Blair Berk insists he was a minor. However, that doesn’t seem to be the case.

Date	Celeste's Age	David's Age
August 2020 (first online contact)	9	15
September 2020	Turns 10	15
September 2021	Turns 11	16
September 2022	Turns 12	17
November 2023 (first met in person)	13	18
February 2024 (welfare check)	13	18 (turning 19 in March)
September 2024	Turns 14	19
April 23, 2025	14	20

And Celeste said, "I'm 16."

Now, they claimed that over the course of 2022, 2023, Celeste actually changed her story and told David that she was 18.

During the cross examination, it came out that Celeste texted:
She said, "I will straight up mutilate your ____."

David replied, "You've turned this into a bigger thing than this conversation."

David says, **"This is how it goes with you. You have to find out after the fact that you do not listen to me."**

Celeste replied said, **"Nuh-uh. I don't even play like that. I'll dead go to Val's door on some crazy [__] knocking and crying."**

Berk went on to say there were 1,200 messages that were sent between Celeste and David on the 2 days before the murder.

David basically said, **"Why do you think why do you think you proved my exact point?"**

Celeste said, **"You have one more chance to tell me the truth." She said, "Tell me the truth, David. I need to see you tonight. Tell me the truth."**

Some time passes and David said, **"Uh, okay." David said, " How you going to say you feel distant? You push me away from the start of the year."**

Celeste said, **"If I see you and Asia hanging out, I'll make an anonymous account leaking all of the stuff I have on you."**

"And I have all the old numbers from my phone printed out, including your mom, so I can contact her anytime."

David said, **"Okay." With a laughing emoji.**

And then she went on to say, **"I also have somebody's fiance on my phone, so I could text her. It will spread to your work girl."**

The detective admitted Celeste never talked about testifying or taking it to the cops. She just talked about taking it public.

When the judge made the ruling, he stated that it doesn't matter if Celeste said she was going to the cops because threats to make public were enough to satisfy "special circumstances."

David has said, **"I know you ended the friendship like 10 times."**

And then he said, **"When are you coming to mine? Are you going to want food? I'm going to be hungry at the end of the day."**

She says, **"Sure. What kind, girl?"**

David said, **"In- N-Out "**

Berk was making the point that ordering food did not indicate premeditation.