Criminal Law/Procedure Winter 1995 – Q5 © California Bar Exam – Past Bar Exams

Late at night Officer Jones observed a red sports car with one headlight out, a violation of a traffic law. Jones stopped the car, approached the driver to issue a citation and, following standard police procedure, asked the driver for his license and registration. The license identified the driver as Dan Deft. As Deft handed the license and registration to Jones, Deft said that he "could make life very unpleasant" for Jones if she "messed" with him.

As Jones was writing a citation, she heard a police all points bulletin to be on the alert for a red sports car driven by a male, about 5'8" tall, 150 pounds, clean-shaven, with dark hair, and wearing glasses, dark pants with a pink puff-sleeved shirt unbuttoned down to the navel. This person was wanted for robbery of Smith, whose purse had just been taken. Deft was actually 5'9" tall, 160 pounds, clean-shaven, with dark hair, and wore glasses, blue trousers and a rose-colored, puff-sleeved shirt buttoned up to the neck.

Jones placed Deft under arrest for robbery and read him Miranda warnings. Deft invoked his rights to remain silent and to counsel. Jones turned Deft over to other police officers who had arrived at the scene. She then searched Deft's car and discovered a purse under the seat.

One hour after Deft was arrested, Smith identified Deft as the robber in a one-on-one confrontation at the police station. She said that she was positive in her identification. She also identified the purse found in Deft's car as hers. Deft was again given Miranda warnings. This time he waived his rights and confessed to the robbery. Deft was then formally charged with robbery and is awaiting trial.

- 1. How should the court rule on Deft's pretrial motions, all based on the United States Constitution, to exclude the following evidence at trial:
 - a. His statement to Officer Jones at the scene of the arrest, a motion based on asserted violations of his rights under the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments? Discuss.
 - b. T he purse seized from Deft's car, a motion based upon asserted violations of his rights under the Fourth Amendment? Discuss.
 - c. The identification of Deft by Smith at the police station, a motion based on asserted violations of Deft's rights under the Sixth Amendment and Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment? Discuss.
 - d. His confession at the police station, a motion based on asserted violations of Deft's rights under the Fifth Amendment? Discuss.
 - e. If Deft's confession is ruled inadmissible at trial because of a violation of the Fifth Amendment, and he testifies at trial, will the Fifth Amendment violation preclude use of the confession to impeach the testimony that Deft gave on either direct or cross-examination? Discuss.