



The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry

Witness Statement

David Grey

Taken by [REDACTED]
on MS Teams
On 16 December 2021

1. My name is David Grey. I am 62 years old. My contact details are known to the Inquiry. My eyesight is fine when corrected by glasses. I wear glasses for driving so obviously I had them on at the time of the incident. I think it was the previous year to this incident that I got a new set of glasses. It's one thing I'm fastidious about is my glasses and driving due to the fact [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for 22 years.

2. I am a [REDACTED] However, at the time of the incident I was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Prior to that I was [REDACTED] I started with the [REDACTED] when I was 18 and a half and I retired after 30 years [REDACTED] The first 8 years was in the [REDACTED] I started off in [REDACTED] from '78 to '80. I left there and I went to [REDACTED] and was the [REDACTED] there for about a year and a half before I then moved on to work in [REDACTED] I did [REDACTED] right up until 1986 when I moved over into the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and was a [REDACTED] for 22 years until I retired.

3. I can't remember the date of the incident. It was sometime in 2015 and was early in the morning. I started work probably between half five and six o'clock. I was working with a chap called Geoff Levy. I was driving and Geoff was in [REDACTED]

Signed [REDACTED]

the passenger seat. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The vehicle I was driving was a white Mercedes Sprinter van, short wheelbase. I can't remember the registration number. The van was fitted with video cameras so the times, dates etc will be on the van. The vehicle was unmarked so there was nothing to indicate it was a [REDACTED] van. The only time people knew what we were doing was when we stepped out of the van with the [REDACTED]

4. I'd driven into Dunfermline, I think. I'm not 100 percent definite about the town – it was so long ago. I can't remember the name of the street we were on. We were driving to the Co-op store. The sat nav was on. It was dry at the time, I think. The wipers were switched off. There was a small hatchback style car, I'm not sure now whether it was a Fiesta or a Corsa, flashed his lights and flagged us down. The driver of this car tried to get me to open the window. You can't do that in a [REDACTED] van, so he shouted at me and he shouted to the effect, "There's a guy up there with a knife. Turn around." Just beyond where he had stopped us, there was a T-junction off to my right. I went up to that junction to turn around. Just before I turned, I became aware of a tall, black male walking on the left-hand side footpath towards me. I had a clear view of the man. He was wearing a white top and dark trousers and his walk suggested to me that he was on a mission. He was walking quite briskly. He was walking with both his hands in the open palm position towards me and I saw what appeared to me to be a knife about 6 or 7-inch long blade in his left hand. By open palm position, I mean that both of the man's hands were open and pointing away from his body with the knife in his left hand. The man was around 30-35 yards away from us. He just kept walking on the pavement after I executed my turn and, at that point, I just started to drive away. Because there was a slight curve in the road to the right, I lost a visual on him as I drove away.

5. He seemed to me to be how I would expect to see an angry type man going

Signed [REDACTED]

out to get somebody. That was the thing that came across to me and the other thing I noticed with him was his eyes were very, very wide. His eyes were staring as he walked ahead. I honestly don't know if he was paying any attention to what was going on around him. He seemed angry because of the march. He looked like he was a man marching on a mission; he was going to get somebody. That's the visual I had of him as he came towards me. He just looked as if he was going somewhere at haste to search someone out. That impression came from the speed he was walking at and the open-handed gesture, with the palms forward. That's where the impression of that came from.

6. We were on the verge of going to phone the police when we heard the sound of sirens approaching. I don't remember seeing any police vehicles, it was just the sound of the sirens I heard. So we didn't call the police as they sounded like they were already on their way.
7. I'm asked to look at a map. However, it doesn't mean anything to me. I can't remember the road although I took a note of it at the time. I don't recognise the area and couldn't indicate where I first saw the man with the knife.
8. I'm asked about a statement I gave to PIRC in May 2015. I feel that my recollection of the incident is good. However, I accept that my memory of the event would be clearer at the time of giving the statement to PIRC. The statement given to the PIRC would have been truthful and to the best of my memory at that time. I think that my statement was read out to me but I'm not 100 per cent sure. If there is any difference between what I have said now and my earlier statement to PIRC, that statement should be preferred.
9. I'm told my PIRC statement says *"it appeared to me that he was on a mission and he was going to take somebody out. His eyes were really wide, and I know he was 80 yards away but I could clearly see that. He was composed*

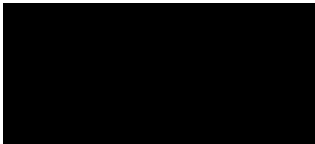
Signed 

walking at a steady pace, I never saw him run at all." All of that is correct. I'm also told that I said *"My general impression from the guy's appearance was that he was spaced out on drink or drugs."* That is also correct. The impression that he was under the influence of drink or drugs came from his wide eyes and fixed stare. He was just staring straight ahead as he walked. He wasn't looking around himself. He didn't look out of control in any other way, for example he wasn't staggering. He looked like he had the mind-set to go and do something with that knife that was in his hand. Obviously, I wasn't there beforehand so could only go by what I saw. His general demeanour suggested to me something had gone wrong earlier in the night and he was away to sort somebody out. That was my impression of the way it was.

10. I'm also told that this statement says that *"I saw a police van with blue lights and sirens followed closely by an ambulance"*. Yes, I remember that now. Basically, once we saw the man and turned around, we drove to the end of that road to the roundabout and turned left. I then let the sat-nav pick up the new route to take us to the Co-op. It was as we approached the main road that the Co-op premises are adjacent to that I saw the police van and the ambulance. I can't remember how long I was on the road before I saw the police van. Basically, when I turned left at the roundabout, the sat-nav then picked up and directed me to turn left at the next junction, so I turned left at that junction and it was as I approached the junction with the next main road that I saw the police car and the ambulance.

11. I have been shown some still images which I am told were taken from the CCTV footage which was recorded on the CCTV camera on the vehicle I was driving on that date of this incident.¹ The quality of the pictures really are very poor. I can't say that I recognise anything in the image. Looking at the bottom, right-hand image, it's possible that this is a person but it's so pixelated it's hard to tell. It's very, very hard to see what I'm actually looking at.

¹ PIRC-01326

Signed 

12. I have also been shown video footage² which I'm told was taken on a mobile phone. In this footage I can see the rear of a white Mercedes van driving along a road and the van is driving away from the camera. There is a car driving in the opposite direction on the same road. The driver of the car appears to flag down the white van. After the van is flagged down, it drives on and then turns at a junction a little further up the road. As the van turns, you can see a man walking in the road. This looks like the van I was driving on the day I am being questioned about and the events I have already described. This man looks like the one I saw and have described walking with a knife. However, I can see from this video that he was walking in the road and not on the pavement as I described earlier. That is the image of the man I saw. As the van drives back towards the camera, you can see the first 4 characters of the registration plate of the van – [REDACTED] I don't recall the registration plate of the van I was driving that day. However, I'm told the details of the registration plate I gave to PIRC in my statement was [REDACTED] so that would be correct.

13. I'm asked if I have spoken to any of the other witnesses in this case. I've only spoken to Geoff about it at the time. We have not discussed it since.

14. I'm asked if I have been following reports in the media about this case. No. I'm aware of the occasional report when it made the headlines. But I didn't follow any news reports as such.

15. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that this statement may form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and be published on the Inquiry's website.

² PIRC-01166

Signed [REDACTED] Date..... 3/30/2022

