

WITNESS STATEMENT

Agency Ref :S020
PF Ref :

Surname : WYSE Other or previous surname :

Forenames : Ashley DoB : [REDACTED]/1985 Age : 30

Occupation : [REDACTED] Other Occupation :

Police Station : Years Service :

Disclosable address :

Post Code:

This statement was taken :

Date and time : 5th of May 2015 19.20

By : INV ALEX MCGUIRE &
Place : Ashley Wyse address at Hayfield Road [REDACTED]

In the presence of : DSI MARGARET ANN HEADRICK

I have/the witness signed/refused to sign this and all other pages

It was/not read over to the witness and was/not recorded on Audio tape and/or Video tape

States :

I am Ashley Wyse. I reside at the address shown [REDACTED]. I have stayed here for 4 years. I am currently employed as a [REDACTED] I am 30 yrs.

On Saturday 2nd May 2015 it was a birthday celebration I had in my house. I had a number of friends in the house celebrating. We went out to Kirkcaldy with them to celebrate.

I returned home about 3am. My friend Hazel Sinclair was with me. We were dropped off by taxi at the house. We sat in the house, ate my chips and had a cup of tea before going to bed about 3.30am on the Sunday morning.

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Hazel went to bed at the same time. My bedroom is at the front of the house and looks out onto Hayfield Road. Hazel was sleeping in [REDACTED] bedroom and this is at the rear of the house.

I would describe myself as being happy, I had had a few drinks celebrating with friends, I was not drunk. I was happy, exhausted and had sore feet.

I do not sleep with my blinds shut. I sleep with them open. My window was closed. I woke up to blue flashing lights in my room. I could hear shouting and an disturbance outside. It was right outside my room window. When I looked out of my window I could see lots of police officers running about. I think there was about ten to fifteen. There were lots of police vehicles, a grey one, a van, one at an angle at the tree. The blue lights on the vehicles were on.

I looked to the right along Hayfield Road to where the police vehicles were. The lights were on. I thought it might have been something happening in the park opposite. There have been problems there in the past and I looked across there at first to see what was happening. There was nothing happening there. I then looked along the other way along Hayfield Road towards the roundabout to the left down from my window.

I saw a black man in the street. He was nearly down on the ground. He was surrounded by police officers. There was at least six police officers surrounding him. I saw the police officers all over him. What I mean is that they were holding him on the ground.

What it looked like to me was that I saw a police officer striking the man on his legs to get him down. I am not sure whether he was completely lying down on the ground or was going down at that point. There was at least six police officers lying on top of him. They were crossing over him from both sides. They pretty much covered his whole body. It was only when they moved that I could see his arm and definitely knew it was a black man. It looked like one officer was using a baton to hold the man down. It was on his upper chest towards his throat.

When the man was on the ground with the police officers on top of him I could see him struggling with them. I saw them put some sort of yellow tape around his feet and legs over the ankle or above just.

When the man was on the ground I heard him screaming. It was a horrible sound. It sent chills through me. I heard the man shout to the police to get off him. They never moved from him at that point.

I think the black man was on his back when lying on the ground. I'm not sure if he was moved whilst on the ground. I saw him lying on the ground. I could see that his wrists were restrained. His hands/arms were in front of him. The police officers were still lying on top of him.

There then seemed to be a pause, a break. The man had been quiet for a little while. In this period the police officers appeared to be speaking with him. I could not hear

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any of his responses but it appeared that the police officers were having a conversation with him.

I think the police officers were lying on top of him a long time. I think it was at least five minutes they were lying on top of him. It may have been about ten minutes. This includes the time when he was being taped to his legs. At all times he was surrounded by Police Officers. There were at least six Police officers around him at all times.

At one point they all got off him and moved back but there were still a number of officers holding him. They never let him go. I could see the man was wearing a white t-shirt, dark trousers or jeans.

It appeared to me that he had stopped communicating with the police officers. I am not sure if he had passed out at that point.

I then saw one of the officers after a good few minutes go down with his face. He placed, what appeared his cheek against the man's face to feel or listen for his breathing.

The police officers then checked for a pulse. I think it was in his arms. It was all happening so fast.

I could see some of the police officers checking for a pulse. There appeared to be a panic amongst them at that point.

Some of the officers moved back. They were the ones at his feet, but had moved away from his feet about a foot and a half away.

I could see officers start to do CPR on him. Initially it was one officer and he was relieved by another.

I counted the first officer do fifteen pressings down on his chest. He done it for quite a long time before the other officer took over. I also seen them do mouth to mouth as well.

This continued right up until the ambulance arrived. It seemed like it went on for about 10 minutes before the ambulance arrived. One of the police officers took a drink of water off Kevin one of my neighbours. I remember one of the officers who was doing the chest press had a bald head. He was the one who took the glass of water.

When the ambulance crew appeared it did not seem as if they were in any great rush. They all appeared quite slow in doing things. They did do a bit of CPR but it did not seem like they were normal.

I think it may have been about ten minutes after the ambulance arrived before it left the street.

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I saw the man being placed in the ambulance stretcher by the ambulance crew and the police. It was a stretcher on wheels. The ambulance crew did not appear to hurry.

The police let the ambulance crew do their job. They continued with CPR until the ambulance crew took over from this.

I thought the man was dead when I saw him lying on the ground.

No police officer went in the ambulance with the man, that confirmed to me that the man was dead because there was no officers with him the ambulance.

His feet and hands were still tied as he was put into the ambulance. I could see into the back of the ambulance where it was parked. They had not put a cover over him. They then shut the door so I could not see anything else. I knew myself that he was gone. The ambulance was facing the roundabout.

The ambulance then left with the man in it.

At this point most of the police officers were still outside. I saw some of them move away along the street, presumably to block the street.

I saw them pick up a clear plastic bag from the pavement on the other side of the road.

There was a female officer with grey trousers. She appeared quite high up. She was not a uniformed officer but she had a stab vest on. She appeared more in charge than anyone else there at that point. Other police officers arrived with different hats. They had white on the skip of their hats.

The officer in the grey trousers appeared to pick up the batons the police batons from the ground. She picked them up and took them away. I was more watching the road being taped off with police tape. I knew at that point it was major.

I remember using my mobile phone, a Samsung galaxy S5 to video on the phone bits of what was happening outside. To start off with I thought it was just a loud drunk who had been trying to get home and had been watching the boxing at 5 o'clock in the morning.

In my mind I thought they were being really rough with this guy. I did not know what had happened before this. I mean it was the way they were pouncing on the guy. I felt that they were very close to him, that he had no space.

I do not know why I used my mobile phone to record part of the incident. I think there is a few small digital recordings on my phone.

I have previously given this phone to Police Scotland and have given them authority to examine and download only the video excerpts applicable to May 3rd 2015.

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I am now giving the same authority to officers of the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner to examine my mobile phone and to download the images for May 3rd relating to this incident only.

My friend who stayed with me on the Saturday evening was HAZEL SINCLAIR, her number is [REDACTED]

I have been extremely shaken by this incident. I have not been sleeping well since the incident. I am also having nightmares. The only reason they, the police, knew I had the mobile phone was because I told the police woman that I had saw the police officers with the batons and doing CPR on the man. The only reason was that I had to get [REDACTED] and whether I could take my car out of the cordon.

This is a true and accurate reflection of what happened.

Signed :

(Witness)

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CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL - NOT TO BE DISCLOSED

Surname : WYSE Forenames: Ashley
Alias/known as :

Place of birth : [REDACTED] Age : over 18

Home address : Ashley Wyse address at Hayfield Road
Telephone : [REDACTED]

Post code : [REDACTED]

Business address : Telephone :

Post Code :

Mobile : [REDACTED]
Email : [REDACTED]
Fax/Pager :
Other :

Dates when unavailable in next 12 months :

Other Confidential Material :