

OFFICIAL/SENSITIVE

WITNESS STATEMENT

Agency Ref : **S206**
PF Ref :

Surname : MCLAUGHLIN Other or previous surname : WALKER

Forenames : Leigh Ann DoB : [REDACTED]/1971 Age : 44

Occupation : Staff Nurse Other Occupation :

Police Station : Years Service :

Disclosable address :

Post Code:

This statement was taken :

Date and time : 18th of June 2015 14.15

By : TRAINEE INV LYNN UNGI & DSI EDWARD MILES
Place : Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy

In the presence of :

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 a Staff Nurse employed by NHS Fife. I have been a Staff Nurse for 6.5 years. I am based in the Accident and Emergency Department at Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy. My role involves patient triage when they come in and patient care and assessment throughout the different areas within the Accident and Emergency Department on a rotational basis.

I understand that I am being interviewed in relation to an incident on 3 May 2015 involving the police. I have had the role of the Police Investigations & Review Commisisoner (PIRC) explained to me.

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On 3 May 2015 I was working a 0730-2000 hours shift. That morning my duty was to triage incoming patients who self-present. This involves assessing patients to see which area within Accident and Emergency requires to treat them depending on the type and seriousness of their illness or injuries.

On that day near the start of my shift I took a stand-by call that a cardiac arrest patient was coming in, in a minute. I told the nurses and doctors working in Resus and then went back to triage duties.

I remember Nicole Short and that I triaged her. I think that was about 07.45. She was in uniform, tiny in height and build, and had her hair, brown, tied back. She was with another officer, male with dark hair and medium height. I think Nicole (Short) was late 20s to early 30s and the male officer was around 40.

The patient was visibly shaken. I took her and the male officer to the Triage Room. I asked her what had happened. She said that she (and another, or others as she used the term "we", I assumed she meant her partner) had gone to arrest someone (who she did not describe). She said that they got their batons out - that her partner had got his baton out so she got hers out. She said he (meaning the person who was to be arrested) was coming for her so she swung her baton but didn't know if she hit him or not. Then she said that she just turned and ran. She said that she had then been punched five times to the back of her head. She said she'd then collapsed onto the ground. At that point I asked her if she had been knocked out but she said she didn't know. She was really upset and crying.

The male officer said that he (the person to be arrested) was coming in. I know that his first name (the officer) is Mark. He didn't say why.

I did her (Nicole Short) observations. I recorded these on the front sheet of the Accident and Emergency notes. I have been shown these being:

A&E Notes dated 3 May 2015 in name of Nicole Short [REDACTED]

I have signed the backing sheet for these.

I note that the observations were normal. I put her in a cubicle in Minors. I remember her brother coming in just before this [REDACTED]. She (Nicole Short) told me that was her brother. I remember her telling him that she didn't want to phone her dad, and that he had hugged her.

I had also checked her Glasgow Coma Scale which was 15 out of 15 being normal. I also checked her pupils which were equal and reacting suggesting no serious damage in her brain.

I remember checking her head and there were no cuts or anything obvious. I didn't remember seeing any other injuries or swelling at that time.

I have been asked regarding Nicole's manner in describing what had happened to her. I remember that she was animated, upset and speaking quickly. Telling me

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about it was obviously upsetting her and she said she felt bad about having turned to run from him (the person who had assaulted her and who she had gone to arrest). She was so upset that I felt sorry for her and tried to comfort her.

I have been asked to describe Nicole's brother who came to see her. I can say he looked younger than her, about mid 20s. He had mousy-brown short hair. He was slim and average height.

I had no further contact with Nicole after I took her to Minors. During the course of that morning I became aware that there as a connection between this patient (Nicole Short) and the cardiac arrest patient who had been brought into Resus who I had received the stand-by call about.

Upon reflection I can add that the patient (Nicole Short) also told me that after falling to the ground when she was punched, she had curled into a ball. I understand this to be to protect herself.

This is a true and accurate account.

Signed :

(Witness)

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WITNESS STATEMENT

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL - NOT TO BE DISCLOSED

Surname : MCLAUGHLIN
Alias/known as :

Forenames:

Leigh Ann

Place of birth : [REDACTED] Age : over 18

Home address : [REDACTED] Telephone : [REDACTED]

Post code : [REDACTED]

Business address : Victoria Hospital
Hayfield Road
Kirkcaldy Telephone : [REDACTED]

Post Code : KY2 5AH

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

Dates when unavailable in next 12 months :

Other Confidential Material :