

WITNESS STATEMENT

Agency Ref : **S083**
PF Ref :

Surname : TRICKETT Other or previous surname :

Forenames : Conrad [REDACTED] DoB : [REDACTED]/1971 Age : 43

Occupation : Police Officer Other Occupation :

Police Station : Years Service : 16 years

Disclosable address :

Post Code:

This statement was taken :

Date and time : 14th of May 2015 12.40

By : JOHN CLERKIN
Place : Police Scotland, Queen Street Police Office, Aberdeen

In the presence of : ALISTAIR LEWIS

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 Chief Inspector Conrad Trickett. I am presently the Emergency, Events and Resilience Planning (North) Chief Inspector (EERP). I have been a police officer for sixteen years. I have served as a police officer within Grampian Police, Tayside Police and since 2013 Police Scotland. PIRC Investigator John Clerkin has explained the role of the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner to me (PIRC) and made me aware that PIRC and undertaking an independent investigation, relating to the death in police custody of Sheku Bayoh on Sunday 3 May 2015. I am aware that the investigation is directed by the Crown Office.

On Sunday 3 May 2015 at approximately 09.30 hours I was present/ taking part in a tele-conference overviewing operational activity during the previous twenty-four hours. This conference was chaired by the Deputy Assistant Chief Constable

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

WITNESS STATEMENT

Rhuariah Nicholson and attended by duty Superintendents across the service, including Gary McEwan. At around 10.00 hours, following discussion about normal business I became aware of an incident in Kirkcaldy where police officers had attended an incident where a male in possession of a knife had been reported by the public in the street. The male had been aggressive towards police officers. One police officer was assaulted by the male and this officer was now in hospital. Other police officers had used batons in efforts to restrain the male. Prior to the use of batons CS Spray was deployed, which did not have the required effect as it was confirmed during the conference that the male on the street had wiped the spray from his eyes and laughed at the police officers. On being restrained the male had collapsed and in view of the police officers had rendered CPR. Police had also called for an ambulance, which attended the scene whereby paramedics treated the male before conveying the male to hospital.

Discussion at conference related, at this stage, to post incident procedure and it was agreed that a Post Incident Manager (PIM) would be appointed. I identified to those present that I was PIM trained; accordingly the ACC directed me to attend at Kirkcaldy Police Office in order to take on the PIM function and role as Post Incident Manager. It was made clear to me at the tele-conference that the officers who had dealings with the male on the street were not present at Kirkcaldy Police Office.

Shortly after the completion of the tele-conference I gathered my things and left for Kirkcaldy Police Office. It took me approximately one hour to go to Kirkcaldy Police Office arriving around eleven am. On arrival at Kirkcaldy Police Office I met some of the local police line management.

At this time I was briefed that the police officers, including the female police officer, were in the PIM suite. The canteen was used for this purpose. The female police officer had elected to come from hospital, following her treatment in order to be present at Kirkcaldy Police Office.

I wish to point out at this stage in my statement - that at the tele-conference Chief Superintendent Gary McEwan had declared that the incidence was a critical incident.

I was made aware that a Police Federation Rep was already present and with the police officers. I asked for a local Inspector to be a part of my PIM support team. The person appointed was Inspector Jane Combe.

I had a briefing with the appointed Federation Rep, Amanda Given along with Inspector Jane Combe. I told them that the role of PIM was to balance the welfare needs of the police officers with that of the Investigation. I also stated that it was my intentions to meet with the police officers and go through the meet and greet aide memoire.

According to my record I commenced the PIM log at 11:24 hours on 3 May 2015.

At 11:30 hours I entered the PIM suite and for the first time met with the police officers who had dealt with the male on the street. I recall that there were nine police officers present, who had attended the incident involving the male on the street. Present were:- a Sergeant, six other male Constables and two female Constables.

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

WITNESS STATEMENT

Also present were:- the Federation rep and my PIM support. The nine uniformed police officers to whom I refer were identified as the principal officers for the PIM procedure.

The meet and greet Aide-Memoire covers:- immediate Welfare Concerns, and introduction to the PIM process, issues around anonymity, conferring, the media and any investigation. While formal anonymity was not put in place other control measures had already been activated e.g. the command and control system was "locked down". This in real terms means that at this time command and control had restricted access. Only a few designated persons in such circumstances will have access. I briefed the police officers that discretion and sensitive control of their knowledge of the incident was the best way to manage rumours about the incident and the best way of protecting themselves and their colleagues in the team.

In terms of conferring I was conscious that the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Guidelines and the Police Scotland Post Incident SOP both refer to armed police officers and the issue of "honestly held belief". I was aware that these police officers were not firearms police officers and accordingly that they had received no training in relation to firearms post incident procedures. Rather than using the language in the PIM log relating to conferring, I used what I would describe as more appropriate language to explain the issue of conferring to conventional police officers. For example, I told them that there was no need to talk about the incident amongst themselves. I stated that their integrity and professionalism would stand scrutiny during the course of my investigation and or legal process if they did not discuss the incident with each other or anyone else.

I wish to make it clear that at no time during the course of my dealings with the police officers, did I ask any of them to provide me with any details or account of what had happened during the course of the incident. I did not see officers individually. I did not ask the police officers for accounts of the incident given that I was not directed to obtain PIM Basic Facts. At 13.40 hours on 3 May 2015 Detective Superintendent Pat Campbell met with me to discuss initial investigative requirements. At this time D/Supt Pat Campbell advised me that the incident was going to be the subject of a PIRC Inquiry, that there was an intention to take possession of the external clothing of the principal officers and that there was no need to take statements from the police officers at this time. D/Supt Campbell asked me to find out from the police officers if they were willing to speak with him. The officers made it known to me that they were willing to be spoken to by D/Supt Pat Campbell.

At 14.00 hours, 3 May 2015 I had a discussion with DCI Houiston. This discussion related to the procedure and logistics to be put in place for the seizure of the principal officers' outer clothing.

Primarily the remainder of the day was spent in consideration of the welfare needs of the officers, the actual seizure of clothing and other administrative matters. At 20.45 hours the PIM Suite was stood down on 3 May 2015. All principal officers had left the PIM Suite at Kirkcaldy Police Office by this time.

Further PIM entries subsequent to 3 May 2015 relate to additional welfare matters regarding police officers, the development of a welfare strategy. There is mention of

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

WITNESS STATEMENT

the cause of death regarding Mr Bayoh. The officers were advised of this. There is also a mention in respect of the provisions of statements by police officers to PIRC.

I have made the following documents (original documents) available to John Clerkin from PIRC. (1) the Post Incident Manager's Log (including last entry 16. 55 hours Monday 11 May 2015.) (2) PIM meet and greet Aide - Memoire. (3) Personal Welfare Strategy document.

This is a true and accurate statement, which I have read over.

Signed :

(Witness)

.....

WITNESS STATEMENT

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL - NOT TO BE DISCLOSED

Surname : TRICKETT Forenames: Conrad [REDACTED]
Alias/known as :

Place of birth : [REDACTED] Age : over 18

Home address : Telephone :

Post code :

Business address : Baluniefield Police Office Telephone :

Post Code : DD4 8UT

Mobile :
Email :
Fax/Pager :
Other :

Dates when unavailable in next 12 months :

Other Confidential Material :