

OFFICIAL/SENSITIVE
WITNESS STATEMENT

Agency Ref : **S015A**
PF Ref :

Surname : SAEED Other or previous surname :

Forenames : Zahid Mohammed DoB : [REDACTED]/1983 Age : 31

Occupation : [REDACTED] Other Occupation :

Police Station : Years Service :

Disclosable address :

Post Code:

This statement was taken :

Date and time : 8th of May 2015 14.30

By : ROSS STEWART
Place : Carlyle House, Carlyle Road, Kirkcaldy

In the presence of : VICTORIA KARRAN

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 have attended here today at the request of Investigator Ross Stewart who has informed me of the role of the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner and confirmed to me that they are carrying out an independent investigation into the death of my friend Sheku Bayoh, on Sunday 3rd May on Hayfield Road as a result of being detained by the police.

I have previously given a statement to the police which I signed at the time after it was read over to me by two male detective officers. I was repeatedly asked to go over my statement on disc but I refused to have it recorded.

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I do have a partner but at the moment we are trying to work out our differences. Her name is [REDACTED]. Most of the time I live with her in [REDACTED] and on some occasions I live with my mum [REDACTED]

I am a [REDACTED] working for my father [REDACTED]

I own a white Toledo Seat registration number [REDACTED]

At the time of the incident I owned an iphone 4, [REDACTED] The police took this phone off me on Sunday night about 10pm when they dropped me off.

The police removed my car or siezed it for forensic examination on Sunday night sometime after 9pm, and I got my car back yesterday from ACE Recovery in Methil and that was arranged by Investigator Ross Stewart. When I got my car back there were two scratches, one was the front offside door and one was on the rear offside. I don't know how they got there but these scrathces weren't there when I last saw my car on Sunday morning.

I have known Sheku since I was about 16-17 years old. I would describe him as a very good friend, he was a brother to me, he meant the world to me. We were in contact daily, be it text, phone calls or meeting up. We were very close, we shared secrets and we asked each others advice constantly.

Sheku was 31, he was black african from Sierra Leone. He stayed in Vauxhall, London before he came up to Scotland about 14 years ago. He was a healthy bubbly character, always polite, kind and generous to everybody even strangers. He kept himself fit and he was a member of the gym at Templehall. He was well built with a strong muscly physique. I know that he did take steroids in the past. He told me this over a year ago. He said he was on it for 6 months on and 6 months off. I'm not sure why he did that. He told me the different ways to take 'juice'. I asked him what 'juice' was and he told me it was steroids. That was over 2 years ago. I advised him against taking steroids, fizzy juice, smoking, anything that was not good for him.

We had close common friends Chris Lees (34) [REDACTED], Martin Dick (29), Jim Hume (38) [REDACTED]

I remember Sheku was texting Chris on Saturday night. I don't know Chris's mobile number. Chris has a nickname Cheese.

On Saturday 2nd May I wasn't working. Sheku was working that day and then he told me he was going to his neices birthday party. He told me this about half past three. Earlier that day when I spoke to him on the phone I had arranged for us to meet up with our partners and have a meal together. My partner [REDACTED] said she would cook extra for them if they came over.

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He was always going to his nieces birthday party, [REDACTED] Sheku's sister KK's daughter.

I ended up having an argument with my partner and she told me to go back to my mum's. That was early evening so I packed my bag and went to mum's [REDACTED]

I met up with Sheku about 9pm that night. I actually went to the party. KK is married to Adi Johnson. Adi and KK were there along with other family members.

Sheku was brand new at that time, his usual self. I saw him having at least one drink. I saw the glass in his hand but not sure what was in it. He then went onto irn bru. He certainly wasn't drunk. He was lively and cheery. I never saw him arguing with anybody or anything like that. His partner Collette wasn't there. She was at her mum's house. That was a family matter which I don't want to discuss that. I don't think this question is relevant.

Just me and Sheku left the party just before 10pm. I was driving my white Seat Toledo, and I drove to Asda in Kirkcaldy when Sheku bought a bottle of £10 Parrot Bay Vodka mixer drink. I gave Sheku £5 because he only had £5 of his own.

From there I drove to Sheku's house [REDACTED] Arran Crescent, Kirkcaldy. There was just the two of us in his house. About one o'clock I left the house myself to go and visit somebody else. I was away for a couple of hours. I returned just after 3am. Sheku was still in the house by himself. I don't know if Sheku left the house himself when I was away for the couple of hours. I don't want to say why I was away and who I was visiting.

I made arrangements with Martin Dick through text messages for us, me and Sheku, to go to his house to watch the boxing, Mayweather v Pacquiao and that was scheduled to be on about 4am.

Martin Dick stays with his partner Kirsty McLeod [REDACTED]

Martin Dick was working [REDACTED] on Saturday night and the original plan was to go up there to his house after he finished work about 3am.

I picked sheku up and drove to [REDACTED]

When we got in there was me, Sheku, Martin and Kirsty, nobody else.

Everybody was relaxed. We sat about chatting. At one stage me and Martin were in the kitchen just talking about private family matters. The boxing was paused whilst the four of us returned to the livingroom and we were just talking over each other having conversations between each other. I don't want to talk about drugs, I have told the police all I want to say on the matter.

Within seconds, Sheku's personality and mood changed dramatically. For some reason Sheku thought we were taking the mickey out of him and that was not the case. Sheku was getting agitated. He was tense and he continually mentioned that

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we had no respect for him, that he had lost a lot of people, he said that many times. Sheku started to say that I was in the CID, he was accusing me of being in the CID. Sorry that was later when it was just the two of us in his house.

Martin was getting annoyed with Sheku's behaviour. He was worried, he didn't know what to do because he had never seen Sheku in that state of mind before. I told Martyn not to worry because I would deal with the situation as I have seen Sheku in this state of mind before. That was in January at the turn of the year in one of our friend's houses. I don't want to discuss this. I don't want to tell you whose house this was in. I don't think this is relevant.

Sheku walked out the house. He was like an elephant in the room, he wasn't himself. He was holding a cup and he was twisting the cup in his hands. His mood kept switching. I don't know what was upsetting him. I did not see or hear anything to cause Sheku to be upset and angry. I knew something was bothering him but I don't know what and I know him better than anybody. I suggested that me and Sheku leave. I was so worried because I could see that this was not Sheku, not the Sheku I know. Sheku walked out the house himself. I thought Sheku would just walk to my car and I stayed just for a short time to apologise to Martyn and Kirsty. I was too worried about Sheku. They were also worried and knew Sheku wasn't himself.

When I left the house I expected Sheku to be at my car but he wasn't there. I ran round the streets to find him, round the block but I couldn't find Sheku.

I went back into Martin's house but Sheku hadn't returned there, so I got into my car and drove around the streets and I still couldn't find Sheku.

I drove to Sheku's house in Arran Crescent. I was only there about one minute when Sheku appeared. I was on the phone to Martin when Sheku appeared so I told Martyn that I had found him.

Sheku walked into his house but I got the impression he wasn't letting me in. I stood at the door and I asked him what was worrying him, what was upsetting him, why the mood changes. He kept mumbling "this makes sense now" "you don't respect me". I tried to explain to him what his behaviour was like and how I was worried about him. He seemed to change and he said "you're right". At this point he went and put his hand into the top of one of his socks and pulled out a money bag, clear money bag. All I remember was seeing a white coloured substance and a number of purple tablets. I can't say for certain how many tablets, more than three but less than 10. I took the bag straight off him and I said to him "look I'm against this". I took control of the bag. He said something along the lines of "who are you you're the CID". I told him that this was what was causing his behaviour, the drugs. I'm always telling him I'm against drugs and that they were no good for him. He also said something about me taking control of him.

I eventually said to him it was probably time for me to leave. His behaviour was erratic, going from being alright to being aggressive to me accusing me of all sorts. I decided to leave because I wasn't getting through to him. I expected him to phone me in the morning and apologise for his behaviour or for me to phone him and tell him about his behaviour.

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I walked out his back door. Whilst I was talking to him he kept clenching his fists. I never felt threatened just worried about his mind frame.

I stayed for a good hour speaking to him and never felt threatened.

When I walked out the back door and I said "I'd better get going" and he said "aye you'd better get going" I turned round. He never speaks to me like that. He always gives me a hug when I leave him. I knew he wasn't making sense.

I remember in the house when I had the bag of drugs I told him he had a choice to make "me or the drugs". I remember he said that "you think i'm addicted" "you think I need to go into a rehab". Sheku has never mentioned these two things to me before. That's when I knew that this wasn't Sheku at all. He was somebody else. I felt I was dealing with two different people. I was always focused. I'm still finding it hard to believe but it did happen.

When I was outside, in the back garden, Sheku went for me. He hit me once on the back of my head. He tried to hit me again, he attacked me, he thought I was the CID, I tried telling him I was not CID. I decided to run. I managed to jump over the garden fence. I was terrified at this time. I didn't know who I was dealing with now. I was in shock. He threw a wooden washing line pole at me. He missed me. He chased me round the front. I didn't have time to get into my car. I ran into somebody's garden. He caught me, I was on the ground. He was on top of me. I was trying to protect myself. He punched me probably ten times. I knew it wasn't him, I don't think he knew what he was doing, he didn't recognise me. I managed to push him off. I had been begging him to get off me and stop and to please realise what he was doing. He never apologised. I just got up and ran for my life. I ran up an alleyway near to some garages. I looked back and saw I wasn't getting chased. I was in the panic mode.

I found myself in a dead end and managed to climb a fence and got into somebody's garden.

The last I seen Sheku was when he walked back towards his own house walking by my car. I did not see him or anybody else damaging my car.

I phoned Martin and I got him to come and get me and pick me up. It took Martin about 5 minutes to come and get me. He picked me up in his white transit van with writing along the side. I think it was his works van. Martin took me to Sheku's house to get my car. I was terrified. Martin took me a drive before that to calm me down, maybe for about 5 minutes.

When I went back to my car there was no sign of Sheku. I did notice that my fuel cap was opened on the rear offside of my car. that was unusual. I didn't notice any damage to my car but I wasn't looking for any.

It never crossed my mind to phone the police. I drove my car to Martin's house. I stayed there for 15-20 minutes. I remember speaking to Collette on the phone. I text her first, that was about 7.30am. I told her exactly what happened, I told her Sheku

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had attacked me. I told her not to go home. I told Collette to phone him in the afternoon before she went home. She was shocked. She did believe me because she knows I tell the truth.

I then drove straight home. When I was just getting home about 8am Collette phoned me to say that she was home and that the kitchen and her bedroom was a mess.

When I was in the house, the kitchen was fine and tidy. I don't know about the bedroom. Sheku is a 'neat freak' You never see his house messy. His house was a palace always clean.

I was worried for Collette. I told her to leave the house and report to the police that Sheku was missing. I remember her telling me that when she got to the house the back door was lying open.

I remember flushing the bag of drugs down the toilet pan in my mum's bathroom

Sheku never left his back door opened. I knew this wasn't right. I expected the police to come and see me eventually. I stayed in my mum's house. My head was hurting, my chest was hurting. I kept feeling dizzy.

Jim Hume phoned me. He told me he had seen Collette crying at the Co-op shop in Kirkcaldy just along the road from her house. I told him what had happened with Sheku.

I was continually phoning Collette and getting updates. She told me that she had phoned the police and that the police would meet her at Arran Crescent. Collette told me she was going to Glenrothes to pick her mum up to go with her to Arran Crescent. This was about 9am.

Interview terminated at 1705 hours.

I confirm this statement is a true and accurate record.

I have had the statement read over to me and I wish the paragraph taken out where it mentions that I was out of Sheku's house for a couple of hours between 1am and 3am. I don't want people to make any judgement and I don't feel it's anybody's business. It was business.

Sheku was wearing a navy blue zipped hoodie nike make, yellow tick or a VOI make with yellow tick, black jeans and brown boots.

At no time did I see Sheku with a knife.

Signed : (Witness)

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CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL - NOT TO BE DISCLOSED

Surname : SAEED Forenames: Zahid Mohammed
Alias/known as :

Place of birth : [REDACTED] Age : over 18

Home address : Saeed Home address [REDACTED] Telephone : [REDACTED]

Post code : [REDACTED]

Business address : Telephone :

Post Code :

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

Dates when unavailable in next 12 months :

Other Confidential Material :