

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: KELLY, PATRICK

Age if under 18: (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation:

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: P KELLY

Date: 28/02/2018

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

I, Patrick KELLY make this statement via a telephone call in relation to the Grenfell Tower Fire which took place on 14 June 2017.

Background

1. I am an employee of Cadent Gas Ltd (Cadent) and I attended the incident at Grenfell Tower during the 14 and 15 June 2017.
2. I am MOB's Specialist for Cadent. I have worked for Cadent, and previously National Grid and in the gas industry, for 35 years.
3. My qualifications and training include: New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA) training, Confined Space training, deep excavation training, CAP1, CAP2, CAP4, IGEN G5, DSEAR.
4. Prior to June 2017, I had attended Grenfell Tower to oversee the disconnection of a riser on 30 September 2016, I visited the basement on this occasion to isolate the riser and therefore knew where the isolation valves were located in the basement. I then met with Harvey Smith from tRIIO on Monday 2 October to complete a client handover. Anthony CHANEY and Charlie SAUL from KCTMO also attended this client handover meeting. In March 2017, I was asked by Mary RYAN, Operational Interface

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Manager to attend Grenfell Tower following receipt of a complaint. The complaint was received from a resident in relation to damage to some asbestos in a hallway. I did not access the property involved and this complaint was left to my manager Mary RYAN to resolve. After my visit in March, I contacted tRiIO to provide a summary of my observations arising from the visit around damage in the hallways.

The events of 14 and 15 June 2017

5. I was attending an unrelated course in Hitchin on 14 June 2017. At around 11:00, I called Tony Day, Repair Team Manager, who explained that Cadent had been called to assist the fire services at a large fire at Grenfell Tower in West London, I asked if he would like me to attend to assist and he confirmed that he would. I arrived on site at around 13:00 and made my way straight to the Cadent muster point to meet with Tony Day. The site was congested although I had no difficulty parking near to Oxford Gardens, I then made my way on foot to the muster point. There was a lot of people and press in the vicinity. There were some extremely distressed people being comforted by the local community. I was not approached by any members of the press.

6. When I reached the muster point, I spoke with Tony DAY, he provided me with a briefing and explained that the London Fire Brigade (“LFB”) was in charge of the operations on site and that Cadent had been liaising with the LFB in order to try to isolate the supply of gas to the building.

7. Tony Day asked me to speak to Jason ALLDAY to discuss whether there was anything that we could do to isolate the vertical risers. At that stage, the fire was still burning intensely. Due to the nature of the fire and the ongoing LFB operation, it was clear that it was impossible to get anywhere near the building in order to attempt to isolate the supply. The Police and LFB had established cordons in order to ensure the safety of those present.

8. As I had previous knowledge of the layout of the basement and the location of the isolation valves which were situated approximately 4-5 metres above floor level, from around 14:00 until 16:00 I worked on a verbal risk assessment with the LFB and Jason ALLDAY regarding access to the rear of the tower to allow Cadent to isolate the valves in the basement. We considered a number of risks such as: how we would actually isolate the valves to cut off the supply of gas, access, egress, the possibility of being overcome by fumes in a confined space with restricted access, the fact that the building was still on fire

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and that we were being escorted by the LFB. The outcome of this risk assessment was shared verbally with Tony DAY.

9. I entered the basement with Jason ALLDAY and three LFB firefighters. We were guided by the LFB and walked beneath shields to protect us from the debris that was falling from the building. We walked down the stairs to the basement, as we reached the bottom of the steps we could see that the electricity was still on and that there was about six inches of water. We had decided that we would not enter the basement as it was unsafe. At that point, the LFB received a command to evacuate the building so we immediately left the basement.

10. At around 18:30, I attended further Cadent briefings and de-briefings with Jason ALLDAY to discuss changeover of personnel and next steps. We also ensured that everyone working on site had regular food and refreshment breaks.

11. I left site at around 19:00. I believe that teams were still excavating at that time but I was not aware of the proposed works and further mobilisation plans at that time.

12. On 15 June 2017, I returned to site at 11:45 to assist with the assessment of other buildings in the area and to review gas pipes at some of the low level blocks adjacent to Grenfell Tower. I left site at approximately 13:10.

13. Whilst I was at the site on 14 June, I could see distressed members of the public. I saw a number of body bags and a leg in the temporary morgue which was located in a garage when I returned following an aborted access attempt with the LFB to the tower.

14. My only interaction with individuals outside of Cadent was during the risk assessment process when I liaised with members of the LFB. I do not recall the names of the individuals from the LFB that I met.

I understand that the material I have provided to the Police may be shared with the Public Inquiry investigating the Grenfell Tower Fire. I am willing for any material handed to the criminal investigation to be shared with the Public Inquiry.

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