

**IN THE MATTER OF THE GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY**

---

**SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF KAREN ABOUD**

---

I, KAREN ABOUD, DOB [REDACTED] of an address known to the inquiry will say as follows:

1. I am making this further statement to assist the Grenfell Tower Inquiry. I am making it because since my last statement, transcripts of two further 999 calls made by me have been located and also a further call by my son [A1] I rely on the content of these calls as evidence of what happened on the night of the fire.
2. First I said in my previous statement that my first call was exactly 1:30. I remember this because I looked at my clock. But the transcript of the call [URN INQ0000287] is timed at 01:38, so a bit later than I remembered. Second I said in my first statement that the operator told me to stay inside, but in fact they suggest I leave, though they are quite reassuring and say ‘.. It’s all right, we do know about it and the Fire Brigade are on their way’. In my first statement, I referred to my statement to the police saying I was told to try and leave and it’s now clear that was correct.
3. This doesn’t mean the rest of what I said is wrong. It’s still correct that I made myself a coffee and smoked a cigarette out of the window, and that I wasn’t unduly worried, and that I thought ‘Calm down’ when I called my friend Dunya who was in a state and telling me to leave. Reading the transcript of the call, this makes sense as the operator was quite reassuring. I just got dressed, woke up the kids and had my coffee and a cigarette while they got dressed so we could leave. I definitely remember that I was dressed when I had my coffee and cigarette. I don’t think I got

Signed by Karen Aboud.....

dressed when I first called the police and this would make sense as I just thought I was reporting a fight or something, and the police would come and sort it out, and I could go back to bed. Whereas after the call, I got dressed so that we could leave. I can't be sure about this, but I'm reasonably confident about it.

4. It's clear from the transcript of my son [A1]'s call at 01:57 (URN LFB00000335] and also my call at 02:06 [URN INQ0000371] that we tried to leave after my first 999 call, but we found the smoke too much and had to go back. This is as I described in my first statement in paragraphs 26 and 27 and the rest of that statement is correct.
5. I also rely on a further 999 call by [A1] that has been disclosed, for an accurate account of what happened on the night, namely the call at 02:15:07, the transcript of which is URN LFB0000346.

**Statement of truth:**

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

I confirm that I am willing for the statement to form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and for it to be published on the Inquiry's web site.

Signed: .....

(Karen Aboud)

Dated: 5/10/18

Signed by Karen Aboud.....