

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

Statement of: BOURNE, JAMES

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

Occupation: POLICE OFFICER

This statement (consisting of 2 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: JAMES BOURNE

Date: 07/10/2017

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

This statement is in relation to my deployment to the GRENFELL TOWER fire on TUESDAY 13th JUNE 2017.

This statement is my original note and has been completed at the request of the GRENFELL INVESTIGATION TEAM

I am Police Sergeant James Bourne; PS 40 XB attached to EALING Emergency Response Team A on EALING borough. On the above stated date, TUESDAY 13th JUNE 2017, I was the PS for COUNTER TERRORISM CARRIER serial number 994B from 2200 hours and deployed to VILLIERS ROAD, CHARING CROSS. My serial consisted of the following officers PC's 141XB BURGESS, 505XB SHARMA, 943XB NOLAN, 423XB DUDLEY and 382XB CLIFFORD PC Shaun Chapman 513XB. We had ground assigned at VILLIERS ROAD at approximately 2300 hours and conducted foot patrols of the area as directed. At approximately 0140 hours we were required to redeploy to an immediate response to BOMORE ROAD, KENSINGTON in relation to a fire at the GRENFELL TOWER. We made our way to the location on blue lights and sirens arriving approximately FIFTEEN (15) minutes later and being directed to park on WALMER ROAD W11. I immediately sought out the duty Officer covering the incident and directed my serial to make their way to BOMORE ROAD *j/w* AVONDALE PARK ROAD which was located directly in front of KENSINGTON LEISURE CENTRE. On our arrival at this location it was apparent that members of the public were running in various directions in and around the immediate area of the GRENFELL TOWER and surrounding roads, we along with other officers arriving were tasked with setting up a police cordon at our location and getting members of the public behind that

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Signature witnessed by:

cordon. Police cordon tape was put in place at the start of AVONDALE PARK ROAD across its width and gradually officers coaxed members of the public back behind the tape and eventually to the junction of AVONDALE PARK ROAD j/w THRESHERS PLACE where the cordon was held by officers from our serial and another of our sister serials. The area behind us, on BOMORE ROAD, was being used for the RVP of FIRE SERVICE vehicles and LAS who had set up an initial triage area directly outside the LEISURE CENTRE for any injured being evacuated from the GRENFELL TOWER. Our serial secured the cordon for about two hours. During this period I could clearly see Grenfell tower burning profusely from the mid section upwards, and plumes of smoke rising from the main tower itself. Several members of the public approached me and asked me to speak to members of their family still inside the tower and what should they do. I advised them that LFP had directed that they were to stay in their flats and help was coming. Throughout this period one individual started shouting and asked what were we doing and why we weren't entering the building. I then noticed about six to eight people running down the main road with shields over their heads; these appeared to be level II shields. I was then approached by GOLD and asked if I had one and four who could assist with preventing members of the public entering the main access point to Grenfell which was located on the other side of the tower block. I then volunteered to undertake this tasking and was able to use three officers without compromising the cordon. These three officers were PC Nolan 943XB, Burgess 141XB, Sharma 505XB. We then made our way around the perimeter of Grenfell and past the main working stations of LFB. As we past Blechymden Street I noticed a large group consisting of about thirty people under the bridge area and within close proximity to the tower. We then directed the crowd away from the underpass and closed a metal gate which had been left open and was insecure. I directed the officers to set in place a cordon as this area was insecure and I had concerns for the public who were watching the incident as this was clearly an unsafe area in my opinion. I then continued in searching for the access point which GOLD had requested we attended. I located this close to the triage point set up by the LAS o/side Latimer Tube station. I then noticed a heavy TSG presence and was aware that they were directing members of the public back and had secured the access point. I then returned towards Blechymden Street and assisted on route with LAS who required access to the triage point. Members of the public were stepping into the road so I placed cordon tape across to prevent members of the public walking onto the road. I then returned to Blechymden Street. I liaised between both halves of my serial and ensured refreshments were received on the attendance of the Salvation Army.

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Signature witnessed by:

RESTRICTED

Statement of: BOURNE, JAMES

Form MG11(T)

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At approximately 0900 hours on WEDNESDAY 14th JUNE 2017 we were relieved and requested to attend KENSINGTON POLICE STATION, EARLS COURT ROAD in order to debrief. On our arrival at KENSINGTON POLICE STATION we were given a short debrief before leaving and making our way back to our own OCU. This statement has been completed at Southall Police station on Saturday 7th October 2017 at 1700 hrs.

Signature: James BOURNE
2017

Signature witnessed by:

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