

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

Statement of: KNIGHTLY, JASON JOHN

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

Occupation: GAS ENGINEER

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:

Date: 18/08/2017

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

This statement relates to my attendance to the Grenfell Tower fire on the 14th June 2017.

I am a first call operative, emergency lead engineer. I am employed by a company called Morrisons and I have worked for them since 2008. Morrisons head office is Abel Smith House, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire. I am contracted out by Morrisons. Since 2011, I was contracted to work for the National Grid which is now Cadent Gas, my role for Cadent Gas is as a first call operative. I am qualified and I hold a Nationally Accredited Certificate for individual gas fitting operatives in the following:-

Combustion Performance Analysis – expiry 24/9/18

Domestic Natural Gas Safety – expiry 24/3/18

Domestic Gas Meters – expiry 25/3/18

Changeover Dom – ESP Safety – expiry 25/9/18

Diaphragm Meter into and including U40 – expiry 26/11

Domestic Medium Pressure Regulator – expiry 6/3/21.

I do not deal with mains gas in the road I deal with isolation of services in residential properties.

Signature:
2017

Signature witnessed by:

On the 13th of June 2017 I was night shift, I was due to start work at 7pm and finish at 7am. I booked onto my shift at 7pm on the Upper Richmond Road, Putney and I was out and about doing jobs prior to returning to the depot at Imperial Road, Fulham.

At 0327 hrs on the 14th of June I received a message to my gobook and a text to my work phone number [REDACTED]. The message informed me that there was a fire uncontrolled, it gave me the address of Grenfell Tower, job number, task type, scheduled start and description of job.

I arrived at St Annes Road at 0348. I couldn't get any closer so parked my van. As I arrived on scene I would describe it as chaos. I attempted to find a member of the firebrigade to report that I was on site. I spoke to 2 firemen and I asked where they incident unit was, I gave them my phone number and they said that they would pass it on. I walked into the outer cordon with the firemen and I waited at Latimer Station under the bridge.

I contacted dispatch via my gobook and requested a team to attend, this message goes to repair dispatch to be allocated. I also contacted Peter Baynard and Dave Edwards who were the on call managers for that night. Peter Baynard asked me what the situation was and I explained that there was a large fire and I directed him to where I was located. Dave Edwards called me when he got on site to arrange to meet, I believe that we met near to Latimer Station.

Prior to Peter and Dave arriving approximately 0430 – 0500 I reported to the incident unit on Bramley Road and I again gave the fire brigade my name and number, again I was told to standby. I was asked by one of the fireman at Bramley Road what would be the repercussions of the mains gas being turned off and who would be effected, I couldn't answer the question because I did not know the answer.

At no point during my attendance at Grenfell Tower did I touch or turn off any mains gas, I stood on standby for the entire time that I was there and liased with the firebrigade and my supervisors.

The only thing that I witnessed was the LAS treating people, the firebrigade tackling the fire and police cordons

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