

Patrick James Delaney

On the evening of the 14th June 2017 I was a Watch Manager at Islington Fire Station on the Red Watch, myself and my colleague WM Peter Johnson were Riding the Command Unit, I was driving it, Call sign CU2. We were mobilised to incident No076028-14062017 at 01:38 hrs. A 25 pump fire at Grenfell Tower, Lancaster West Estate W11 1TG. We were mobile to the incident at 01:40 and arrived at the incident at 01:50. I had no previous knowledge of this premises.

At some stage during the incident I returned to another Command Unit and had a brief conversation with WM Norman Harrison,

WM Norman Harrison asked me if the "Stay Put" advice should be changed, and the residents be evacuated.

To the best of my knowledge WM Harrison had not entered the building and would not have been aware how the small the staircase was.

I had been in and out of the building many times throughout the incident and had been as far up as the 9th Floor. The stairway was very small, the conditions on the stairway were changing rapidly, and was becoming smoke logged, there was a lot of Firefighting equipment on the stairway, and there was also a lot of personal belongings that had been dropped by residents on the stairway.

On or near the 9th floor was a deceased resident who was partially blocking the stairway.

I answered WM Harrison's question by making him aware of the situation within the Stairway and said that in my opinion, the "Stay Put" advice was the correct advice at that time.

The contents of this statement are true, and I am willing for the statement to form part of the evidence.

Signed Patrick James Delaney

05/11/2018


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