

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

Statement of: HILL, RYAN

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

Occupation: NETWORK SUPERVISOR

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: R.HILL

Date: 28/02/2018

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

I, Ryan HILL make this statement in relation to the Grenfell Tower Fire which took place on 14 June 2017.

Background

1. I am employee of Cadent Gas Ltd (Cadent) and I attended the incident at Grenfell Tower during the 14 and 15 June 2017 to supervise the team of First Call Operatives (FCO) who had been called to assist at the incident.
2. I am a Network Supervisor for Cadent. I have worked for Cadent, and previously National Grid, for 6 years. I started at National Grid as an adult hire and since then I have progressed to the role of Network Supervisor.
3. My qualifications and training include: the Core Gas Safety qualification (CCN1).
4. Prior to the incident in June 2017, I had never visited Grenfell Tower or worked in the vicinity.

14 June 2017

5. I received a call from Colin LARKIN, my line manager at around 08:30. He told me about the incident at Grenfell Tower, I was aware that a number of FCOs had been called to attend the incident and he asked me to attend in order to supervise the FCOs and to assist in any way that I could. I then spoke to Peter BAYNARD, a level 7 Network Engineer who was on site and he

Signature: R.HILL
2018

Signature witnessed by:

advised me not to attend immediately, he asked me to standby and to attend later in the afternoon to relieve those that were working on site.

6. I arrived on site at approximately 15:30 and made my way straight to the Cadent muster point near to Dixon House. It was overwhelming when I first arrived, I could see Grenfell Tower was in flames with debris falling from it. When I arrived, I spoke to Tony DAY, the Band C Manager for Repair, who advised me to stand-by until further communication was received from the London Fire Brigade (LFB). My role was to lead the FCOs if any properties in the area needed to be made safe by turning off Emergency Control Valves (ECVs) at the meter points. However, due to the safety exclusion zone that had been established by the LFB, we could not get anywhere near any properties. I attended a briefing delivered by Tony DAY which explained the proposed operation to isolate the gas supply. I then visited each of the proposed isolation sites to get an overview of what was going on and to understand what was involved in the proposed isolations. At around 17:00, we were asked by the LFB to vacate the area close to the tower as there were concerns about the structural stability of the building. We then gathered at the Cadent muster point on Darfield Way for around an hour until we were told by the LFB that it was safe to return to the isolation sites. As I walked around site between the isolation sites, I saw an area where CPR had taken place although I did not see any casualties. I saw LFB firefighters who were in tears. I saw a number of film crews but I was not approached by any members of the press.
7. Later in the evening the atmosphere became more uneasy, some people became aggressive so we removed our hi viz jackets when we left the cordon zone to avoid any potential confrontation from members of the public. A couple of members of the public approached me to ask if the gas supply to the building had been cut off, I did not engage with them or answer any questions. Once the atmosphere had deteriorated, I felt safer within the cordon zone than outside of it and I became concerned that we would become a target if we wore our hi viz. for this reason, in the early hours of the morning when I escorted James HARRISON to his car which was parked near the muster point, we removed our hi viz.
8. I remained on stand-by with the team of FCOs near Dixon House for the rest of the afternoon and evening. I was advised to stand down by Tony DAY and left site at 02:00
9. I've never seen an incident like this, it was probably one of the worst days of my life and I hope that I never experience anything like that again.

Signature: R.HILL
2018

Signature witnessed by:

OFFICIAL

Statement of: HILL, RYAN

Form MG11(T)

Page 3 of 3

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.

Signature: R.HILL
2018

Signature witnessed by:

OFFICIAL