

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

Statement of: CLIFFORD, EDDY

Age if under 18: OVER 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:

Date: 10/09/2017

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

I am the above named person and I am a police officer attached to Ealing — XB Borough. I am writing this statement in relation to my attendance at the Grenfell tower fire that occurred on Wednesday 14TH June 2017 in the writing room of Ealing police station on 10/09/2017.

I was wearing Body Worn Video throughout this incident and will exhibit the footage at the end of this statement.

I have not viewed it prior to writing this statement. I have referred back to my pocket note book in order to make this statement.

On Wednesday 14th June 2017 I was on duty in full uniform, operating on an aid serial tasked with CT (counter terrorism) patrols in central London — around the area of Charing Cross rail station, serial number 994B. At approximately 01:30hrs we were contacted via PR and re-tasked with attending a large building fire on a nearby Borough — Kensington and Chelsea - BS. Upon arrival on scene we made our way on foot to the sports centre that is located BOMORE ROAD it was evident that a major incident was occurring with I would estimate two hundred (200) to three hundred (300) members of the public were stood watching the tower block that I now know to be GRENFELL TOWER on fire. The flames coming from the building were huge and thick billowing smoke could clearly be seen. There were also parts of

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Signature witnessed by:

the building falling from it and landing in the nearby areas surrounding it. Our Serial sergeant PS40XB BOURNE liaised with other sergeants present and then tasked us with moving the large group of members of the public back and away from the immediate area. At this stage we were only approximately 250m away from GRENFELL TOWER and for their own safety and to allow the London Fire Brigade and London Ambulance Service access and room to work we shouted and instructed the people to move back and away from BOMORE ROAD.

Myself and my colleagues from our serial were joined by other police officers from other serials/boroughs and we moved the crowd back firstly setting up a cordon along the end of AVONDALE PARK ROAD and then approximately half an hour later extending this cordon back to the junction with THRESHERS PLACE. The crowd were somewhat hostile in their actions towards police. Many said that they had relatives and/or friends in the tower block and they were reluctant to move back and keep behind the cordons that had been set up. One of the other serials sergeants asked me to take names and flat numbers from any members of the crowd who said they were residents and had evacuated the tower. I exhibit a scan of these details as EPC/3. During the course of dealing with this large group of people many of them were speaking on mobile phones to people that were still inside the tower. Occasionally they would ask police what they should tell these people and as per the information coming from our radios we advised them to remain in their flats and await rescue by the fire brigade.

On at least two occasions a number of the members of public broke through the cordons and ran/moved towards the tower. They were stopped and sent back by other police units. I remained on scene and posted to the cordons until we were relieved in the early hours on the morning. Our serial was sent to a police station on BS for a debrief prior to being dismissed back to XB.

During this incident I took two separate recordings on my body worn video and I exhibit these as EPC/1 and EPC/2.

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