

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

Statement of: CHAPMAN, SHAWN

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: SHAWN CHAPMAN

Date: 11/09/2017

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 on WEDNESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2017 by way of email.

I am Police Officer, PC 513XB CHAPMAN, with the METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE attached to EALING Emergency Response Team B on EALING borough.

On the above stated date, TUESDAY 13th JUNE 2017, I was the DRIVER of a COUNTER TERRORISM CARRIER serial number 994B from 2200 hours and deployed to VILLIERS ROAD, CHARRING CROSS. My serial SERGEANT on this occasion was PS4OXB BOURNE, along with PC's 141XB BURGESS, 505XB SHARMA, 943XB NOLAN, 423XB DUDLEY and 382XB CLIFFORD.

We had ground assigned at VILLIERS ROAD at approximately 2300 hours and conducted foot patrols of the area in pairs at the instruction of PS4OXB BOURNE. At approximately 0140 hours we were asked to return to the carrier as we were re deployed to attend on 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. PS4OXB BOURNE has de bused initially and sought instructions before we all de bused and made our way on foot to the location of BOMORE ROAD j/w AVONDALE PARK ROAD

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2018

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which was located approximately FIFTY (50) METRES directly in front of KENSINGTON LIESURE 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 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 OCU in the first instance. 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.

My serial maintained our position on the cordon for approximately ONE and HALF to TWO HOURS before part of my serial along with PS4OXB BOURNE were redeployed to the other side of the GRENFELL TOWER. PC423XB DUDLEY and 382XB CLIFFORD along with myself were tasked to remain on our cordon location along with some officers from another OCU, there were approximately EIGHT officers on this cordon for the remainder of the period. This cordon during the course of the night held back a large number of members of the public, possibly EIGHTY to ONE-HUNDRED people, some were stating they had family members inside the tower and were continually asking for information regarding any efforts being made to evacuate those still believed to be inside. Information being filtered to the cordon was that the incident was being controlled by the London Fire Brigade, we were getting information from some members of the public stating their family members inside the tower were being advised to stay put and that LFB would make their way to them. The Tower was located behind me when standing on the cordon, officers facing the crowds in the opposite direction. I recall however during varying times of the incident looking at the tower behind me and seeing both the EAST and SOUTH sides where the flames seemed to have worked their way around from the NORTH side and up to the higher levels. I recall seeing pieces of debris falling from the tower to the areas below and hearing occasional cracking type sounds from the building structure. As the incident continued into the early hours of the morning and whilst on the cordon, members of the public behind our cordon tapes became increasingly

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frustrated with what they believed to be a lack of information about family members possibly still inside the tower and broke through the cordon at my location, running towards the LEISURE CENTRE and the GRENFELL TOWER. Due to the small number of officers on the cordon we were unable to prevent this in the first instance and members of the public advanced to the location of the LAS Triage area before officers could regain some control of the cordon and clear those people from the area and reinstate the cordon back on AVONDALE PARK ROAD j/w TRESHERS PLACE, I do not know at what time this occurred, but this was the only occasion. I remained with my colleagues on the cordon at that location for the rest of our duty until our release at approximately 0915 to 0930 hours on WEDNESDAY 14th JUNE 2017. Our serial, on regrouping at our carrier, were then redeployed to 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. We were then released from duty at approximately 1130 hours on WEDNESDAY 14th JUNE 2017. I believe the above to be accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

Signature: Shawn CHAPMAN
2018

Signature witnessed by: