

City of Memphis
Police Division
Inspectional Services Bureau

Civilian Witness Statement

Name: Jennifer Roberts **Sex:** F **Race:** W **DOB:** [REDACTED]
Residence: [REDACTED] Memphis, TN **Phone:** [REDACTED]
Statement taken at: 1670 Chelsea Ave. **Date\Time:** 1/10/2023, 10:07 a.m.
Typed By: Tiffany Brown, #3218 **Date\Time:** 1/11/2023, 9:298 a.m.
Questioned By: Sgt. C. Paige, #12334 / Sgt. R. Mear, #10154
Relative to ISB File: I2023-001

Q: Can you please state your name for the record?

A: Jennifer Roberts.

Q: Can you spell your last name for me?

A: R-O-B-E-R-T-S.

Q: And are you aware that this statement is being recorded?

A: Yes.

Q: Are you giving this statement on your own free will?

A: Yes.

Q: What is your current address?

A: [REDACTED]

Q: And were you home on Saturday, January 7, 2023, around 8:20 pm?

A: Yes.

Q: And did something happen that night where police were in front of your home?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you explain in your own words, from the beginning to the end, what, what you experienced that night?

A: Um I was in the bed and um my kid, one of my children walked in and said 'Mom, there's police out in front of our house' and I was like you know, cool. You know Memphis is crazy, cool. Let there be one sitting in front of our house. It's fine. And then another once came in and said, 'They're fighting and there's a bunch of them' and I was like man, well let me go look. So,



I went to the front window, and I looked both ways and the street was all blocked off from police and also there was a fire truck at the end of the street and um I was like man what's going on. So, I went to my garage which is on, I'm on the corner, so my garage is on the opposite side to where I could actually see what was going on because my living rooms on the far opposite side of the house. So, I opened my garage, and everybody is gathered in the middle of the street. And I'm like what's going on and then one of them not..., well they all noticed me open my garage is loud. Um when my garage opened, they all kind of looked at me and then they kept talking. There was one female I believe, I kept hearing a female voice, or it was a guy with a sweet voice, I don't know. Um but she keeps talking about, 'man I got'em' and I, you know and I'm like, you got'em? And but it didn't you know it didn't play what actually transpired or you know whatever. I don't, I don't know what happened. But when they um when she said that I was looking around trying to see who they had and where the car was. You know, so I'm looking and there wasn't anything. So, for about 20 minutes I kind of videoed just certain stuff but I was on the phone with my neighbor on the opposite side of Brandywine, like you know come over here and look and see what's going on in front of my house on this said, and uh cause we never have anything really happen on Brandywine. And um and we're talking, then I was like 'oh my god Ms. Debbie, I think somebody's laying on the ground over here'. So, I said I'mma call you back in a minute and I took the picture and then I zoomed in and noticed this guy is laying beside, you see his head beside the back driver side, back left side of the vehicle but that's the only part I saw. Cause like he's here, like this is the car. He's here and this is the street. There's a stop sign right here like catty cornered from me and he, you could see his head right here. And I said 'oh my god Ms. Debbie, there's somebody laying in the street right here' and it's, I didn't know what happened. So, I, you don't invest, you don't jump in police stuff. You know let that happen or whatever. And I just kept saying man, you know he's laying on the ground. 'And she was like, oh no. And so, I sent it to her and she was like yeah, that's somebody. And then about five, ten minutes later, they were like get out the way, EMT, y'all move the cars, EMT is on their way, paramedics, whatever they said. It took, I wanna say, four police officers to set this, all I saw now was from this angle. But they're all right here and the paramedic was like hey, it's EMT, paramedics, you know. You could see them doing that. Dude wasn't budging. I and I was like oh my god, I think he's dead you know, and I'm talking and she's like oh my god. And it takes about three or four of those officers to set him up, to lean his back on the backend of the car right here. And um he had on handcuffs, the short ones. I don't know if they were behind him or in front of him. But I saw one of the officers come over and take the handcuffs off. The EMT guy lifts his hand, it falls. There's no stuck anywhere, it like fell real hard and I said, 'oh my god, they just raised his arm and it fell'. That's when I'm like man, somethings wrong with dude. And it just bothered me that everybody was standing out in the street. Had no care in the world that this guy was laying here and couldn't, I never heard the guy say a word. I never did. He shouldn't have ran. He shouldn't have ran. You don't run. Yeah, go head.

Q: How many...

A: Like....



Q: No, it's okay. So, when you went out, out of your garage, could you tell how many officers were out there?

A: I've got videos of them. There was um, trying to think at the end of my street. There was a fire truck here and maybe one police car here. They were all unmarked. I wanna say they were blue, blue Chargers and maroon Chargers, something like that. There was one on the side of the curb in front of the fire truck and then there was another one right here and then there was a couple of them right here.

Q: When you say 'right here' where, where are you motioning to?

A: On the opposite side of like the fire truck coming up on the opposite side of the street.

Q: Okay.

A: And there was one like blocking, there's I think a couple maybe, and don't quote me exactly, but there was a couple, did I see you come out there?

Q: (Mear) no ma'am.

A: There was one white guy that came out there and I wanna say it was a baldheaded man.

Q: It's a common thing.

A: But at towards the end. But he came in an unmarked car. But I don't, it stayed at the end of the street, and I never paid attention to it. But it was all those and then there was a couple, like that one Charger was here. There was another one like right here on the street and I wanna say there was like two right here in the cove, cause there's a cove right here. This, this Charger was like going the wrong way inside the cove. You get what I'm saying?

Q: Um-hmm.

Q: You said earlier that you saw some officers just standing around. How many officers do you think was standing around?

A: I'mma look and I'll tell you. Cause they're clearly nowhere around. This is the Charger. See, see where I'm at with the Charger. This is, this is him laying right here.

Q: Right.

A: Bunch of them are right here.

Q: So, so based off of that, can you count and see how many you believe that was?

A: One, two, three, four, five, I wanna say five right here. But some of them also used my water hose.

Q: Is...

A: I let them you know.

Q: That, the individual that asked to use your water hose, can you identify him or describe what he looked like?

A: Um... a black guy... maybe 50-ish. He was older than me. Maybe 50-ish, um maybe a bald head. They had on long sleeve, I think all the police officers there had the long sleeve black, just tee shirt with MPD or something, their, whatever unit they're with and they're something.

Q: It wasn't, it wasn't a normal MPD uniform?

A: No, no, no, no, no. It was whatever unit they're with, they're.

Q: Now, at any time did any officers ever speak to you and explain or, or try to tell you what happened?

A: I asked, yes.

Q: What did the officer tell you?

A: That um he was um, I said, 'man, what happened?' and uh as we were walking to my water hose, he's the first one. And I believe he's the one, don't quote me, but yeah quote me because this is what he told me. I said, 'man what happened' and he says, 'I seen the subject' or individual, something he described the guy, 'as riding in incoming traffic'. He was coming in coming traffic or whatever. He was riding in the op, opposite side. And I was like man, and he said yeah and he's out of breath. He's a big guy. Like bigger, older, not more built cause there was more taller built ones out there. He was more of a, I hope he don't see this, more of kind of a bigger guy, like maybe he used to be built you know type of guy. Um but he, yeah, he told me that he was going in the opposite direction in traffic and that he proceeded, he made a U-turn and tried to stop him or something and he didn't stop, and he put him on a chase more than once. And that's basically all he said. Then he was like where do I turn the water hose on, you know. But it wasn't I don't think that was, I think that was all the conversation besides I even offered him water bottles, rags, you know, I was trying to help.

Q: And I think you also said that you were on the phone with a neighbor, and you sent her a picture of the incident, is that correct?

A: Picture just of um, hmm.

Q: That's fine. What, what...

A: They guy laying on the ground.

Q: What was her, what is her name?

A: [REDACTED]

Q: And.

A: This is the picture that I got off the phone with her to take. This is him laying on the ground. But you see, this, like I said this is what bothers me. There's nobody there. Even if you have a fire truck at the end of the street, why weren't they up there regardless of what the guy did. You know what I'm saying. If he was needing help, he laid there too long needing help with nobody right there.

Q: So from the time that you went out in the garage and saw the incident, how long do you think it took for say paramedics to arrive?

A: Okay, this is the video in my living room. You could see my window. This was 8:38. So, when I, this is kind of what I tried to show her, but I didn't go all the way down. See the other police officer right here. There was that one, that one and then there was like, they were lined up down the street. This is when I took the picture, and it was 8:54.

Q: About how long do you think it was that paramedics got there after that picture?

A: This is when the guy yells, the police officer yells, this is right here. This is 8:57. The officer, one of them yells 'hey, we need to move the cars, let's get the cars out the way'. They all walk off with the flashlight. They're not even shining, like they could care less about this dude right here. And, and you just see them, like he's walking off. And the, and the EMT even say's hey, where'd the light go? Can I get the flashlight?

Q: And that was what time?

A: 8:58, is that what I said? 8:57.

Q: Thank you.

A: That's what I was talking about when you scroll up you could see the time and stuff. But um, so when the paramedics got there, that was 8:58.

Q: So, the paramedics on that video was at 8:58?

A: Um

Q: And it looked like that's...

A: And they had just walked up there because that's when I got my video to start recording but I was trying to set it like I was on my phone. Y'all probably saw me. I was like this talking on speaker phone 'cause I didn't want it to be noticeable but I wasn't going to put it on Facebook. I didn't. I did not.

Q: And did...

A: Cause that's more trouble and then you see my street signs.

Q: Did you ever share that video with anyone else?

A: Yeah.

Q: Who, who was the individual you?

A: I shared it with a couple of people and um I woke up this morning to my (inaudible). I sent this to my friend Crystal, and I said wow. She said who is that and I said that's the bother I guess has commented under Memphis Police Department's website. This is the brother, and this is the guy.

Q: Can you tell me that brother's name?

A: I, I don't know. Sur Dupree? I, I don't.

Q: That's his social media name?

A: He, yes, he will be here Thursday. He's in California.

Q: And is that who you provided the video to?

A: After I woke up and my friend said, she said who is that. But I sent that like, like I said I go to bed early. I sent that at 8 o'clock. She wrote me at 8:08 and said who is that. I woke up to these three. She said, gave me his number and said that's the guy's brother. Will you call him and talk to him and tell him what you saw? And then I was like oh my god and I went to Facebook. He sent me a friend request. And then I only felt it was right. I, I didn't have any video showing anything. I just showed, you know what I'm saying. I didn't, I wouldn't have done that because that would have been heartfelt on him and everybody. I didn't do that. I just said everything I'll, I'll send you is basically what I showed him but my friend had already sent the picture of his brother laying beside the tire.

Q: And now...

A: I didn't tell her to send him that. I just said look what I've got 'cause I've always wanted to be an investigator but when I told you I got in trouble in Mississippi, they got me on 9 years of unsupervised probation. So, there's no way I could even go and try to get it expunged off my record, you know what I'm saying. Like, but I'm, I'm a detective.

Q: And, and, and so for clarification, so that, that video or picture was sent to Sur Dupree on Facebook? Do you know when it was sent to him?

A: It had to have been before 11, what did I say she sent me that message at 11 something?

Q: Is that today's date?

A: Uh, well yesterday. Last night at 11:08. Cause I sent that at 8pm. I sent that to her, and I said wow, cause it's, just commenting and saying my little bothers in ICU. Um just telling me, you know just reading that and I just sent it to her. I said wow, look, I can find anybody. He's in California. You know.

Q: Is, is there anything else on the videos that, that you observed?

A: No.

Q: Out of the ordinary?

A: No. Just the fact of them putting him up, sitting him up. It took a lot of them. That guy's skinny. You could see from his pictures he's skinny. Why did it take 4 or 5 police officers, big guys, to set him up?

Q: Aside from the officer that, that got the water from you, did any of the other officers make any statements, did they say anything to you about it or anything like that?

A: Um-um. Um-um.

Q: Just...

A: Naw, just where's your water and one of them kept walking.

Q:OK.

A: You know like I was just like over there but he, I don't, I already kind of knew what kind of started it so I didn't want to continue on.

Q: Sure. Did the fire department say anything to you or anything like that then?

A: Nope.

Q: Um..

A: No, but the girl, whoever the girl was or the guy with the sweet voice, after like I think about everything that went on...

Q: Um-hmm.

A: She shouldn't have said the stuff that she said.

Q: Have, have you spoken to any of your other neighbors that maybe saw like...

A: Nobody...

Q: what we saw or anything earlier than that?

A: No. Everybody kind of came out afterwards. The guys house that it was in front of, he came home pissed because everybody was in front of his house. He's the one that took the shoe and the purple jacket and kicked it all the way down behind po, police officers, Yes, they left his stuff on the side of the curb. I literally cause I, I kept saying to my neighbor that lived next door, I said man, uh you know he's gonna hit that cop car with that shoe because he keeps kicking it behind them. There was two of them. The last two that left. He was kicking that stuff because Brandywine is like a neighborhood association. You got they want to keep everything clean. They didn't want somebody's clothes and their evidence.

Q: What was that neighbors name, who was kicking the stuff?

A: I, I don't know his name.

Q: Do you know which house he lives in?

A: Yes. The house where um catty cornered from me. Catty cornered from my garage. If you go to my house, he's and you put your back towards my garage, he's catty cornered on the corner.

Q: To the right?

A: Yes.

Q: Is it the house that had the RV...

A: Yes.

Q: parked in front of it?

A: Yes. Yes, the garage. Cause his house is on the Castlegate.

Q: Do you know about how old he is?

A: I don't know. Probably around, I don't know. Black people age better than white people. I don't know.

Q: Did you, did you, did you ever speak with him after this?

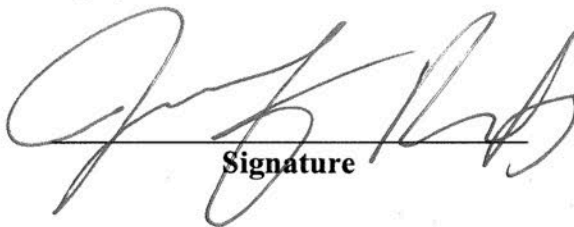
A: Yeah, he was just pissed off that they left stuff. He wasn't there at the time that, I noticed everything. I mean not everything but as far as like afterwards. But my next-door neighbor came out, I think after the last time I let the last guy use the water hose I noticed his mother and him were standing outside next door, and I asked if they saw anything. And that's the people on the corner of Castlegate and Ross on my side. I think the son was sitting out on the back porch. They have like a nice little wooden pa, back porch and he saw somebody run through his yard. That's all he saw. So, I guess, and then blue lights went everywhere, so. Y'all lit up the neighborhood.


Q: So, is there anything that we may not have asked you that you would like to add to the statement?

A: I think that's it. That's it. Yeah.

End of statement at 10:26

I will ask you to read the preceding pages of this typewritten statement and if you find the same to be true and correct as a statement given by you, I ask you to initial the bottom of the preceding pages and sign your name on the line below.


Signature


Date

File Number I 2023-001



**Memphis Police Department
Inspectional Services**

Audio Recording Verification Form

I Jennifer Roberts, have listened to the audio recording of my statement, which was given to Sgt. Paige & Meav of the Inspectional Services Bureau, on 1/10/2023, as represented by my signature below, and it is an accurate and precise representation of my statement. I have been advised and understand that I may receive a transcribed copy of my statement, at a later date, if requested.

Jennifer Roberts
Signature
1/10/23
Date

Sgt. C. Paige 12384
Investigator

