

August 11, 2014
12:33 a.m.
Detective
St. Louis County Police Department
DSN

Detective = Det.
Detective = Det.

Unintelligible = UI

DET. This is Detective , DSN of the St. Louis County Police Department. This interview is being conducted at the St. Louis City Central Library, a, at the intersection of Olive and 14th Street. A, this interview is being conducted in reference to Police Report Number 14-43984. With me is and Detective , DSN...

DET. :

DET. I'm gonna put this here. Hopefully that picks everything up. Um, what can you just tell me about everything that happened on Saturday ma'am?

Well, it was, almost wasn't probably noon exactly but it was like right around noon.

DET. Uh huh.

: Um, I was driving with my family to go to

DET. Okay.

: And, (UI) I think the street was, I'm not sure if it was Canfield that we turned down. Like..like, I wasn't really familiar with that area.

DET. Okay.

But, we turned down the street and we were headed towards the Canfield Apartment Complex.

DET. : Okay. What road were you-were you traveling down before you turned on to that co-co-complex?

A, we were going down West Florissant.

DET. : Okay. Do you know which direction you were going?

: We were headed west.

DET. Okay, I got a map here.

Uh huh.

DET. : If you don't mind taking a look at it. Now you can see we have...here's the Quick Trip and here's Red's Barbeque.

: That's where we turned at.

DET. : Okay. So...

: We turned right at Red's Barbeque.

DET. ...were you-were your going this way or were you coming down this way?

: We were going west on West Florissant.

DET. : Okay, so-so you made a right onto Canfield?

: Yeah, we made a right.

DET. Okay. Okay. Um, and then as you're coming toward the apartment complex which is here...

: We were probably coming around this bend when I heard the gunshot and I can't remember exactly what...

DET. Can you circle that where you think you were about? And if I have a map here and it's kinda bad but it's a satellite photo. I don't know which one's gonna be easier for you to try to figure that out.

: Where's the complex exactly?

DET. : Uh, right in here.

That's it? That's it? We were probably about right around in here 'cause I, this looks like the driveway.

DET. Okay.

'cause we were like right about here.

DET. Okay. Do you mind puttin' a circle there just so I know?

'cause I remember I was tryin' to turn into the driveway.

DET. : Okay. Thank you. Okay. And then, what did you hear when you-when you came to that circle there, or that?

It was, when we got...right before we got there before I got it in my line of sight what was goin' on, we heard like about two or three pops.

DET. Okay.

And, I thought it was fireworks.

DET. : Okay.

But, when we pulled around we saw the-the, um, police car there and we seen a guy standing outside with like...I think he had on a white t-shirt. I'm not sure.

DET. : Okay. So, the...what kind of police car was that, do you know?

It was a, whatcha mean what kind? It looked like um, the St. Louis police car.

DET. : Okay.

It's blue and white.

DET. : Blue and white. Um, was it um, what type of car? Uh, do you know the make or model? Or, do you know, was it a truck, car, SUV?

: It was a car. It was a regular...it wasn't an SUV.

DET. Okay. Okay. And then, can you describe the person that was standing outside of the car?

: Um, he was a tall African-American male. I couldn't ex...I couldn't tell you what, how old he was. I couldn't see any facial features. I know he was standing there. He had on looked like a pair of tan or khaki shorts. He had on a big t-shirt.

DET. : Okay. And, I think you said that was white.

I think it was white.

DET. Okay. Okay. Um, did you see anybody else standing by the car?

Not by the cruiser. It was a girl that was on the right of my (UI) standing in the um grass. Looked like she was walking from somewhere. Um, it was like, there was just people out all, ya know...

DET. : Okay.

...in different areas.

DET. : Okay. Uh, and then this-this male in the white shirt that was standing outside the police car, can you tell me how he was...was he facing the car or was he facing away from the car?

: He was facing the car. As a matter of fact um, I don't know if he was pointing at the car or had been touching, had touched the car or what but he looked like he was standing like this at the car.

DET. : Okay.

With his hands extended in front of him.

DET. : Okay.

So, but, I didn't get close enough to a, when I saw the police car after I heard the pops I didn't really try to get close up.

DET. : Right. Okay, so um, the-the male is standing um...is he on the passenger side, is he on the driver's side?

: He was on the driver's side.

DET. He was on the driver's side.

: The police car was facing towards us which was what would be what, south. It was like diagonal a little bit like it had-he had pulled over.

DET. : Okay.

So...

DET. : Um, okay. And then uh, so he's standing there and the police car's facing you and he's standing at the um, on the driver's side. Now, is he standing at the driver's door or the driver's side passenger door?

The door. It looked like the driver...it was, looked like he was standing at the driver's door...

DET. Driver's door.

: Where the window was at...

DET. : Okay, driver's door.

...where the window was open.

DET. And then you kinda demonstrated his hands were in front of him.

Yeah.

DET. Could you tell if he had anything in his hands?

: I was not, I'm not really sure but when I first came up I thought he was shooting. I thought he was shooting and I wasn't sure.

DET. Okay.

: So I can't really be hon...I can't...honestly I really can't tell you 'cause it was like really fast.

DET. Okay.

It was pretty much really fast when it what happened.

DET. Okay. Um, and-and then what? What did you see?

: I seen the guy back up (shuffling papers) he turned around and started running away from the police car towards the back of the car. You know, towards the, um, back part of the complex.

DET. So, if the car is facing you-if the police car was facing you...

Uh huh.

DET. ...was the, was he running towards you or was he running the opposite direction?

: No, he was running away from me.

DET. Away from you, okay. Okay, so he's running away from you and then what happened?

He looked like he got, back, it's like uh let me see if I could see the map.

DET. Here you go.

: Uh, where was I, ok, I think there was like some trees or somethin' looked like that was back this way maybe back up behind this complex or somethin' right here and he got like...I'm tryin' to see if that's what...

DET. Well, let me ask you this real quick before we get...this is, you said this circle here, and I'm gonna put a-I'm gonna put a-I'm gonna put a...

: I'm not sure where that's at.

DET. : ...one by it but that was where you, you said that's where you heard um, the shots. Can you put a circle where you actually saw the police car?

: I think that the police car was like right in this area right here. Maybe right there. It may have been further back 'cause I'm not sure if this is the right spot 'cause this-this looked like a road. It may have been like a parking lot somewhere up in there.

DET. Okay, okay. So, you can put a circle in here where it might be past I'm gonna put 2 A and B.

Yeah.

DET. Because it's somewhere in that area, does that look right?

Somewhere around there.

DET. You still writing one down? Okay. And that-that's fine. It's hard to tell on a map. I understand that.

Uh huh.

DET. Okay. So then that gentleman's running in this direction here.

Uh huh.

DET. Okay. Um...

I know he got like to the, it was like a street 'cause it cam...it may have been a little bit further back 'cause there was a street going that way.

DET. : Okay. So, it's here...

: And he stopped almost at the end of that and he turned around and came back.

DET. So it's about Copper-Copper Creek he may have turned around?

Yeah, he may have turned around there.

DET. Okay.

(Phone call)

DET. Go ahead.

(On the phone)

:

:

:

DET.

DET. Okay, so, yes-yes ma'am. Uh, so we (moving the recorder) and then what happened when he turned around?

When he turned around I think he, I believe, well, I did see him put his hands up in the air like this but it was for a brief moment. (UI) the police (UI) so as he was running the police officer got out of his car...

DET. Okay.

...and he started running towards the guy. He had his hands-his gun down beside him like this.

DET. Okay, was it in his holster; was it out of his holster; was it drawn?

: It was out of his holster. It was in his hand.

DET. But, it was in his hand and it was-it was down?

Uh huh.

DET. Okay.

: Or at least like it looked like he had it in his hand, down running.

DET. Okay.

: And, I don't think his holster was that far down but I didn't see it.

DET. Yeah. Okay. Okay. And then what'd the policeman do?

: He, the guy, he-he kinda brought the gun up and he was holdin' it out in front of him to kept tellin' him. I heard of him say a couple of times to get down. I couldn't exactly hear everything he was saying. But, I heard him say, get down at least two or three times.

DET. Uh huh. Okay.

And the boy had stopped and then he turned...and he turned around and he was like standing. Like oh, so he turned around, he had his hands up. He put his arms down he started like running towards the officer.

DET. : Okay. Give me one second here. Ah, thank you very much. So, the-the gentleman who was running, he stopped and he turned around and he had his hands up?

: He turned around and he had his hands up for a brief moment.

DET. Okay.

Um, I didn't know the officer was behind him at first and then he kinda-kind of drifted off to the side a little bit.

DET. : Okay.

Um, 'cause he was...because he was just like running behind him and then he started kinda easin' up to like the-the right, well, my right.

DET. Okay.

: He started easin' over to the right backin' in towards the right with his gun drawn held out.

DET. Okay.

And then I don't know. The guy looked like he was...I don't know if he was tryin' to...I don't know if he was tryin' to charge the officer or not. I just know he kinda put his hands down like he was in the runnin' position and he started running and that's when the officer started shootin'.

DET. Okay.

I didn't hear him shoot anything before that. It just might have been that it was too fast for me to comprehend but I just know he started shooting.

DET. Do you know how many times he shot?

Let's see, I know he shot him, he looked like he shot well he looked like he shot here and here...he-he-he was doin' like this. The boy was doin' like that.

DET. : Oh, okay.

And, he shot him I know it was at least two, three...I couldn't even begin to tell you...it was at least about, it was, it might have been more than six times that he was shot.

DET. Okay.

DET. : When he was getting shot, he was running towards the officer?

: Like I said, I'm not sure if he was running, he didn't...

DET. : Well, running back in the direction of the officer?

Yeah, he was running towards him. He was running back towards us.

DET. Okay.

And, um...

DET. Where were his hands as he was running back toward the policeman?

When he started running, he was running like this. He started running like-like he was getting' ready to start take off runnin'.

DET. :

Okay.

:

So, he was just runnin'. I didn't know if he was tryin' to charge the officer or if he was just tryin' to get away.

DET. :

Okay. Did you see him do anything else with his hands?

Not 'til he started falling.

DET. :

Not 'til he started falling? Okay. What'd he-what'd he do when he started falling?

:

Because he, he just shot him...he just shot him a lot of times before he started falling.

DET.

What happened with his hands as he was falling?

He just started reaching down like he was stumbling and stuff.

DET. :

Oh, okay.

:

He started going down.

DET.

Okay. Okay. Did you know if he had anything in his hands as he was running toward the police officer?

Nope, I couldn't see his hands. I was just shell-shocked to see...

DET.

Okay.

...everything going on.

DET. :

And then-and then after that happened, what-what after he fell down, what did you see?

He was just, he just layed there. The officer looked like he was calling on his radio from his shoulder or something.

DET.

Okay.

And, I was trying to get out of there. 'cause I didn't know if anybody else was getting' ready to start shooting or...

DET.

Okay. Did you get out? Is that when you left or....?

: Well, we had went around behind 'cause I was gonna try to go through it and I didn't know about the...like I said, I didn't know the area so I went through the, I went-had to go through the parking lot and I was tryin' to go back around the other way and I just turned back around and came back out.

DET. Okay.

It, before I could turn around, there was like two SUVs came so I couldn't just turn...

DET. Uh huh.

...I had to stop and wait for them to go by and I just watched to see if anything else was coming and then I finally turned up in there 'cause I was tryin' to make sure I didn't get hit by anything on the way through there.

DET. Okay, you said those two SUVs came with those other police cars?

: Uh huh.

DET. Okay. Um, and here's a silly question, but I have to ask. How do you know that was a policeman?

Who?

DET. Yesterday, or on Saturday. How did you know that was a policeman gettin' out of the police car?

Well, the way he was dressed. He was in the police car.

DET. Okay. He was in a uniform is what I'm getting' at.

Yeah, he was in a uniform. He had a uniform on.

DET. : Okay, okay.

: And I could see the vest that he had on.

DET. Okay. Um, I just wanna make sure so um, where did you turn around at?

Like I said, and I'm not sure if that's the driveway or if that's another street or not.

DET. Okay.

So, wherever the driveway was we went back to behind-we had went back behind 'cause I didn't wanna, if anybody else started shootin' I kinda wanted to get away from down there.

DET. Right.

So I came back out the driveway and came back and where's Red's at?

DET. Red's is here.

: Red's is here. We came back out when we got here. It was like, looked like a blue police car and a...two blue police cars came.

DET. Okay.

Looked like it was one of...one of 'em was the sheriff's car and the other one I don't know if it was the coroner or whatever it was.

DET. Okay. So, the-the shooting happened in this area here.

Uh huh.

DET. But then you had turned around off at one of these side streets, either this side or this side?

: It wasn't a street. It was in the parking lot...

DET. The parking lot.

: ...of the complex.

DET. Okay.

: Where ever the complex is at.

DET. It's kinda hard to tell where a parking lot might be on-on the satellite photo but we can-I can get a better picture some other time.

: Let me see, the complex...this is the complex, right?

DET. Yeah. It's really, it's hard to tell.

Yes it is 'cause I'm wondering if this is a...

DET. : Well, let me ask you-let me ask you this. This might be easier. In order for you to turn around, did you drive passed the police car?

: No.

DET. : Okay, so you-you never-you never passed the police car?
Huh uh.

DET. : Okay. Okay.
It was like a driveway up to the...into the complex...

DET. Okay.
: ...and I went through the complex and came back.

DET. Okay, okay. Um...
'cause I was not intending to come back. If I had, I was-I was gonna back down that way and come back around then I thought about the police cars right there, I'm not going that way so I came back, I turned around and came back out this way. I came back out pretty much the same way, well, back out the...pretty much the same way I went in.

DET. Did you or anybody else in your car take a picture or a video of, on your cell phones?
No. I was too shocked to what was goin' on. I thought about it after the fact, but...

DET. Yeah, okay. And, um, and then who-who else was on?
My she yelt out I'm having zombie nightmares.

DET. Yeah, who-who all was in the car with you?
It was me and my husband, two of my daughters, and my

DET. Okay. What's your husband's name?
: I don't think he seen very much of anything. He was falling asleep.

DET. Okay. What's his date of birth?

: I know his birth...it's
 DET : Okay, and what's his cell number?
 His cell number? He don't have a cell number.
 DET. Ok, what's the phone number to get a hold of him?
 Mine.
 DET. Yours.
 : (Laughs)
 DET. Does-does he work at all?
 : No, not right now.
 DET. Okay. Okay, and your daughters' name?
 It's
 DET. With a ?
 .
 DET. And, how old's she?
 :
 DET. Okay.
 But, she's gonna deny it.
 DET. : We've all been there. And, what's her date of birth then?
 DET. Oh, she just turned then. And, what's a phone number for her?
 : I don't remember...who remember people phone numbers?
 DET. I know, not anymore. Everybody's got it in their phone.
 DET. : No one ever does, yeah
 : I don't never what it is. I don't remember my number half the time.
 Now, what is her phone number? She's not gonna wanna talk.

DET. : Okay.

: Uh, just lettin' ya know. She's goin' through her own troubles right now.

DET. Okay.

Her number is

DET.

Yes.

DET. And, your other daughter's name?

DET. And, how old is ?

DET. Okay. And, what's her birthday?

DET. And, a cell number for her?

: Uh huh. It's

DET. Uh huh.

DET. And, do they both live with you and

: No.

DET. Okay. Where's live?

Not with me.

DET. Well, I gotta ask a lot now these-now-now a days.

: I am not sure what 's address is.

DET. Do you know what street she lives on?

DET.

Yeah.

DET. :

Where's that at?

Um, it's right off of

DET. :

Okay.

And I live in I'm tryin' to think. I don't even know what her street is.

DET.

Okay. And, how old's your ?

She's

DET.

Oh, okay, what's her name?

DET.

:

Yes.

DET.

And, what's birthday?

:

Don't ask me that.

DET.

I'll just put if you don't know and that's...

:

She's she's um, it's um...is it ? Oh, it's ...what is it... somethin'-somethin'-somethin'.

DET.

Yeah.

DET. :

Okay, and-and is-is 's ?

DET.

daughter. Okay. Do you think would talk to us?

:

She was going to come down here but the dog broke her leg.

DET. Okay.

Tryin' to get to the dog food. I'm like really? That's a good way to do it.

DET. Okay. Well, we'll be in contact probably with everybody to-to speak with them as well. Um...

Okay.

DET. ...it just...I-I-I understand the-the reluctance, um, but it's important for us to do our thorough investigation and get what everybody saw.

And see, like I said everybody that was in the car said that she, they saw him shoot him. And I'm like I'm not quite sure of that so...I'm not gonna say that I saw him shooting at anybody.

DET. : When you say who or him...?

Um, I think my daughter said she saw him shoot. Both of my daughters I believe said they saw him shoot him. But...

DET. : But, whenever you say him, who are you re...

DET. Are you talkin' about the police officer or the other guy?

DET. : ...referring to?

They saw the um, the guy, the-the-the um...

DET. : Victim.

DET. The-the deceased, yeah.

: Deceased.

DET. : Okay.

They saw him shoot him in the car but, seriously it looked like he was like don't look up. And I'm not sure.

DET. You didn't see it like a gripping motion?

Yeah, I'm not sure if he was just what he was doing. I didn't see anything in his hand. I couldn't see that far away.

DET. Okay.

Well, I could see but ya know I couldn't, I didn't pay that much attention so I was just like lookin' at the scene more or so than specific items.

DET. : Uh huh.

All I was doin' is like, okay if it comes this way, I'm moving.

DET. Okay, um, let me take a look here and make sure if there's anything else I'm gonna ask you while I have you here. Um, we-we may be in contact later on today...

Uh huh.

DET. ...just as we get different information from different people we may do a follow-up. Just kinda call you and ask you a few more questions. Um, okay. So, I just wanna go over this one more time before we-before we let you go for today.

You need somethin' that when somebody's talkin' it writes it down for you.

DET. Yeah, yes we do. Yes we do. Um...

'cause I can never read my own handwriting when I'm dictating something.

DET. : So, you and your, you and your family were on your way to visit

: Uh huh.

DET. Which daughter was that?

DET. Um, and do you know

: I don't think I should give name 'cause she might be very upset.

DET. Okay, okay. Um, and a, so you-you turned on to a, Canfield from West Florissant.

: Yeah.

DET. Okay, and uh so you made a-a right hand turn onto Canfield?

Yes.

DET. : Okay, so you made a right turn. And you heard two to three pops as you approached this uh, circle that we labeled number one.

Uh huh.

DET. And then um, you saw a blue and white police car and you saw an African-American male wearing a white shirt and khaki shorts standing in the driver's door and that uh, he had his hands in front of him, low or high?

Low, like about toward, about towards the window.

DET. Toward the window? Okay. And, a-and a the policeman was inside the car?

Uh huh.

DET. Could you see him inside the car?

: Huh uh.

DET. Okay. And then a, the police car was facing you as you were driving down the street...

Uh huh.

DET. : Kinda diagonal you said, um...

'cause I didn't even know he was a Caucasian police officer until he got out the car.

DET. Okay. And then a then the guy backed away and then ran...

Uh huh.

DET. ...a, away from you, um, towards Copper Creek or Caddiefield here if I'm lookin' at this if these streets are accurate. Um, and then you said that uh, he turned around near that Copper Creek area where I have circled (U) um, or the-the incident happened there at that 2A or 2B but he was running toward this direction here toward this Copper Creek Street.

Yeah, because I'm sure that it was like a street behind him. It didn't seem like it was that far of a distance from my car.

DET. Okay. But, he turned around and then he um, you said he had his hands in the air?

: He put 'em in the air, I think he put 'em up when he was running away and then when he turned around he had 'em up and he had 'em up and then he put his arms down to run.

DET. Okay, and then he-he ran toward the officer, um and his hands were...you kinda just displayed his hands were kinda down low.

: He did like this.

DET. Near his waist a little bit when he was runnin'.

Like-like he run...he was runnin' 'cause then he had like his hands clinched together runnin'.

DET. Okay. Hands clinched, okay. And, how big was that shirt? Was it an oversized shirt?

Yeah. It was big to me.

DET. Big shirt, okay.

Yeah, 'cause I didn't even know that they went...I didn't know...I did hear that um, that he was suppose to be a teenager. I didn't know he was a teenager until I seen that.

DET. : Right.

: 'cause he looked like he was a grown man.

DET. He looked like a grown man, okay.

: Well, he was 17-18, that's still grown to me.

DET. Yeah. Okay. And then a, and then as he's was he-was he when the officer told him to get down, was he still walking away or was he running toward the officer?

: Um, like I said, it was like really quick so the only thing I know is that I heard him say "get down" a couple of times. Well, I heard him say it a couple, and then I seen, ya know, he didn't-he-he I think he told him a couple times as he was gettin' ready to start runnin' towar...'cause the officer started firing his gun when the boy started runnin' towards him.

DET. Yeah. Okay. And then you said that um, um, did you see him get shot in the shoulder? Or, in this, you kinda pointed up to your shoulder?

: He looked like he was like flinchin'.

DET. Okay.

Like, when he was comin' towards him I seen...you could see like some-
some of the sprays of blood or something...

DET. Okay.

...when he was getting' hit.

DET. Okay, and then um, when he fell down, do you remember how his body
was? Was he laying on his side...?

:

He was on his stomach.

DET. ... was he laying face down?

He was face down.

DET. Face down, okay.

:

"cause he was like going down like this and he kinda layed down, landed
down on his stomach.

DET. Okay. Do you know a, if his hands were underneath his body or on the
side of his body?

:

No.

DET. Okay. And then the policeman was...

I don't know.

DET. ...was calling on his radio. And then that's when you turned around to
leave?

Yeah.

DET. Okay.

I made sure I wasn't...I was getting' ready to leave and the SUV started
comin' and then I'm like...I was too busy watchin' traffic tryin' to get
around...

DET. Right.

...and make sure wasn't nobody gonna run out in front of me.

