

August 11, 2014  
11:39 a.m.  
Detective  
St. Louis County Police Department  
Bureau of Crimes Against Persons

Det.  
Det.

DET Today is Monday, August 11, 2014 and time is 11:39 a.m. This is Detective  
with the St. Louis County Police Department's Bureau of  
Crimes Against Persons, Also present with me is Detective  
of the Bureau of Crimes Against Persons and we are at the  
City of Ferguson, a, Police Department in an interview room with Mr....would  
you say your name for the recorder, please?

DET. : Okay, and , obviously you realize this is being recorded, correct?

DET. : Correct.

DET. : Okay. And, you're okay with that?

DET. : Yes.

DET. : Okay. And, this is in reference to St. Louis County Complaint Number, a,  
14-43984 and Ferguson Police Department Complaint Number 14-12391, which  
is an incident that occurred on Canfield Drive on a, August 9<sup>th</sup> 2014. I'm  
just gonna get a little bit of, a, information from you here, okay? It's  
is that correct?

DET. : Correct.

DET. : Okay, and spell your last name.

DET. : What's your date of birth sir?

DET. : Is

DET. : And a, what's your home address?

DET. :  
: Yeah, .

DET. : And, where's that at?  
: , Missouri.

DET. : ...

DET. : And, what's your cell phone?  
My cell phone is

DET. :  
: Yes.

DET. : And your Social Security Number.  
: Is

DET : ...  
: Yes.

DET : ?  
: Yes.

DET. : Okay. And, your employed where?  
:

DET. : As a ?  
: Yes.

DET : Okay. Is there a business address for that?  
: Um, this is the address but I don't, I'm-I'm not sure.

DET. : Okay. You know a phone number?  
It's-it's-it's on I know it's located on

DET. : What part of  
: Um, right where the industrial plants are at, where um, say you get off of ...

DET. : there.  
: ...you make a left and you got a or a whatever those that's-  
that's on top like in the middle of the

DET. : Okay. So just...  
: Right before you go down the main ...

DET. : Sure. By the there.

: ...to yeah, yeah, yeah.

DET. : Okay. Um, you have the phone number?

: Is...

DET. : For employer?

For-for-for...a, let me see. Let me see if I can pull it up.

DET. : what's your middle initial?

DET. Okay.

I thought I had the office in here. I ain't seeing it.

DET. : That's okay.

: Alright.

DET : Okay. So, um, we received a call from Ferguson, a, sayin' that you were here and did you come here...

Yes, voluntarily.

DET. : ...okay, okay you came in here on your own.

: Yes.

DET. : And, who did you talk to initially?

Um, I'm not sure. It's a-a police officer out-outside.

DET. Okay. And, what did you tell that officer?

I need to-to speak with someone about the um, ongoing investigation about um, what happened at Canfield to Mr. Brown.

DET. Okay, and so after that, I'm assuming they escorted...

: Yes.

DET. : ...you into the building then and-and you waited for us, is that right?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. Um, would you please retell and I'm just gonna set the recorder over there. A, would you please just retell your account of a, were you present when it happened or...?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. Would you just retell your account of what took place?

Okay, um, well I walked out, I was workin' at a on the right where  
The was actually on the  
on it would be. I would be facing...the police car would be facin'  
towards me and the is on right where the field is a big open field and it's  
the right there where the is at.

DET. : So, just so I understand a, what you're saying, Canfield Apartments, Canfield  
by-in-large runs east and west, okay. If you were to travel west a out of, on  
Canfield you would run into West Florissant.

: Okay.

DET. : B-before you run into West Florissant

Correct.

DET. : So, is that the area that you were workin' on?

Yes, I was workin' on the- if you were traveling east and  
going in to Canfield

DET. : So...

: The that's, well the considering you're going into  
Canfield. It would be the and it's a open field  
to And, the police, um, as I was sayin', I was going out, I was  
workin' and I walked outside. I seen the two young guys  
walkin' down the street on the same sidewalk that I was on and...

DET. : Can I-can I clarify just a couple things? Roughly, what time was this?

Roughly I wanna say 8:40, I mean not 8:40, 11:40-11:40 is when that-when I  
first seen these two guys. And, my initial thought was, "wow, that's a big  
dude." Because Mr. Brown, Mike Brown, my initial thought was he's a big guy.  
He's tall and like stocky build and that's it. He-he, they both walked passed me.  
I took my tools, went into I came back outside to get some  
more stuff and I looked down the street and I seen the police car at a slant and I  
seen Mr. Brown in the window of the police car looked...it appeared as they  
were wrestling through the window and one gunshot had let off. And, Mr.  
Brown took off running and my first thought was like "oh my gosh" did I  
actually just witness a police officer being murdered because it took a while for  
the police officer to get out of the car and pursue the-the suspect. And, I wanna  
say maybe six seconds, but it seemed like it was forever after the-the-the first  
gunshot. So, the police officer exited the vehicle with his weapon drawn  
pursuing Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown was quite a distance and he stopped and when  
he stopped, he didn't get down on the ground or anything. He turned around  
and he did some type of movement. I never seen him put his hands up or  
anything. I can't recall the movement that he did. I'm not sure if he pulled his  
pants up or-or whatever he did but I seen some type of movement and he started  
charging towards the police officer. The police officer then returned fire, well,  
not returned fire, open fire on Mr. Brown. Um, if I had to guess the shots and  
the-the distance between him and, a, Mr. Brown, it would have to be five to ten  
yards and the shots that were fired was four, five to six shots fired and Mr.

Brown was still standing up. Um, and my thoughts was while he's missing this guy this close, is he-is he hitting him or because Mr. Brown there was no reaction from him to show that he was been hit. Um, after that, Mr. Brown then paused. He-he-he stopped running and when he stopped running the police officer stopped firing. And, then Mr. Brown continued, started again to charge towards him and after that the police officer returned fire and um well not returned, I'm using wrong...a started to fire once more at him. Um, if I had to guess the rounds that were fired then it would be four to five more shots and after that Mr. Brown collapsed and fell to the ground.

Okay. What happened then?

Um, what happened then after that um I didn't see, it was a-a blue Monte Carlo, a-a newer model Monte Carlo, two-door and um, it was closer to the scene where the shooting was at, that occurred. They then drove off and made a-a left into the apartments and drove around the apartment and then came and stopped and um Mr. Brown's friend that he was walking with earlier, I didn't see him the whole time that um this was all going on with, a, confrontation with the police and the shooting and everything. At the end, after Mr. Brown had dropped and um, I seen the, his friend come out of-of nowhere and run across the street and a, said that, "Dog, they just-they just killed him. They just killed him" and he ran um, the back fields of Canfield...the back open field. And um, I must say that also after the, um confrontation after the gunshot when Mr. Brown did run, I thought I heard a, something' metal hit the ground and I'm not sure what it was but I thought I heard somethin' hit the ground. And um, after that I believe, I'm not sure um, if I went in to go tell the people that I was working with that I just...what I witnessed and I came back out and they were taping the scene off and I decided I went down there closer to where the body was and I stayed down there for maybe ten...five to ten minutes and I was speakin' down there on the scene. And, I was tellin' what happened and after me tellin' what happened and I'm hearin' everybody their side of the story, saying "Oh, the police officer shot that kid for no reason. He had his hands up and me knowing and seeing what actually took place, that wasn't true and a, there was different sides to the story and every side wasn't true so I felt uncomfortable in that situation so I decided to-to walk back to the um to that I was at, originally at. And, um, while I was walkin'

DET. : Okay. I'm gonna go back and just ask you a couple clarifying questions, okay?  
Um, So, I guess so let's first start off. Who were you working with a-a that day?

: I was working um, for myself. And, um, I'm not sure of the-the occupant's name, um that's there. I was hired to come in and do a repair

DET. : So, will you, was, you were not working for that day?

: No, no.

DET. : You working doing kind of a .

: Yeah, doin' a , yeah.

DET. : Okay. And, did you have anybody with you that you were working with that day?

: No.

DET. : Okay. I guess when you said you went in...oh, when you said you went in to tell the people you were working with...

: Yeah.

DET. : ...you had to tell the people...

: That-that was the residence.

DET. : I gotcha. Okay. Who were-who were the residents there?

: Like I say, I'm not sure what their names are.

DET. : Was it a female, a male?

: It was a It was a

DET. : Okay. And then um, you said that you saw a, two guys walking down the street, right?

: Yeah.

DET. : Do you remember what they were wearing?

: Um, if I'm not mistaking, Mr. Brown had a tan, tan pants, a red hat, flip flops. It might have-it may have been tan shorts. Yeah, it had to be tan shorts, because I'm not sure of the color. I know they were shorts because his socks a-a drew my attention because they were bright yellow and um black. Looked like marijuana leaves and um, he had a red hat on. I'm not sure of the shirt. And, his friend that he was walking with. I'm not sure what he was wearin'. The only thing I can pick up from him was he had um, smaller dreads that were looked like the tips of his dreads was dyed, a, like a bleach...bleached dyed and whatnot.

DET. : And so um, Michael Brown was the one that you thought to yourself um, that's a big guy?

: Yeah, it is.

DET. : Is that right?

: Yeah.



DET. : or to the would be looking into the complex.

: Yeah, yeah.

DET. : Okay, approximately how far away were, a, were you at that a to where you saw that police car at?

: Okay, distance wise...

DET. : And, if you don't know...I ya know...

: ...to guess maybe 100 yards I would say. Maybe less.

DET. : Okay, alright. So you look and you see the police car and where's the police car at?

: It's in the middle of the street at a slant.

DET. : Okay. And, what kind of car is it, you know?

: It's an um, I'm not sure what type of car, but I know it was a truck. It's a truck.

DET. : Okay. Um...

: Maybe, like a Suburban style or a long truck.

DET. : Okay.

: SUV.

DET. : And, that truck that's parked at a slant is facing which direction?

: It would be facing west.

DET. : West, okay. And, explain to me again what you see at that point.

: I see Mr. Brown leaned over inside the police car um, at maybe I see his back at his um, probably below you, what would you call, like under your armpit.

DET. : Beneath your armpits?

: Yeah. A little bit deeper than, right below your armpits. That's how much of his body is inside the car.

DET. : Okay. So you, when you, you were using your hands, you went here and then you kinda went here. Which...?

: Like, I see this much of his body outside the car so, the rest of his body from here up is inside the car.

DET. : Okay, and just for the purposes of the recording, a, so his feet are where?

: On the ground.

DET. : Okay, and he is standing, a, where at?

At the a, driver's door by the police car.

DET. : Okay, so his feet are on the ground. He is at the driver's door of the police car.

: Yeah.

DET. : And, a, he's leaning...

: Inside the window.

DET. : ...inside the-the...

The police car.

DET. : Which-which window?

The driver's window.

DET. : Okay, so he's leaning inside the driver's window and-and-and I'm not obviously I don't expect any of this to be exact ya know down to the millimeter.

Uh huh.

DET. : But, roughly armpit or maybe a little bit lower.

Yeah.

DET. : That upper portion of his body is in the-the window. Is that-is that a fair statement?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. And, so a, is the door opened, closed?

: No, the door is completely closed.

DET. : Okay. And, a, do you see anybody in the driver's seat of that car?

: I-I couldn't make it out. I couldn't, all I seen was Mr. Brown's body.

DET. : Okay. And what was his body doin'?

: At that distance I-I-I couldn't tell. It looked like a-a confrontation and all I could assume was some type of confrontation was going on in the car.

DET. : Okay. Why-why did you assume there was a confrontation?

: Because, afterwards the gunshot, it was the gunshot, one gunshot and he-he ran off.

DET. : Okay, so and again, please correct me if I'm sayin' anything even remotely that doesn't reflect what you're saying. I just wanna make sure I understand, okay? You see him in the car. You can't necessarily tell what's goin' on but after hearin' the gunshot and seeing him run off, you-you make an assumption that there's a some sort of confrontation or conflict inside the car, right?

Yes.

DET. : Okay. So, how...roughly how long do you think that he is, that Michael Brown is in the car?

Um, maybe at least ten seconds from what I seen.

DET. : Okay. And at the end of that ten seconds, what happens?

A gunshot.

DET. : Okay. And then what happens after that gunshot goes off?

Mr. Brown ran.

DET. : Okay, do you know where that gunshot came from?

No, I do not.

DET. : Okay. So, before he runs he leaves the car?

Yes.

DET. : Okay, so he kinda comes out of the car then and then he runs, right?

: Uh huh.

DET. : And, he takes off running in which direction?

: East.

DET. : East, okay, which would be away from you, correct?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. And, at that point, what'd you do?

: I'm in shock. Um, I'm thinkin' that he just killed this police officer because he didn't get out of the car and follow foot pursuit as-as quickly as I would've thought that he would have.

DET. : Okay. And, I think he said six seconds roughly before the officer gets out of the car.

: Yes.

DET. : So, Michael Brown runs east on...east, where at is he running actually?

: He's running in the middle of the street at like, at a slant um and the it will be the first driveway on the left from the squad car that he was-he was turned...about to make a turn like he was gonna go into the driveway. Actually, he did turn into that first driveway and then he stopped and came back towards...by this time the police officer was out of his car with the gun drawn and afterwards he stopped and came towards the police officer.

DET. : Okay, so um, Michael Brown in running east heading towards that-that parking lot, right?

Yes.

DET. : The officer comes out of the car. How is the officer, you said with his gun drawn. How is the officer holding his gun?

Just as if he was gonna use it.

DET. : Okay. And, do you hear anybody saying anything at any point in this?

: No, no. I was not at a close enough distance to hear any words being exchanged.

DET. : Okay, um, what does the officer do then at that point?

At that point he has his gun drawn at a raised point. He-when he felt he came into a line...close enough distance with him, um, it appeared that when he did raise his gun that he's verbally, um, telling this guy givin' him a command and at that point, that's when I seen Mr. Brown turn and he like did somethin' I don't know if was to pull his pants up. It was some type of motion that took place with Mr. Brown's body gesture and after that, um, he began to run towards the police officer.

DET. : Okay, so from the time that-that you hear that first gunshot and the officer gets out of the car until the time that Michael Brown stops and-and turns around and faces the officer, right?

: Uh huh.

DET. : Do you hear any gunshots between that-that period right there?

No.

DET. : Okay. So, Michael Brown stops, he turns around, correct?

: Uh huh.

DET. : And where are his hands at at that point, do you know?

: Um, I know for sure they weren't above his head.

DET. : Okay. Okay, so let's go back to the officer is chasing after or approaching Brown, right?

: Uh huh.

DET. : Brown stops, turns around, and just so I'm clear what happens at that point then?

You're at the point where Mr. Brown stops, turns around...

DET. : Uh huh. He stops; he turns around.

: ...he turns around, he does some body gesture, and I'm-I'm thinkin' he pulled his shorts up. I can't really recall on what all happened. All I know is I seen the

body gesture. I mostly seen it in the upper body. Um, after that he began to run at the police officer.

DET. : Okay. How far away do you think he was from the officer at this point?

: Um, maybe I wanna say 15 yards, he was away and he may have gotten 5 yards before the police officer fired his first shot.

DET. : Okay.

So, that would bring him in um, a ten-yard range before the police officer opened fired.

DET. : Okay. And, where were a where were Michael Brown's hands when he's...you said he does this thing with his-with his pants right?

Yeah.

DET. : Or something. Um, what does he do after he does that?

: He runs. He's at a charging motion.

DET. : Okay. And, where are his hands at that time, do you know?

Um, I'm not sure where his hands was at that time. A, all I know is that I'm seeing him coming at a aggressive, um, speed and just in a charge mode towards the police officer.

DET. : Is the a trot, or is it a jog, or is it a full out...?

: No, it's a full out...I'm comin' charge full-blown at you try to get to ya.

DET. : Okay. And, so a the officer fires, a, the first shot when-when he's how far away?

: Um, ten yards.

DET. : Okay. And, how many times do you think he fires?

I think he fires, um, five to six rounds.

DET : Okay, and then after that five to six rounds are fired, what happens?

A, Mr. Brown then paused and the police officer a, cease fire and Mr. Brown then tried to charge once more and that's when the police officer opened fired.

DET. : So Brown charged again and the officer opened fire again?

: Yes.

DET. : Is that what you said? Okay. And then what happens?

: He collapsed in the street.

DET. : Did you see the officer a, touch him at all or anything like that?

: No.

DET. : Okay. And a, how many officers were-were present when this took place?

: One.

DET. : Just the officer that was shooting?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. How long did it take before other officers to show up?

: I'm not sure. I walked in the and maybe two minutes...a minute at tops.

DET. : Okay, but you went back to the to...?

: Two minutes tops. Yeah.

DET. : Okay.

: Yeah.

DET. : A...

: I'm not sure-I'm not sure there on the time on the response. Because, when I did come back out, I'm not sure if it was the actual, actual police officer that shot a, Mr. Brown that was doin' the tapin'. I know when I came back outside I really wasn't focused then on did another police car show up. What drew my attention was I seen one police officer, um, taping off the scene and I'm not sure if that was the actual police officer that did the shooting.

DET. : Okay. You made mention of a car, right?

: Yes.

DET. : It was west, I'm sorry, east of the police car in the middle of the road, right?

: Yes.

DET. : What kind of car do you think that was?

: It was a Monte Carlo. Blue.

DET. : Okay, do you know what color?

: Blue.

DET. : Okay. Do you know how many people were in that car or who was driving?

: No, I'm not sure. I just seen a driver's from a distance. I couldn't get a description. A, I know he was a black African-American.

DET. : You said he, so it was a male in the car?

: Yeah-yeah-yeah, it was a he. Yeah-yeah.

DET. : Okay. Do you know if there was anybody else in the car?

: No, I'm not sure.

DET. : Alright. And a, the individual in the a, with the-the dread locks that were a, you said kinda highlighted...

: Yeah.

DET. : ...or had some sort of color to 'em, right?

: Yes.

DET. : He went where?

: He went um, at what time?

DET. : A, I guess what's the first point that you saw him?

: The first point was I seen him with the suspect when they were still alive together. The next time I seen him was when after everything already took place where Mr. Brown was fatally injured and he came from nowhere and ran across the street and it would be at the point where he ran across will be in front of the squad car.

DET. : Okay.

: And, he cuts across and yells a, "They killed him, they killed him", and, I'm not sure if he, at that point when he was yelling at the, um, blue Monte Carlo was at the same, they were at the same point. I'm not sure if he was just yelling it just to be yelling it or if he was telling them in the car that they killed him. And that-and that he never entered their car or went up to that car. He was just yelling and he ran up through the back fields of Canfield.

DET. : Okay. Did you notice anybody else outside? You-you made mention of the, obviously the-the-the guy with the dread locks, right?

: Uh huh.

DET. : And, the occupant of the Monte Carlo, right?

: Yes.

DET. : Did you notice anybody else outside at that point?

: No I, I never noticed anybody outside lookin' or anything. Um, I was mainly, I have-I have felt like I had tunnel vision where I was just zoomed in on just what was all going down with him and the police officer. Now, um, I-I didn't see anybody. No, I seen that everybody started coming outside. I did notice when a, Mr. Brown was laying on the ground.

DET. : Okay, alright. A, when you went  
how many people did you tell?

: Just one.

DET. : Just one.

: Yeah.

DET. : And that was the in the right?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. What did say, anything?

: A, I can't recall comments. A...

DET. : wasn't...I guess-I guess...

: ...I can't-I can't recall comments.

DET. : Um, wasn't outside or anything was .?

: No.

DET. : But .I guess what I'm getting at didn't say, yeah, I know I saw this or..

: No.

DET. : Okay. So when you first told that was first, first knowledge of the incident.

: Exactly.

DET. : Okay. And, do you remember ...you do not remember name, right?

: No, no. I never really got name.  
I never...

DET. : Just a-just a

: Exactly. It's just

DET. : Okay, alright. How old is roughly?

: I'm not sure. If I had to guess, maybe late early

DET. : Alright. What um, what is your opinion of-of that incident itself?

: Initially, um, I thought wow um, did he have to use that force on him. Um, could he have take and retrieved his taser, um, and tased the young guy? He was...I felt like he was unarmed and my initial thoughts was that. And, after thinkin' about it and reviewing everything and puttin' myself in the police officer's shoes, I feel like he handled the situation correct force wise. The gunshot led from the car, the confrontation led from the car. He came out with his weapon drawn, um, tryin' to pursue the suspect then um, at one point the suspect turns and if he, I felt if he was really tryin' to give himself up, um, the police officer already has his gun drawn. If you're really tryin' to give yourself up, you're gonna lay down on the ground and you're gonna let it be known um, but that he didn't do that and he charged at him and at that time I feel like the

police officer he didn't have time to really react and holster his weapon and re-holster with a taser.

DET. : Okay. The entire incident from the time that you first saw until the time that Michael Brown was on the ground, how long do you think it lasted?

: Um, maybe two minutes.

DET. : Okay, alright. You have anything?

: Did we get an address of where you're workin'?

: No.

DET. : No, it was on just east of

: No, on the street itself?

DET. : Oh no, it's the on the...

: It's the on the

DET. : the complex on the , ?

: Yeah.

DET. : Or, on the or the You remember what it is?

: A, I believe it's

DET. : Okay. And, you were just doin' that, outside paying job, an inside paying job?

: No, it's a-a

DET. : Oh, to Okay.

: Yeah.

DET. : Alright. Um, is this your...I'm sorry, anything else? There you go. Is this your best recollection of this incident?

: Yes.

DET. : Okay. And, a nothing has been embellished ya know, I mean you're being up front, honest. There's nothing-there's nothing you-you're making more out of, there's nothing that you're leaving out on either end of the spectrum, is that...?

: No.

DET. : Okay. Is there anything else that you would like to add? Anything else that you feel is important that we should know any questions that we did not ask you? And, that's not a trick question. That's just somethin' that I-I wanna give everybody an opportunity to, ya know, speak their peace.

I just um, I just, a, I feel sad about this whole situation that, um, it had to end like this and, um, it's just, just hearing everybody's point of view, I feel that um,

most people think that um, Mike basically “f’d” the police. They think the police are bad for ‘em up until the time where they’re in need of the police. And, a, I just wanted to come forward and just tell it how I seen it. Because I feel like it’s very rare that somebody’s gonna come forward and tell actually what happened.

DET. : Okay. Anything else that you wanna add? Anything else that’s important?

No.

DET. : Okay. You have anything? If there’s nothing else, the time is 12:16 p.m. and this concludes the interview.