7-6-1954

54/07/06 (5) 8:40pm, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard

Bay Village Police Department

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The following is a statement of Dr. Richard Allen Sheppard, age 64, married, 23048 West Lake Road, Bay Village, Ohio, relative to the homicide of Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard, Bay Village, Ohio.

I was called by phone by Dr. Richard’s wife, approximately 6 a.m. July 4. Dr. Richard’s wife said something terrible had happened to Dr. Sam and Marilyn. And that Mayor Houk had called and told him that he thought that Marilyn was dead. And Sam was very badly injured. That Richard and Dr. Steve were going to Dr. Sam’s house. They wanted me to go to the hospital and be prepared to receive one or both of them, which they would be sending in by ambulance.

I immediately dressed, and got things ready to receive them. I would judge that about 10 minutes after I got to the hospital the ambulance arrived. Along with Dr. Steve. And I was told that Marilyn was dead. And it was evident that Dr. Sam was in bad condition.

He was placed on the stretcher, his clothing was removed. And Dr. Steve and the residents who were there took charge. The boys were trying to protect me, told me to not go to the house, and more or less took complete charge of the situation. Because I had just gotten on my feet from an attack of virus pneumonia.

However I did notice that Dr. Sam’s clothing, particularly the trousers were very wet. And that I felt that there were some valuables in his pockets and that I removed his purse from his left hip pocket. And I noticed that this pocket was stained from the leather of the purse. I placed this without disturbing the contents in my left hand coat pocket and took the contents of his right side pants pocket out, which consisted of, as I recall, a Mentholatum inhaler, and what I first thought was a wet handkerchief, but turned out to be three wet, crammed together dollar bills, a small penknife, and several other small things that I don’t recall.

The boys took general charge of the case while I moved around in a somewhat dazed condition. Later I understood that the coroner came in and I was introduced to him by Dr. Steve. He asked if I had removed anything from Dr. Sam’s clothing. And I said I had. He asked for them. I turned over to him the bill fold and told him that I had not in any way opened it to see what it contained. I then gave him the contents of the other pocket including the three dollar bills. He opened the bill fold in my presence and Dr. Steve. There was nothing in the bill compartment and in the check compartment there was a check from the clinic for $1,000, very water-soaked. This check was taken out and the three dollar bills were straightened out and placed outside the bill fold, as I recall, but folded in. The coroner then took these for safe keeping.
After this I went to my son’s home, Dr. Richard, where my wife was, to give her a report. And I was back and forth frequently during the day to see how Dr. Sam was progressing.

Q. Can you tell us at this time who examined Dr. Sam when he arrived at Bay View Hospital?
A. As I recall Dr. Steve arrived ahead of the ambulance and immediately took charge.

Q. How long have you known Marilyn, Dr. Sam’s wife?
A. About 14 or 15 years.

Q. During that time do you know if they had any difficulties?
A. They were high school sweethearts and they had their little ups and downs as most young folks do, but I would say they were a most devoted couple and were very happy about the possibility of their new baby.

Q. Do you know of any difficulty or misunderstanding Dr. Sam may have had with any patient or their friends or relatives?
A. I heard him discuss his dissatisfaction with the contractor who had repaired his fire damage. I also heard that he discussed that he had been threatened by the parent of the child which had recently been run over by a truck and had been brought into Bay View Hospital as an emergency.

Q. Could you tell us how recently that threat had been allegedly made?
A. Within the last weekend.

Q. Did he make a report to the Bay Police Dept?
A. No. He did not place much importance on it.

Q. Is there anything else you can tell us that may help?
A. Nothing other than I understand that the dog is reported to be injured. I understand that Dr. Steve has made arrangements with a veterinarian.

Q. Have you read this statement, and is it true?
A. [Signature]

Signed [Signature]

Witness [Signature]

Taken by ldo 8:40 p.m.