



CSU
College of Law Library

Cleveland State University
EngagedScholarship@CSU

[Witness Statements](#)

[Police Documents](#)

7-6-1954

54/07/06 (3) 5:20pm, Dr. Lester Hoversten

Bay Village Police Department

Follow this and additional works at: https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/police_witness_statements_1954

How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!

Recommended Citation

Bay Village Police Department, "54/07/06 (3) 5:20pm, Dr. Lester Hoversten" (1954). *Witness Statements*. 19.

https://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/police_witness_statements_1954/19

This Witness Statement is brought to you for free and open access by the Police Documents at EngagedScholarship@CSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Witness Statements by an authorized administrator of EngagedScholarship@CSU. For more information, please contact library.es@csuohio.edu.

A3
July 6, 1954

The following is a statement of Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, age 43, single, no local address, home address 216 E. Stocker, Glendale, Calif., relative to the homicide of Mr.s Marilyn Sheppard, Bay Village, Ohio.

I first met Sam Sheppard at the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, Los Angeles, California, in the fall of 1944, where we both entered as first-year medical students.

As a result of that meeting we became close friends.

After four years traing at the college, and three years at Los Angeles County Hospital, Dr. Sam Sheppard left to c ontinue his training at the Bay View Hospital.

I came to Bay View Hospital in July 1952 to serve as surgical resident in training.

I remained here until October 15, 1953.

I then left to serve as surgical resident at Grand-View Hospital at Dayton, Ohio.

And left there Thursday afternoon, July first, to drive to Sam Sheppard's home to visit them. The home is located at 28924 West Lake Road, Bay Village, Ohio. I arrived at the home at about eight p.m. the same day.

Dr. Sam, Marilyn, and Chip were there.

They asked me to stay to dinner, but I declined as I had a previous engagement.

I had dinner at Cavoli's restaurant on Clifton Blvd., near 117th St.

After having dinner, I returned to Dr. Sam's about 11:30 pm.

I arose at 8 am. Friday, July 2, 1954, had breakfast with Dr. Sam, Marily, and Chip. At about 8:45 I accompanied Dr. Sam to the Bay View Hospital. I remained there until about 11:30. I left for an appointment with Dr. Burdett Anderson at Fairview Park for the treatment of a planter wart on my right foot.

I had lunch with Dr. Anderson, and then drove to Dr. Sam's home to shave and change clothing. I then drove to Forest Hills Hospital where I had an appointment with Dr. Aveni. The Forest Hills Hospital is located at 928 E. 152 St. Cleveland.

Cuyahoga County Coroner's
Office

MARCH 1996

Case # 76629

A - 3-1

I spent approximately an hour with Dr. Aveni, and then drove to the office of Dr. George Cozma at 3944 Lee Road, Cleveland 28, Ohio.

Later accompanied Dr. Cozma to his home at 15715 Van Aken Blvd., Shaker Heights 20, Ohio. We met Mrs. Cozma and went out to dinner. We went to a seafood place for dinner. Seafood Grotto.

After dinner we went to the Cozma's home. After a short visit I drove back to the Sam Sheppard's home arriving at about midnight.

As I entered the Lake Road entrance the family dog, Koko, did not bark. And when I entered the door leading to the kitchen I spoke to the dog.

I went upstairs. Marilyn spoke to me inquiring if it were I. She asked "You didn't lock the front door, did you?" And I replied, "No, I didn't." And she replied, "Good. I expect the maid in the morning, and she will probably arrive before we get up."

I arose at approximately nine o'clock Saturday, July 3, morning.

After breakfasting, I went to the Bay View Hospital with Dr. Sam.

While at the hospital, I talked with Dr. Robert Stevenson of Kent, Ohio, who invited me to come to spend the evening with him, and his father and mother at their home at Kent, Ohio, corner of Bryce and Park Avenue.

I accepted the invitation, and after having lunch at Bay View Hospital I returned to the Sam Sheppard home where I packed a bag, shaved, dressed, and left about four p.m.

Enroute to Kent stopped at Brookpark Driving Range where I spent over an hour hitting golf balls.

And then continued on to Kent, arriving there approximately seven p.m.

After dinner we visited, and listened to the Cleveland Indian-Chicago White Sox baseball game which lasted until after midnight.

We arose at approximately eight am. Sunday, July 4. After breakfast we drove to the Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club where we played 18 holes of golf.

L.H.

After golf we drove to the Stevenson home where I received a long-distance telephone call from Cleveland from a detective of the Cleveland Police Department asking me to report to chief of police, John Eaton, of Bay Village, Ohio as quickly as possible.

I ate a hurried lunch that Mr. & Mrs. Stevenson had prepared for me and then drove to Bay Village.

I was escorted to the home of Dr. Sam Sheppard where I met Chief of Police, John Eaton, and the County Coroner who asked me to verify whether any of my personal belongings in the guest room had been removed or had been disturbed in any unusual way. I was also asked to check my medical bag which was in the room to see if that had been disturbed in any way and especially if any narcotic drugs had been removed.

So far as I could ascertain nothing had been disturbed or had been removed.

I have not had occasion to return to the Sam Sheppard home since then.

Q. How long have you known Marilyn Sheppard?

A. I don't know for sure, but I met her shortly after she arrived in Los Angeles for her marriage in the year of 1944 or 45.

Q. With whom did you live the first time you arrived at Bay Village, Ohio?

A. I lived with Sam Sheppard, at the same address, at 28924 West Lake Road, Bay Village, Ohio.

Q. Why did you leave there?

A. I left because more satisfactory living quarters were provided (living quarters more suitable to my work were provided).

Q. Approximately how long did you live at the home of Dr. Sam Sheppard?

A. Approximately 3 or 4 months.

Q. During the time that you lived at their home did you observe any irregularities existing between Dr. Sam and his wife, Marilyn?

A. No, None whatsoever.

Q. Did they appear to have a normal life like the newly married couple?

A. In my opinion they did.

Q. Did you ever have any occasion to have any misunderstanding with either Dr. Sam or his wife?

A. No.

Q. When did you first learn of the death of Marilyn Sheppard?

A.. At approximately 2:15 p.m. Sunday, July 4, when a detective telephoned me at Kent.

Q. Is there anything else you can tell us that may be of benefit in this case?

A. No.

Q. Have you read this statement, and Is it true?

A. Yes.

yes, this is the truth

Signed

Lester Hooverster

Witness

Carl Kosobach

Witness

Dave Getha - Dep Sheriff

Taken by ldo
5:20 p.m.