Witness Statements

7-15-1954

54/07/15 8:55AM, Jessie Dill

Bay Village Police Department
Painesville Police Department

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SUPPLEMENTARY OFFENSE REPORT
BAY POLICE DEPT.

Offense: Homicide
Serial No.: 54-194

Complainant:
Address:

Additional Details of Offense, Progress of Investigation, etc.

July 15, 1954 went to Painesville, Ohio on tip from Dr. Sam Sheppard that his sister-in-law had received call from a Jessie Dill.

/Dorothy Sheppard

Talked to and questioned Mrs. Dill in presence of Lt. Dockry of Painesville Police Dept.

See statements.

* what day

Jan 1, 1954

Barking receipt to establish date of suspect

Encounter with Marilyn.

Talk to house... identifies clothing and shoes

This offense is declared:

Unfounded
Cleared by arrest
Exceptionally cleared
Inactive (not cleared)

Signed
JHHubach, Sst., FFDrenkhan, Fat. Date: 7/15/54

Investigating Officer

Chief or Commanding Officer

Date

This form is used by officer assigned to a case to report progress after three and seven days and weekly thereafter, also to report significant developments.
SUPPLEMENTARY OFFENSE REPORT

JESSIE DILL
948 N. STATE ST. PAINESVILLE
Re: Contact with Mrs Sheppard.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF OFFENSE, PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION, ETC.

I, JESSIE DILL, MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THIS 15TH DAY OF JULY 1954, OF MY OWN FREE WILL AND ACCORD, WITHOUT ANY THREATS OR VIOLENCE HAVING BEEN MADE AGAINST ME, OR ANY PROMISES OR ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO BE SHOWN TO ME BY ANY PERSON OR PERSONS AND HAVING BEEN FULLY ADVISED OF ALL MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT THIS STATEMENT MAY BE USED AGAINST ME IN ANY COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION.

I MET MRS. SHEPPARD ON A MONDAY OR TUESDAY - DATE UNCERTAIN - ON THE WEEK OF JUNE 20TH, ON THE BEACH AT FAIRPORT HARBOR, OHIO, EARLY AFTERNOON BEFORE 4 PM. MRS. SHEPPARD BEGAN THE CONVERSATION BY ASKING ME WHERE I BOUGHT MY COCO COLA. MY GIRL FRIEND AND I WERE SITTING ON BEACH DRINKING COCO COLA. (GIRL FRIEND'S NAME ANN BECKWITH - SAME ADDRESS - LOWER FLOOR). I TOLD HER THE PLACE WAS ON BEACH AND POINTED ONE OF THE PLACES OUT TO HER. SHE THANKED ME, STATED SHE THOUGHT THE ONE STAND WAS CLOSED DUE TO SCREENS OVER WINDOW - APPEARED SO. I TOLD HER THE PLACE WAS OPEN, PERHAPS PEOPLE HAD STEPPED OUT. WHILE WE WERE TALKING, MY DAUGHTER CAME UP FROM THE LAKE AND ASKED ME TO WATCH HER IN THE WATER. MY GIRL

SIGNED
INVESTIGATING OFFICER
DATE 7-15-1954

SIGNED
Officer in charge
AND BOY WERE IN THE WATER, AND DIVING UNDER.
MRS. SHEPPARD STATED "SHE I THINK THAT IS NICE, NOW
DID YOU TEACH THEM?" I REPLIED, MY BROTHERS TAUGHT
THEM. SHE STATED THAT SHE HAD A LITTLE BOY -
HOWEVER HE WAS AFRAID OF THE WATER - OR AFRAID TO
BE UNDER THE WATER - I DO NOT RECALL THE EXACT
CONVERSATION AT THIS POINT, HOWEVER, SHE STATED
THAT HER SON WAS NAMED "CHIP", I EXPLAINED TO HER
MY DAUGHTER'S NAME IS GRAACE, AGE 6 IN OCT, AND
MY BOY'S NAME IS MAXWELL, CALLED "MAX", AND HIS AGE
IS 4. THEIR WEIGHTS ARE WITHIN A POUND OR SO OF
EACH OTHER, SHE THOUGHT THEY WERE TWINS. HER BOY
"CHIP" WAS 6 YEARS OF AGE BUT LARGER THAN MY SON.
AT THIS POINT MY SON CHOKED A BIT AND MY DAUGHTER
CRIED OUT THAT HE WAS HAVING ANOTHER ATTACK FROM
HIS HEART CONDITION. (BOY HAS AN ENLARGED HEART). (THESE
ARE NOT EXACT WORDS DAUGHTER USED - JUST EXPLAINING
THE EVENTS). I TOLD HER THAT HE HAD SWALLOWED SOME
WATER AND HE WOULD BE ALL RIGHT. I TOLD MRS.
SHEPPARD THAT MAX HAD AN ENLARGED HEART CONDITION -
THAT MY DAUGHTER BECOMES EXCITED WHEN MAX CHOKES,
THAT SHE HAD CRIED OUT "HE'S GOING TO DIE!" WHEN
MAX CHOKED IN WATER. I EXPLAINED THAT I HAD BEEN
IN CONTACT WITH A LOCAL DOCTOR AND HAD BEEN
ADvised TO WAIT FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT BEFORE
FUTURE TREATMENT. MRS. SHEPPARD STATED THAT HER HUSBAND WAS A DOCTOR—BUT NOT THAT KIND, HOWEVER HE WOULD BE ABLE TO ADVISE ME WHOM TO CONTACT. I ASKED HER FOR HER NAME, BUT SHE SAID THAT SHE WOULD RATHER NOT TELL ME. I DECIDED TO RETURN TO MY GIRL FRIEND. HOWEVER MRS. SHEPPARD SAID "WAIT A MINUTE IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO, I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU." SHE APPEARED INTERESTED IN MY STORY. DURING CONVERSATION I MENTIONED THAT MAYDAUGHTER SAID THAT SHE HAD BEEN IN A HOSPITAL. ALSO, MRS. SHEPPARD SAID "WHAT FOR, HONEY," I INTERRUPTED AND SAID THAT DAUGHTER DID NOT REMEMBER, ONLY HAD HEARD ME TALK ABOUT IT. WHEN SHE WAS BORN, "HAD TROUBLE WITH HER FEET." SHE ASKED ME WHAT THAT WAS, I TOLD HER THE CONDITION—and said we took her to Elmvale Crippled Children's Hospital, 2 THREE WEEKS OLD. FURTHER CONVERSATION REFERRED CHILDHOOD CONDITION—BROUGHT OUT A STATEMENT FROM MRS. SHEPPARD "WE THINK WE ALL HAVE OUR TROUBLES, UNTIL WE MEET SOMEONE ELSE, WHO HAS MORE." I TOLD HER "I DID NOT THINK THEY WERE TROUBLES NOW, BUT CERTAINLY DID WHEN THEY WERE BOTH BABIES."
I asked her "What is the matter, are you in trouble or something?" She asked me what the boys (my father thought of his condition). I stated we were divorced. She said she was not in trouble, but that was what she was thinking of, a divorce. I told her don't get a divorce unless you absolutely have to. I asked her "Do you drink?" She said, as that was the trouble with us (our divorce). She told me no, it wasn't that, he was just a little play boy. I said don't divorce him for that. She said, "Oh! This isn't the first time. I had trouble with him 4 years ago when I was in California. "He had an affair with a girl in a hospital there." They talked me out of a divorce then, but sometimes I think it was the best thing to do - and sometimes I think it would have saved me a lot of trouble now." I asked her, what is the matter, what are you worried about?" She said she was four months pregnant. I said that is one reason she should not think about a divorce. She said it had been for the first baby she would have been divorced by now. I told her to forget it. She said she couldn't, as he was up to the same thing again (did not state why with).
I said he may be one of those men who never grow up. She said she could understand it now, that she had met another man going with another man for about nine months. I asked her "aren't you in love with your husband?" She said she was when she married him but not for the last 2 years, that sometimes she could not stand to be around him. Since 4 years ago things started getting worse - now she did not love him at all. I said "are you going to divorce him then?" She said "that's what I don't know what to do - as it was driving her crazy, whether to divorce him and marry this other fellow - or just stay married.

Previously to this I explained to her the hardships of being divorced - (lack time due to need for job - money - etc), she said. She wasn't worried about that, it was just that she should get a divorce and marry this other man that the baby would be born about a month after she re-married. I said "why don't you sit down and talk to him (Mrs. Dr. Shepard) about it?" she said "no, I just couldn't do it, I don't want to talk to him." So I mentioned why not see the family counseling service. That I had had the same trouble when I was married -
SUPPLEMENTARY OFFENSE REPORT
POLICE DEPARTMENT

JESSION DILL

OFFENSE STATEMENT

OFFENSE ___________________________

COMPLAINANT _______________________

ADDRESS ___________________________

TIME 8:15 A.M.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF OFFENSE, PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION, ETC.

THAT MY HUSBAND HAD BEEN GOING OUT WITH ANOTHER
GIRL. SHE SAID - NO - BECAUSE THEY WANTED TOO MUCH
PERSONAL INFORMATION AND KEPT RECORDS, I SUGGESTED
SHE SEE AN ATTORNEY THAT THEY WOULD KEEP IT
CONFIDENTIAL AND ADVISE HER. I SUGGESTED MINE AS
IT WAS AWAY FROM HER NAME, SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO KNOW
IF THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA OR NOT. I WAS VERY NERVOUS
AT THIS POINT AT POINT OF TEARS, I SUGGESTED MY
MINISTER, AS I ALMOST BELIEVED SHE WAS TELLING IT
ME TRUTH AND NEEDED HELP. SHE SAID "MAYBE I
WELCOME BUT COULDN'T TO-DAY," THAT SHE HAD A MAN A GOOD
FRIEND - "I WILL TALK IT OVER WITH ARNOLD AND
WILL YOU KNOW WHAT I AM GOING TO DO." SAID SHE
"HOW CAN I GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU WHEN I COME
BACK OUT." I GAVE HER MY NAME AND ADDRESS, SHE
SAID "I WILL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU WHEN I COME
OUT WE'LL GO FOR A RIDE." I SAID "WHAT IS YOUR
NAME?" SHE SAID SHE WOULD TELL ME LATER BUT
NOT NOW, WE'LL ALL GO SWIMMING. I'LL PICK YOU
UP SOME DAY -(IMPLIED SHE WOULD TAKE US HOME TO
HER HOUSE) FOR LUNCH SOME DAY AND LET THE
KIDS PLAY TOGETHER, SAW GOODBYE.

SIGNED: ___________________________

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

DATE 7-15-54

SIGNED: ___________________________

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

M.

Officer in charge

Form No. 3 Pol 2m 1-54
SUPPLEMENTARY OFFENSE REPORT
POLICE DEPARTMENT

JESSIE DILL

OFFENSE STATEMENT

OFFENSE:

COMPLAINANT:

ADDRESS:

TIME:

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF OFFENSE, PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION, ETC.

MY FIRST IMPRESSION WAS THAT SHE HAD BEEN DRINKING - DUE TO HER CONDITION - EYES - & ALMOST CRYING. HOWEVER I DO NOT KNOW THIS TO BE A FACT AS I DO NOT DRINK INTOX. LIQUOR, NEITHER DID I SMOKE ALCOHOL ON HER BREATH. SHE CRIED FREQUENTLY DURING THE LATTER PART OF OUR CONVERSATION - AND WAS EXTREMELY NERVOUS. SHE HAD A LIGHT BROWN PURSE, THERE WAS A "BOXY" PURSE LYING ON THE BLANKET WITH HER, WHERE WE SAT. THE BLANKET WAS GREEN & RED BACKGROUND. FINGER NAIL ON LITTLE FINGER RIGHT HAND WAS BROKEN BADLY. HAD A SCRATCH ON SIDE OF RIGHT FOOT - NAVY BLUE SKIRT, WHITE BLOUSE (YELLOW OR WHITE), HAD SHOULDERS LENGTH BOB - Mело BROWN HAIR. PAID FOR A COCA COLA - FROM A DARK GREEN WALLET - AND AT THIS TIME SHOWED ME A PICTURE OF HER BOY.

AFTER READING ARTICLE IN PAPER - ON SAT. JULY 10th I CALLED OPERATOR AND ASKED FOR DR. SHEPPARD'S HOME -

SIGNED

DATE 7-15-74

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

SIGNED

OFFICER IN CHARGE

Form No. 3 Pol 2m 1-54
SUPPLEMENTARY OFFENSE REPORT
POLICE DEPARTMENT

JESSIE DILL

OFFENSE
STATEMENT

COMPLAINANT

ADDRESS

TIME

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF OFFENSE, PROGRESS OF INVESTIGATION, ETC.

I HAVE READ THIS STATEMENT WHICH I DICTATED TO OFFICERS JOSEPH E. GALLAGHER AND POLICE CLERK ARTHUR D. SMITH AND I FIND IT EXACTLY AS I GAVE IT TO THEM. THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE IN EVERY DETAIL, SO HELP ME GOD.

Signature

Witnessed by:

J. Gallagher PPD. #1

Arthur Smith #14

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

DATE 7-15-54

SIGNED

Officer in charge

FORM NO. 3 POL 2M 1-54