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INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED]
FROM OCTOBER 26, 2020

INVESTIGATOR RYAN GWALTNEY

Transcription Completed by: InfraWare

1 GWALTNEY: This is Investigator Ryan Gwaltney, last name spelled
2 G-W-A-L-T-N-E-Y. Today I'll be interviewing [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] could you please state and spell your
4 name for me, please?

5 MS. [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], last name [REDACTED].

6 GWALTNEY: Today's date is 10/26/2020, and the current time is
7 1:40 p.m. [REDACTED], where do you currently live?

8 MS. [REDACTED]: [REDACTED], Riverside, Rhode Island 02915.

9 GWALTNEY: And what is your phone number?

10 MS. [REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

11 GWALTNEY: And your date of birth?

12 MS. [REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

13 GWALTNEY: [REDACTED], I want to call your attention to October 18th,
14 2020, uh, which is a Sunday, uh, around dinnertime.
15 Uh, on this date or at around dinnertime, did you
16 happen to be at or around Elmwood Ave. and Bissell
17 Street in the City of Providence when a moped crashed
18 and the operator was injured?

19 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, I was.

20 GWALTNEY: Can you describe what you witnessed?

21 MS. [REDACTED]: Okay. So as we were driving up the street, we
22 witnessed a whole bunch of motorbikes drive past us.
23 Then we seen a break in the motorbikes and then we
24 seen Jhamal pass by on the moped and then we seen cops
25 behind him.

1 GWALTNEY: And did anything happen after that?

2 MS. [REDACTED] Yes. The cop that was in the ... there was a cop that
3 was in the side street in front of us, which was
4 Bissell Street, and when the moped was going straight
5 forward, he came out of the side street to basically
6 cut the moped off, and once he cut the moped off, the
7 moped veered to the right, and he basically went onto
8 ... on the, um, the ramp that's right there at the
9 corner to go onto the sidewalk, and when he did that,
10 the cop that was behind him that was going very fast
11 went and hit the back of the bike and which made him
12 go into the air and hit the brick wall.

13 GWALTNEY: I'm now gonna draw your attention to a picture, and
14 I've noted this picture as Number 1. Prior ... just
15 prior to this INTERE-, interview, did you fill out,
16 um, this picture, which is actually a Google picture
17 of Elmwood Ave. and Bissell Street, and did you
18 diagram what you saw on this picture?

19 MS. [REDACTED] Yes.

20 GWALTNEY: And i-, and is this your, your writing and your
21 diagram?

22 MS. [REDACTED] Yes.

23 GWALTNEY: And your signature with the date of today? Is that
24 yours?

25 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

1 GWALTNEY: So if I refer to Picture Number 1, um, I will be
2 referring to a Google picture that you've already
3 diagramed, and that's of Elmwood Ave. and Bissell
4 Street.
5 MS. [REDACTED]: MMM.
6 GWALTNEY: So I'm now gonna refer to that picture. Um, when you
7 said that you, you were driving up a, up a road, uh,
8 would that be Elmwood Avenue?
9 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, Elmwood towards Park Ave.
10 GWALTNEY: Okay. Do you remember about what time this was?
11 MS. [REDACTED]: About 5:30-ish, I believe.
12 GWALTNEY: You said that you, you were driving up the road. Did,
13 did you park at any point in time?
14 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, I parked at a business that's right before
15 Bissell Street.
16 GWALTNEY: And did you also indicate in the picture that you drew
17 where you were parked?
18 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
19 GWALTNEY: A-, would it be fair to reflect that you've drawn, uh,
20 a picture of where your car is and it is one building
21 up from 1239 Elmwood Ave.?
22 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
23 GWALTNEY: Which is right beside Bissell Street, is that ...
24 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
25 GWALTNEY: ... correct?

1 MS. [REDACTED]: Correct.

2 GWALTNEY: When you said, uh, motorbikes, uh, can you describe
3 what you mean by motorbikes?

4 MS. [REDACTED]: Um, uh, motorcycles, ATVs, d-, mopeds, Harleys, like,
5 a whole bunch of different motor vehicles.

6 GWALTNEY: A-, a-, and about how many would you say that you saw?

7 MS. [REDACTED]: A lot. Probably about a good 70. There were a lot, a
8 lot.

9 GWALTNEY: Uh, uh, how, how many mopeds would you say you saw?

10 MS. [REDACTED]: I only seen one moped.

11 GWALTNEY: And would that be the moped, uh, that ...

12 MS. [REDACTED]: That was hit.

13 GWALTNEY: Okay. Did you see any police vehicles?

14 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

15 GWALTNEY: And about how many police vehicles?

16 MS. [REDACTED]: Probably about five or six.

17 GWALTNEY: Did any of them have their emergency lights activated?

18 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

19 GWALTNEY: What city were the police vehicles from?

20 MS. [REDACTED]: Providence.

21 GWALTNEY: About how fast would you say the moped was going when
22 it was traveling on Elmwood Ave., um, prior to the
23 police vehicle that was pulling out on Bissell?

24 MS. [REDACTED]: Was very slow. I would say around 20 miles per hour.

25 GWALTNEY: What lane on Elmwood Ave. would you say the, the

1 motorcycle was traveling in prior to swerving?

2 MS. [REDACTED]: The outer lane.

3 GWALTNEY: Let's ... would it be ...

4 MS. [REDACTED]: So the lane closest to the yellow line.

5 GWALTNEY: Okay. So the lane closest to the center line.

6 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

7 GWALTNEY: And that's what you've described in your picture,

8 correct?

9 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes. Correct.

10 GWALTNEY: So if we're looking at the picture and there are two

11 lanes traveling towards Park Ave., correct?

12 MS. [REDACTED]: Yeah.

13 GWALTNEY: Uh, and then there are two lanes traveling away from

14 Park Ave., correct?

15 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

16 GWALTNEY: The lane to the left that's traveling towards Park

17 Ave. is the lane that you've indicated that the moped

18 was on prior to swerving, correct?

19 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes. Correct.

20 GWALTNEY: Did you witness the police vehicle that pulled out of

21 Bissell Street?

22 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, I did.

23 GWALTNEY: And did that, that police vehicle cross, uh, Elmwood

24 Ave., the lanes of travel that the moped was in?

25 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

1 GWALTNEY: When the v-, when the police vehicle was crossing
2 Elmwood Ave., what did it do?
3 MS. [REDACTED]: It stopped right there on the street.
4 GWALTNEY: When you say stopped, did it stop in the lane of
5 travel that the moped was, was traveling in?
6 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
7 GWALTNEY: And did you have any opinion of this?
8 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes. It was odd to me that you see a moped coming
9 towards you and you pull out in front of it and just
10 stop. What were your intentions?
11 GWALTNEY: How close would you say the moped was to the police
12 vehicle that pulled out in front of it?
13 MS. [REDACTED]: Um, not very far away. I mean, if he didn't take the
14 right turn that he did take, he definitely would've
15 hit the police car.
16 GWALTNEY: Okay. What did the police vehicle do after the moped
17 swerved to avoid hitting it?
18 MS. [REDACTED]: The police cruiser that was stopped?
19 GWALTNEY: Yes.
20 MS. [REDACTED]: He did a U-turn and came right into Bissell Street
21 next to the police cruiser that was following behind
22 the moped.
23 GWALTNEY: And the one that was following behind the moped, um,
24 is, is that the one that was involved in the crash?
25 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

1 GWALTNEY: You've indicated and I just want to confirm. If the
2 moped had continued straight when the police vehicle
3 pulled out of Bissell Street, do you believe it
4 would've struck the, the side of the police car?
5 MS. [REDACTED]: Absolutely.
6 GWALTNEY: So the moped, rather than run into the police car, uh,
7 you've indicated that it veered to the right?
8 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
9 GWALTNEY: And then it entered the sidewalk?
10 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
11 GWALTNEY: Uh ...
12 MS. [REDACTED]: It's actually a ramp, so it's not ... like, he doesn't
13 have to go up it to get on top of it.
14 GWALTNEY: So it'd be similar to a ramp that if you were crossing
15 the street in a wheelchair ...
16 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes. Correct.
17 GWALTNEY: ... that, that you could just, uh ...
18 MS. [REDACTED]: JUST RIGHT UP.
19 GWALTNEY: It would be that type of ramp?
20 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
21 GWALTNEY: Uh, so, uh, you stated that the, the moped went up
22 that ramp.
23 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
24 GWALTNEY: So it didn't strike the sidewalk curbing.
25 MS. [REDACTED]: No. No.

1 GWALTNEY: And when the moped swerved to avoid hitting the police
2 car that crossed in front of it, did it accelerate or
3 slow down as it approached the sidewalk?
4 MS. [REDACTED]: It was slowed down.
5 GWALTNEY: In your opinion, do you believe that the moped was
6 kind of forced in that direction ...
7 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
8 GWALTNEY: ... uh, because, uh, it was veering off?
9 MS. [REDACTED]: Yeah. I mean, if he would've went straight, he
10 would've crashed and I think that he was trying to
11 avoid crashing.
12 GWALTNEY: As the moped approached the sidewalk, you stated
13 there's another poli-, police vehicle that was behind
14 it?
15 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
16 GWALTNEY: Can you describe what that police vehicle did?
17 MS. [REDACTED]: He just kept going right onto the sidewalk.
18 GWALTNEY: Did you see the police vehicle strike the moped?
19 MS. [REDACTED]: No.
20 GWALTNEY: What did you see?
21 MS. [REDACTED]: So we seen ... I seen the police vehicle following right
22 behind, and then he came, like, close to him and then
23 I turned the other way, and by the time I turned back
24 around, the person who was riding the moped was in the
25 air and hit the brick wall.

1 GWALTNEY: Did you hear anything before that?

2 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, a big loud bang, like, crash.

3 GWALTNEY: Did you attribute that to anything at the time?

4 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, that the cop car had probably hit the moped

5 because those were the only two cars that were close

6 enough to even, you know, like, hit each other.

7 GWALTNEY: Was there anything else that could've been struck?

8 MS. [REDACTED]: No, not making that noise. No.

9 GWALTNEY: Was there any type of sign located around there?

10 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, there was a stop sign at Bissell Street and

11 Elmwood Ave.

12 GWALTNEY: Was there any indication that that sign had been hit?

13 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

14 GWALTNEY: Can you describe that?

15 MS. [REDACTED]: The sign was FALLEN down. It actually fell right on

16 top of the person that was riding the moped.

17 GWALTNEY: And who have you indicated that that, that person is?

18 MS. [REDACTED]: Jhamal.

19 GWALTNEY: Uh, but did you know that person's name at the time?

20 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

21 GWALTNEY: Since then you've come to know the person's name?

22 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

23 GWALTNEY: W-, uh, through news and the media?

24 MS. [REDACTED]: Yeah, social media basically.

25 GWALTNEY: When the police vehicle was behind the moped, was it

1 always behind the moped or was it trying to catch up
2 to the moped?
3 MS. [REDACTED]: Trying to catch up to the moped.
4 GWALTNEY: How fast would you say the police vehicle was going
5 that was trying to catch up to the moped?
6 MS. [REDACTED]: I would say probably about 30 to 35 miles per hour
7 because the moped was going really slow, so he was
8 going fast enough so that he could, I don't know, do
9 whatever.
10 GWALTNEY: In your opinion, do you think that the police vehicle
11 was trying to catch up to the moped?
12 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
13 GWALTNEY: Did you, uh, did you at any time hear anybody brake?
14 MS. [REDACTED]: Right before the crash happened, I heard a screech.
15 GWALTNEY: Did you attribute that to either vehicle?
16 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
17 GWALTNEY: Or either a vehicle or a moped?
18 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
19 GWALTNEY: What ...?
20 MS. [REDACTED]: I would say p-, 'cause a moped doesn't make that loud
21 of a noise, so definitely the car. I've heard cars
22 screech before.
23 GWALTNEY: The vehicle that was coming out of Bissell Street that
24 crossed, uh, onto Elmwood, did it have its emergency
25 lights on?

1 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

2 GWALTNEY: How about the vehicle that was behind the moped?

3 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

4 GWALTNEY: Can you describe the moped operator?

5 MS. [REDACTED]: As in, like ...?

6 GWALTNEY: What'd he look like?

7 MS. [REDACTED]: He was a light skinned ... he was probably, like, a
8 shade lighter than me. Um, and he was not heavysset,
9 but he wasn't really, really skinny either, and he,
10 like, had on a helmet and ...

11 GWALTNEY: Did you know him?

12 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

13 GWALTNEY: About how old would you say he was?

14 MS. [REDACTED]: He looked pretty young. He looked like he was in his,
15 like, low 20s, like, 20, 21.

16 GWALTNEY: So what happened after the moped crashed THEN?

17 MS. [REDACTED]: Um, we got out of the car. We ran over and we're,
18 like, yelling, "Oh, my God. The cop car just hit the
19 moped." And as soon as we got out, the cop started
20 screaming at us, "Get on the SIDEWALK. Like, get away
21 from here. Get away from here." And we're like, "Are
22 you guys gonna call 9-1-1? Like, he's clearly
23 injured." And we started screaming at the cops
24 because the first thing that the cop did when he got
25 out of the car is he went and he took the boy's arm

1 and he drags him away from the moped, and then there
2 was a lady cop with glasses and there was another male
3 cop, and both of them are taking the bike and moving
4 the bike. And we're kind of like, "Why are you moving
5 the bike?" Like, we all kind of started screaming
6 because we all are in the medical field, so we know
7 that they're not supposed to be moving him. So we're
8 telling them, "Why are you moving him? Why are you
9 moving him?" And they're like, "Mind your business.
10 Get on the curb. Don't worry about it." And then
11 they start saying that DO-, when we start saying, "Oh,
12 the cop hit him," they're saying back to us, "No, the
13 cop didn't hit him. He didn't hit him." And we're
14 like, you know, like, "We just seen it happen."
15 GWALTNEY: I-, uh, can you describe the condition of the moped
16 operator?
17 MS. [REDACTED]: He was completely unconscious. Even when, when they
18 grabbed his arm, you could see his head fall to the
19 side and you could see that he wasn't in control of
20 his head whatsoever.
21 GWALTNEY: Did something else happen, uh, after, after that? Did
22 somebody attempt to interview you?
23 MS. [REDACTED]: Yeah. Well, the cops did. They just came and they
24 asked us if we were there when it happened, what we
25 seen, and then we explained to them what we seen.

1 GWALTNEY: YUP.

2 MS. [REDACTED]: And then they kind of were, like, not, um, receptive
3 to what we said, and they argued back with us that,
4 "Oh, did you have it on camera, that, that actual
5 crash?" And we're explaining to them, "Well, you
6 already seen the video. You know that the actual
7 impact isn't on the video, but w-, yeah. Like, you
8 know, we seen all the events leading up to it and
9 right after it happened." And they're yelling at us,
10 "Okay. Well, if you can't see the actual Providence
11 Police officer hit the moped, then what good is it
12 basically?" And we're like, "Well, it's better than
13 nothing."

14 GWALTNEY: Prior to the moped passing you, it, it passed you,
15 correct ...

16 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

17 GWALTNEY: ... uh, when you were parked on Elmwood Ave.?

18 MS. [REDACTED]: Yeah.

19 GWALTNEY: Did you see anything that happened before it passed
20 you?

21 MS. [REDACTED]: No. I just seen them just following him.

22 GWALTNEY: And were there other mo-, motorcycles following, uh ...
23 well, let, let me ask you this. Was the large group
24 of motorcycles ahead of the moped or behind it?

25 MS. [REDACTED]: Way ahead of him.

1 GWALTNEY: Okay.

2 MS. [REDACTED]: Like, he was really in the back like a straggler.

3 GWALTNEY: So would you say he was the last ...

4 MS. [REDACTED]: Absolutely.

5 GWALTNEY: ... uh, uh, motorbike?

6 MS. [REDACTED]: I didn't see any mopeds after him or any type of

7 motorbike at all.

8 GWALTNEY: And were there other police offic-, police vehicles

9 that were following the larger group of, uh ...

10 MS. [REDACTED]: I think there was ...

11 GWALTNEY: ... uh, uh, motorbikes?

12 MS. [REDACTED]: ... two, but nei-, none of them had their lights on, so

13 it was like they were just following them. They

14 weren't trying to, like, pursue them or anything.

15 GWALTNEY: And the moped seemed, uh, a little bit a-, uh, behind

16 it, correct?

17 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes, definitely.

18 GWALTNEY: Uh, but could you still see the larger group from

19 where the moped was? So kind of close?

20 MS. [REDACTED]: Some of it. You could see, like, the end of the

21 larger group 'cause then it's an intersection, so I'm

22 not ... I don't know if they went straight or ...

23 GWALTNEY: [REDACTED], is there anything else that, uh, you feel is

24 important, uh, that happened on that day that you

25 haven't mentioned?

1 MS. [REDACTED]: No.

2 GWALTNEY: [REDACTED] is it correct that you volunteered this
3 statement knowing that this statement is being
4 recorded and documented?

5 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

6 GWALTNEY: Is it also true that you've not been threatened nor
7 promised anything in return for this statement?

8 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

9 [Break in audio.]

10 MS. [REDACTED]: WE ...

11 GWALTNEY: Let the recording reflect that I paused it, uh,
12 because I wanted to seek, uh, positive identification
13 from [REDACTED] as I had not done it as of yet. But I
14 wanted to conclude the interview, uh, with [REDACTED]
15 positive identification, which I now have, which is a
16 Rhode Island driver's license. Uh, [REDACTED], uh, did
17 you sign a form, uh, documenting, um, documenting this
18 prior to the interview, that, that you've agreed to,
19 to give ...

20 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

21 GWALTNEY: ... a, an audio statement voluntarily?

22 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

23 GWALTNEY: And was the statement that you just gave true to the
24 best of your knowledge?

25 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.

1 GWALTNEY: And have you also showed me identification verifying
2 who you are?
3 MS. [REDACTED]: Yes.
4 GWALTNEY: [REDACTED], thank you very much for taking time out of
5 your day to speak with me. I will now conclude the
6 statement.
7 [END AUDIO.]

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I, Michele L. Waddell, an Approved Court
Transcriptionist, do hereby certify that the foregoing
is a true and accurate transcript from the audio
recording provided to me in the above-entitled matter.

I, Michele L. Waddell, further certify that the
foregoing is in compliance with the Administrative
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I, Michele L. Waddell, further certify that I
neither am counsel for, related to, nor employed by any
of the parties to the action in which this hearing was
taken, and further that I am not financially nor
otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

<u>December 16, 2020</u>	<u>Michele L. Waddell</u>
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