

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

Case Number: 20-00146635
Date: 5/17/20
Time Started: 1207
Time Ended: 1209

WITNESS STATEMENT OF Bak, Jason

I, Jason Bak date of birth, 5/10/85
of Ambulance Svc of Manchester, PO Box 300 town/city of Manchester

I make the following statement without fear, threat, or promise. I have been advised that any statement(s) made herein which I do not believe to be true, and which statement is intended to mislead a public servant in the performance of his/her official function, is a crime under C.G.S. section 53a-157.

On Thursday, April 2nd at 7:55PM, I received a text alert stating the Capital Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) had been requested to respond to the Town of Manchester for a "Call out." I currently serve as an active member of CREST as a Tactical Paramedic. I have been employed at The Ambulance Service of Manchester since December of 2007, a CT licensed paramedic since 2013, and member of CREST since February of 2015.

The "Call Out" requested that active members respond to stage at Nathan Hale School on Spruce Street in Manchester for a barricaded suspect with a gun on Oak Street in Manchester.

Upon arrival at the staging location, I geared up and reported to a CREST Team Leader. Shortly thereafter, I entered an armored vehicle called the "Bearcat" and positioned myself in the back of the vehicle in the seat directly behind the driver's seat. Per an Operator, the "Bearcat" was to serve as the vehicle for the "emergency reaction team." The Team Leader in the vehicle made note of the operators and medics within the unit. In addition to me, another medic was assigned to the emergency reaction team. While in the Bearcat, I learned from team operators that a warrant for the suspect's arrest was in place related to a parole violation and "Robbery 1."

The emergency reaction team moved to 181 Oak Street (suspect's location) under direction from team leadership. Upon arrival, the Bearcat was parked in the driveway facing the front of the house. From where I was positioned, I had a clear view of the front door of the house when turned around to face it.

Shortly after arrival on scene, our Medic Team Leader requested I contact dispatch at the Ambulance Service of Manchester to request an ambulance standby to the staging location (Nathan Hale School). The request was made and per the dispatcher, Advanced Life Support unit Alpha 4 was to respond to the requested location.

By affixing my signature to this statement, I acknowledge that I have read it or have had it read to me and it is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Witness: [Signature] Signature: [Signature]
Witness: _____

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained herein.

I notarized, endorse here: [Signature] #1431

WITNESS STATEMENT OF _____

Over the course of the next 30-40 minutes, the team received radio transmission updates discussing the conversation between the suspect and the negotiation team. In addition, team leadership was placing updates on the application "Slack."

The radio communications indicated that the suspect was agitated and threatened "suicide by cop." At one point, I recall hearing that the suspect claimed to be coming out "drawing" a weapon. The communication also indicated that additional CREST units were being deployed around the home on Oak Street.

Another radio communication indicated that the suspect was telling negotiators he would be coming out of the front door of the house. Shortly thereafter, I heard CREST operator's stating that the suspect was coming out of the front door. I turned to face the door and noticed the suspect's head at the door, then within seconds, noticed the door open very abruptly. The suspect appeared to be in an aggressive position with his hands raised. It appeared as though the suspect was pointing a gun in the direction of the team. I heard gunfire upon witnessing the suspect raise his hands. It appeared as though the gunfire was coming from his direction and from the direction of the team.

The suspect fell to the ground and was no longer visible from my vantage point. My immediate concern was that a member of our team had been struck by a bullet. After the scene was secured by operators, the suspect was brought to the rear of the Bearcat where two CREST Tactical Paramedics and I began to render our assessment and treatment. Patient care was turned over to Manchester Fire Rescue EMS and Ambulance Service of Manchester personnel. For further information regarding patient care, please refer to the Ambulance Service of Manchester patient care report.

I remained on scene with the team until we were driven to Manchester Fire Rescue EMS headquarters. After 15-20 minutes, I was driven to Manchester Police Department headquarters with the two other CREST Tactical Paramedics to await further instruction.

By affixing my signature to this statement, I acknowledge that I have read it or have had it read to me and it is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Witness: _____

Signature: _____

Witness: _____

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained therein.

I notarized, endorse here: _____

[Signature] #1431