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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE



Victim/Witness Statement of: Civilian Witness #6

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| Date: 06.02.2017 | Time Started: 1:30 P | Time Ended: 1:40 | Case #: CFS-17-00247593 |
| Location: 143 Prospect Street, Bridgeport CT 06604 | | | Statement taken by: Detective John Kimball |

I,
of

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-157b and is punishable by law.

I am here today at troop G Bridgeport Ct. and I am speaking with Detective Kimball and Detective Grabowski. The date of the incident in question took place on May 9, 2017 approximately at 5:00. It was a beautiful day. It was sunny with a blue sky and white clouds. The temperature was cool, it was breezy. I was coming from Fairfield Ave.
Bridgeport, Ct. 06604 where I work as a I was going
home to check on my animals. I was then proceeding to Stratford to get my back seat, passenger side, car window installed (it was missing). I approached Walgreens on my right hand-side which was located on the corner of a two-way street called Park Avenue and a one way street called Fairfield Avenue. I was on Fairfield Ave. in the lane closest to the Walgreens parking lot. I came to a stop with the rest of traffic due to a red light. There were multiple cars in front of me, one beside me to my left and some behind me. There are two entrance/exits to Walgreens on that side of the building. I was positioned in between them, beyond the center point. I was stopped approximately 30ft to 40ft from the right side curb of the 2nd exit/entrance: the inlet closest to me (the one closest to Park Ave.) I was positioned below but in approximate alignment with the second or third bush (there is a row of round individual bushes up above the sidewalk lining the parking lot; I went back to the scene in question and looked and I was able to determine the approximate position with a tape measure considering bushes 1-4). There were two marked police cars parked in the Walgreens parking lot where the road way which wraps around to the drive through window begins; they were blocking that route. The police cars lights were

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Victim/Witness Name: | Victim/Witness Signature: | Date: |
| Parent/Guardian Name: | Parent/Guardian Signature: | Date: |

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained therein.
If notarized, endorse here:

Oath Taken By: Detective John Kimball Detective John Kimball #857 06/02/2017
Name Signature Date Signed

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Witness Name: Det Michael Grabowski #304 | Witness Signature: <i>[Signature]</i> #304 | Date: 06/02/17 |
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flashing and no sirens were sounding. My positioning on the street allowed me to see them. There were at least two uniformed officers walking around in close proximity to the marked police cars. There were no police cars positioned in/blocking the Walgreens 2nd exit/entrance to Fairfield Ave. . When I was completely sure there was not an imminent threat I turned my head forward away from the police cars to face the street light. I felt vulnerable because my back seat passenger side window was missing and facing the Walgreens parking lot, this motivated me to pay close attention. I did not witness any unusual behavior taking place. Approximately 2 minutes later, I was surprised to see a silver/grey SUV very slowly driving out of the Walgreens 2nd exit/entrance (the one closest to Park Ave.) towards me and the car to the left of me; the wrong way on a one way street. The sun was glistening on the car, it looked more silver than grey. The SUV began to drift to my left. This placed him mainly in front of the car next to me which relieved my initial fear of him hitting my car. I had not seen the officers engaging with this car in the parking lot at all. The driver was a young, pale, boy with dark hair. The front seat passenger was dark skinned. I could not see the passenger's features but perceived his presence. The boys grey/silver SUV approached my 2002, patriot blue, w/ a red pin stripe, Jeep Cherokee Laredo (which had prior damage to the driver's side) very slowly (Troop G photographed all sides of my car). I made eye contact with the driver. He looked young, dazed, confused and nervous. I was concerned that he may damage my car, he seemed disoriented. He presented like a very nervous new driver. He was not frantic or erratic. I perceived him to be looking beyond where he was going and failing to stop. He was looking around for a place to navigate into although he was on a one way street. He looked directly in front of him where there was a narrow opening between myself and the car to the left of me (the opening was approximately 2 1/2 ft. wide) he was about to hit us (he was approximately 3ft away). He then gazed upwards to the right into the distance and drifted in that direction. He did not accelerate. He softly touched my car and the car to the left of me which was in approximate alignment with mine. At this point he came to a complete stop. His car created a scrape on my front left head light casing and my bumper which was only photographed by Troop G. My bumper also had approximately a 2 1/2 inch crack in it which started at the body

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| Victim/Witness Name: | Victim/Witness Signature: | Date: 6-2-17 |
| Parent/Guardian Name: | Parent/Guardian Signature: | Date: |

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained therein.
If notarized, endorse here:

Oath Taken By: Petervits John Kimson Detective John Kimson #877 06/02/2017
Name Signature Date Signed

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| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Date: <u>06/07/17</u> |
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and moved outwards, it was photographed by Troop G. I heard a soft crunching sound. I felt a soft impact. At this moment, in the near distance I saw a marked police car slowly go down the 2nd Walgreens parking lot entrance/exit and enter Fairfield Ave.; the officer parked the vehicle there. The officers paused there inside of the parked marked police car. The marked police car was on an angle. I saw the driver's side of the police car. I don't recall if the lights were on. I began to get worried. I didn't see any officers running on foot from the parking lot. Just as the officer's car came to a stop, the teen backed up his car concurrently. The teens SUV stopped not far from it. It moved for a moment as the officer approached it. It rolled back then quickly stopped. The teen backed up faster than he had driven towards me with one or two fast motions but still on the slower side (as if he was backing out of a drive way on an average day). I don't recall seeing him checking and rechecking to see where exactly he was heading. The distance between his starting point and the officers wasn't that far. He seemed to continue the same confused process. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a uniformed police officer located on the left of the vehicle in question jump out of the way as the boy's car approached him slowly. The officer was positioned to the left hand side closest to Park Ave. . I had not seen the officer there prior to the car backing up to him. My eye was on the boys SUV and the police officers marked car closest to me. I could not see or hear what was transpiring on the outside of the passenger's side of the boy's car. The uniformed officer in the front seat passenger's side of the police car located by the Walgreens 2nd exit/entrance rapidly exited the police car. I think he may have left the door open. The driver of the police car did not exit the car at that moment. I did not see him exit in the future. The uniformed officer stepped out of the car and very quickly (briskly) walked around the front of the police car (not quite running but approaching running). When the officer was close to the rear of the boys SUV which was coming to a stop for a second time, he collectively proclaimed, " Whoa, whoa, whoa, stop the car. " He touched the rear panel of the car with his hand. I did not perceive the officer to be injured or struck by the vehicle at this time. The police officer looked around and assessed the environment moving in on the front driver side of the SUV. As he approached the window he raised his gun with both hands and pointed it at the

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| Parent/Guardian Name: _____ | Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ | Date: _____ |

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained therein. If notarized, endorse here:

Oath Taken By: Detective John Kimball Name Detective John Kimball #507 Signature 06/02/2017 Date Signed

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Date: <u>06/02/17</u> |
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front of the boy's car at the driver side window which was down. The uniformed officer stood back from the car. There appeared to be room for the car door to open without issue. He put distance between himself, the car and the youths. I could see his feet spread apart on the ground and his knees bent. He had a very calculated look on his face. He was extremely intense and authoritative. He was very aroused and had a menacing presence. He was confronting them with what appeared to me to be confidence in his ability. Because he approached them in this way I felt alarmed that they may not have been as innocent as I had perceived them to be and I didn't want anybody to be harmed while they were being apprehended; the officers, the boys in the car or the public(me especially, I was close). He then continued to order the youths to, "Get out of the car, Get out of the car." He very seriously dictated, "Get out of the car! Get out of the fucking car." To me he appeared to remain focused and prepared. He pursued the goal of getting the youths out of the car and stopping the driver's process. He seemed consistent in his approach. He seemed experienced. I felt as if he would be able to handle the situation but I was alarmed to see a gun pointed at the young boy. I could see the fear on the drivers face. He was leaning back on the passenger. Once the officer approached the SUV I saw a yellow stripe upon a dark colored shirt inside the left hand side of the car, it was unclear if it was positioned in the front seat passenger side or if there was a person in the back seat. I saw one officer, I wanted to know how many people were in the car, this is when I noticed the stripe. I considered myself to be dangerously close; I was approximately 20ft. to 25 ft. away (I think). I could see inside the car and hear the yelling well. I did not see any two way conversations. I did not see talking. I did not see the boy lash out at the officer. I did not see him raise a gun. I did not see him raise his hands as if he was surrendering. I did not see him move to comply with the officers demands. He looked scared. The officer continued to yell at him to, "Get out of the car!" "Get out of the fucking car." At times it sounded more like a question than a directive. As if he was saying, "Are you really not going to get out of the car, COME on!, get out of the car. Don't make me say it again." He asked them approximately 6 to 8 times to exit the car while the car door was closed. Next the officer darted towards the car and opened the driver's side door quickly with his left hand without issue, he

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| Parent/Guardian Name: _____ | Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ | Date: _____ |

Personally appeared the signer of the foregoing statement and made oath before me to the truth of the matters contained therein. If notarized, endorse here:

Oath Taken By: Det. John Kimura Name Det. John Kimura #817 Signature 06/02/2017 Date Signed

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|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> | Date: <u>06/02/17</u> |
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rapidly retreated a very short distance. He paused for a moment and checked inside by leaning back and glancing around before reaching inside and grabbing the boy's right arm with his left hand. I did not see him holster his weapon which was in his right hand. I did not see him using his right arm to assist in getting the boy out of the car. He did step behind the door partially out of my view during this period however. He insisted that the teen, "Get the fuck out of the car!" I perceived the uniformed officer to be holding the drivers right arm above his elbow and trying to pull him out of the car with his left hand. He attempted to pull the teen out by one arm but the teen continually resisted leaning back on the passenger away from the officer. I could see through the front windshield and through the open driver side door window. I could see the driver mainly from the mid torso up. I could see the officer from his left side and his back side mainly. I could see the back side of the officer's right side of his body from the rear. My view of the officer was blocked by the open door at times and the angle of his body. He asked approximately 2 1/2 times for the driver to exit the car (it was approximately a quarter of the time that he spent asking with the door closed before the car briefly moved). The car moved briefly in reverse causing the officer to be jolted by the open driver's side door positioned to the left of him which moved towards him. The door bounced back into place and was left intact, in place. Had the car moved in reverse more forcefully and for a longer period of time, the officer could have fallen and potentially been seriously injured. In this case, the officer became off balance. He took a step to the right with his gun in his right hand and released the drivers arm. The driver continued to lean back on the passenger. The officer quickly regained his stance as the occupants in the car stopped the car from moving. The teen continued to lean back on the passenger. The officer quickly regained his composure bringing his right hand that was holding his gun together with his left hand. He placed both hands on his weapon and very briefly paused in front of the driver's door then shot into the car once. I believe he was in plain view. I did not hear him ask them to get out of the car at that time. I witnessed the teen react to the first shot that I heard. There was a pause and then three shots (possibly more) rang out one after the other; there was a very brief pause then the last two shots were fired. I would say at least 6 if not

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Oath Taken By: Detective John Kimball Detective John Kimball #877 06/02/2017
Name Signature Date Signed

| | | |
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| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Date: <u>06/02/17</u> |
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more shots were fired. The driver's side door of the car was open and the officer shot at the people through the open driver's side door. I could not see anything taking place on the passenger's side of the car. From my perspective it looked like one officer was handling the situation. I saw the teens face. I saw what I thought was the life going out of him. His head leaned back slowly and his eyes looked up slowly. His energy faded out as he relaxed his body. His expression was subtle. The fear was gone. The sun was shining on him. His presence was changed. I did not see any blood. I quickly turned my head to try and retreat as more shots were being fired. I backed up my car and gently bumped the car behind me as the shots were completing being fired. I was not able to move far. I damaged my right rear light casing. The next time I attempted to go backwards, I saw that the surrounding cars had moved away from me which enabled me to make a U-turn into the 1st entrance/exit of the Walgreens parking lot and I parked my car. As I was driving towards the entrance/exit I saw a black pick-up truck, a man was holding up his cell phone, it looked like he was videoing. I parked my car beside the corner of the Walgreens building in their parking lot under where the surveillance camera is located before the building wraps around to the drive through window on the left. I exited my car and assessed the damage walking around it. I began to reach out to various people as the magnitude of what had just taken place registered in my being. I glanced and saw the dead teen on the ground on the small incline inside the Walgreens parking lot exit/entrance on the Fairfield Ave. side closest to Park Ave. . He was on his back, in hand cuffs (it looked like zip ties), his hands were positioned on his stomach. I saw all white; I believe I viewed him from his waste up. I did not see blood. I questioned in my mind why he was in hand cuffs; he looked as if he was deceased.

I thought he was elevated on something. Perhaps it was one of those medical boards that they carry people on when they are in an accident. I got back in my car and began to try to call people and made contact after some time, I was not successful at first. I had been trained at work to call my coworkers but I had not yet programmed their numbers in my phone as I had just started on May 1, 2017. I spoke to an ex-coworker instead at _____ located at 5:09, her name is _____ I left a message that I was not aware of for my father who called me back later. He heard me saying, " Oh, my

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Oath Taken By: Detective John Kimura Name Detective John Kimura #877 Signature 06/02/2017 Date Signed

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Date: <u>06/02/17</u> |
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God, Oh my God.". There was one officer present closest to me, he was standing in the area where I initially saw the first two police cars parked with their lights on and no sirens (the entrance to the wrap around drive through window) directed me to leave the parking lot without questioning me and I did. To his right in the distance I could see the body of the driver that had just been shot. I drove around the corner to the right passing the front door entrance to the Walgreens store on my right. The boy's body was to my left on the hill but I did not turn to look again. I observed a pack of kids on bicycles that were crossing through the parking lot from the center Park Ave. entrance, other police cars arrived and the yellow tape was up. I'm not clear about the ambulance. I believe I saw a large police box truck. There were a lot of people as I was leaving; a lot of noise and sirens. I called [redacted] later and talked to her at length while I was at Pizza Post viewing their t.v. (I asked them to put the news on) while I got something to eat to calm my nerves. I mentioned to the waitress what had happened. Call Log: May 9, 2017: Dad: 5:05, 5:26, 5:50 p.m. (2x) left a message, [redacted] : 5:09 p.m. Spoke right away, [redacted] : 5:26 p.m. didn't talk to, [redacted] : 5:26, 7:19, 7:43 p.m. spoke to, [redacted] 2:16, 2:20, 6:34, 6:51 p.m. spoke to, [redacted] : 8:50, 9:31 p.m. left message, [redacted] : 11:19 p.m. I quickly mentioned my eye witness account stating some information that didn't appear factual in their internet posting that I viewed that evening, they asked me to call back the following day as the editor wasn't there and I did not.

I went to my home & checked on my animals then went to Stratford to get my window fixed.

*I did not suffer any physical injuries.
I have been effected emotionally & mentally
to a certain degree.*

*my car is a 2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee
Plate #*

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Oath Taken By: Detective John Kmasca Name Detective John Kmasca #877 Signature 06/02/2017 Date Signed

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| Witness Name: <u>Det. Michael Grabowski #304</u> | Witness Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> | Date: <u>06/02/17</u> |
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