

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

Case Number: 2000002994
Date: 2/27/20
Time Started: 1230
Time Ended: 1230

WITNESS STATEMENT OF Christopher Flynn

I, Christopher Flynn date of birth, [REDACTED]
of 2 Elm Street town/city of Ansonia

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.

My name is Christopher Flynn and I have been employed by the Ansonia Police Department since April 1990.

On January 2, 2020 I was working "C" shift (1430-2230) as the shift sergeant. My normal working shift is "B" shift (0630-1430), however on this day I was working "C" shift due to a switch. During my shift on this day I was wearing my Class "C" police uniform. This uniform has Ansonia Police Department patches sewn on the shoulders and has gold Ansonia Police Department badge, gold name plate and gold chevrons embroidered on it. This uniform clearly makes me identifiable as an Ansonia Police Officer.

I was in the station when a female entered the station at about 1730 hours to report that her boyfriend was going to destroy her belongings in her apartment. I asked the dispatcher which officer was going to talk to her and I was told Officer Smith. I told Dispatcher Awalt to send Officers Nelson and Podgorski to the apartment as Officer Fowler was already in the station working on another case. I then left the station prior to Officer Smith talking to the female and drove to Myrtle Avenue. Upon my arrival on Myrtle Avenue, across the street from #81, I radioed to the on scene officers where they were and I was told they were around back. I walked to the rear of 81 Myrtle Avenue. In the rear I met with Officers Nelson and Podgorski and asked if anyone answered the door and they said no. I told the officers that supposedly the door was unlocked. Officer Podgorski then knocked on the door but no one answered. At this time, I saw movement inside the apartment and said to the officers that I could see movement. I told the officers that I would go around to the front of the apartment at which time I did. I went around to the front to try and look into the window to see if I could see anything. I radioed Officer Smith to see if he was in the station and he said yes. He also told me that if we locate the male to take him into custody. I took this to mean that Officer Smith had established probable cause for an arrest to be made. I radioed that we were not getting an answer. Less than a minute later I received a cell phone call from Officer Smith who told me the back door is open and should be unlocked. Officer Smith also told me that the male isn't supposed to be there, that there was a restraining order, a full no contact order. This order was later to be determined to be a protective order. Officer Smith also told me that the male was there when the complainant left. Officer Smith told me the order was verified and that the male's name is Michael Gregory. I told Officer Smith that "he" was walking around not answering the door. I asked Officer Smith if he verified the order and he said he did. I told

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

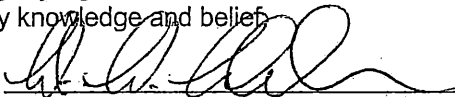
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Officer Smith that we may need the girlfriend at our location if the door is locked. At this time Officer Podgorski walked to the front of the house and I asked him if the door was unlocked. I also told Officer Podgorski that Gregory was inside walking around and to open the door and tell Michael we needed to speak to him. Officer Podgorski asked if we should go into the apartment and I told him yes. I was still on the phone at this time with Officer Smith and told him we were going to try and go in. Less than one minute later I was called to the rear of the house by Officer Podgorski. Upon reaching the rear of the house I could see Officers Podgorski and Nelson standing at the rear door looking in. I could hear a male, telling the officers to "shoot me, shoot me, suck my dick". Officer Nelson told the male to put the knife down twice and the male said "I'm not putting shit down", "shoot me or run up on me". I walked over to the doorway and could see the male standing there holding a silver knife that was about eight (8) inches in length. The male was about eight (8) feet from the doorway that Officers Podgorski and Nelson were standing by. The male said we would have to run up on him or shoot him. I told the officers to get their TASER ready. We all then told "Mike" to put the knife down. Gregory then put the knife into his right hand, walked to the door, and slammed it shut with his left hand. At that time I did not know if anyone else was in the apartment that could possibly be in danger, if Gregory was going to harm himself, had access to any other weapons, and we were attempting an arrest. I told Officer Podgorski to open the door which he attempted to do but it was locked. I then told him to kick the door in. I did not know if anyone else was in the house that could be in danger or if Gregory was a harm to himself. I then went to look down the driveway side of the house to see if Gregory would attempt to flee since there is an exterior side stairway off the front porch that leads to the driveway. While at the side of the house Officer Nelson told me the door was almost open. I went back and saw that Officer Podgorski was able to get the door open. As I walked back to the rear door, I could hear Officer Nelson telling Gregory to "step out" repeatedly and Officer Podgorski tell him to drop the knife. Officers Podgorski, with TASER drawn, and Officer Nelson, with firearm drawn, entered the apartment and I followed. Once inside I saw three (3) doorways, with the center one closed. Our focus was on the closed door. At this point Officer Nelson transitioned to his TASER and I entered the door to the left of the closed door, which appeared to be a bedroom with a closed door on the wall bordering the room with the closed door that Gregory was in. I entered that room and opened the interior door which turned out to be a closet. I then went back to the kitchen room and Officer Podgorski told Gregory to open the door. Gregory stated that we were going to have to shoot him. Officer Podgorski kicked the door open and when he did, he did with such force that the door opened and closed. At this time, I went into the "living room" which was the open door to the right of the bedroom that Gregory was in. I did this in order to open the bedroom door in order for us to see and talk to Gregory. This was the best tactical location for me to open the door while Officers Nelson and Podgorski could see into the room and react accordingly, whether it was verbal communication or some type of a use of force. I lightly kicked the bedroom door open and Gregory started to walk out at which time Officer Nelson deployed his TASER. Gregory walked out of the bedroom, still holding the knife, towards Officers Nelson and Podgorski. As Gregory walked

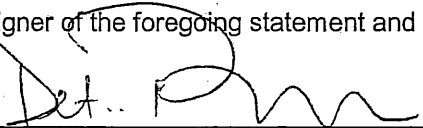
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out of the bedroom, he was about 3-4 feet in front of me. At that time, I could not understand why the TASER was having absolutely no effect on Gregory. Once the TASER was deployed Officer Nelson announced that a TASER was deployed. Despite the fact that Officer Nelson deployed his TASER at him, Gregory did not show any effects from the TASER deployment and walked out of the bedroom. I stepped back and saw him continue to go towards Officers Nelson and Podgorski. Both officers tried to retreat around the kitchen table while Gregory yelled "shoot me". Gregory was told again to drop the knife. As Gregory engaged with the officers he walked around the table and by the open back door. Gregory was about five (5) feet away from the officers and started to close that gap when Officer Nelson fired his weapon three (3) times in order to stop the threat and prevent Gregory from injuring/killing myself, Officers Nelson, and/or Podgorski. Once hit, Gregory fell to the floor. After Gregory was shot, he was handcuffed and the knife was kicked to the side. Officer Nelson radioed shots fired and I requested medical assistance. Upon hearing these radio transmissions, dispatch had Officers Smith and Fowler respond. I instructed the officers to put gloves on. Once officers gloved up I went to my cruiser to get a medical bag and notified Lieutenant Lynch of the events that just happened. I returned to the apartment with the medical bag and Officer Nelson tried to talk to Gregory and encouraged him to keep breathing. I grabbed gauze and tried to determine the location of the injuries. I could see one wound to the upper left chest area of Gregory and it appeared he had an injury to the left side of his face. We put Gregory on his right side as he was bleeding from his mouth which I thought to be a lung wound and I wanted to keep his airway open. Officer Podgorski and I attempted to control the bleeding and continued to do so until medical personnel arrived. During this time Gregory did not say anything but was breathing. While treating Gregory, Officer Smith arrived and I had him check the rest of the apartment to ensure no one else was present. Medical personnel from Ansonia Rescue Medical Services (ARMS) arrived in order to treat Gregory. During their assessment, I was telling them where the gunshot wounds were. As Gregory was being treated, EMS personnel were having difficulty working around Gregory's jacket and I directed an Officer to remove his handcuffs so the jacket could be removed and to facilitate his medical treatment. After removing the handcuffs, ARMS/EMS personnel were better able to treat Gregory. They eventually transported him to Griffin Hospital for further treatment. Officer Fowler went in the ambulance with Gregory during the transport to Griffin Hospital. Once the ambulance left the scene, I had Officer Podgorski transport Officer Nelson to Griffin Hospital for medical treatment while Officer Smith and I secured the scene.

It should be noted that the outer jacket that was taken from Gregory during the medical treatment might have insulated/protected him from the TASER probes. This would explain why Gregory was able to continue to go after Officers Nelson and Podgorski after the less than lethal deployment of the TASER.

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Witness: [Signature] Signature: Sgt C. Flynn

Witness: _____

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