

Statement - EDWARD JAMES

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE A VOLUNTARY TAPED STATEMENT TAKEN FROM EDWARD JAMES, W/M, DOB 6-3-31, RESIDENT ADDRESS 15630 KENSINGTON TRAIL, CLAREMONT, PHONE 904-242-9372. STATEMENT IS BEING TAKEN IN REGARD TO CERTAIN KNOWLEDGE THAT MR. JAMES HAS CONCERNING AN INCIDENT THIS POLICE DEPT. IS CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING IN REF. TO THE ABOVE LISTED INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED IN THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, COUNTY OF BROWARD, STATE OF FL ON 7-27-81, OCCURRING 300 HOLLYWOOD MALL. STATEMENT IS COMMENCING ON 11-8-95 AT APPROX. 1410 HRS. AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES. STATEMENT IS BEING TAKEN BY DET. MARK SMITH, BADGE 1163 OF THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPT.

Q. MR. JAMES, AT THIS TIME I'D LIKE TO PLACE YOU UNDER OATH BY VIRTUE OF MY COMMISSION AS A POLICE OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, COUNTY OF BROWARD, STATE OF FL. FIRST OFF, ARE YOU AWARE IT IS A CRIME TO LIE UNDER OATH?

A. YES

Q. WOULD YOU RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND PLEASE? (LET THE RECORD REFLECT HE'S DOING SO). DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH SO HELP YOU GOD?

A. SO HELP ME GOD.

EDWARD JAMES HAVING APPEARED BEFORE ME AS A POLICE OFFICER FOR THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, COUNTY OF BROWARD, STATE OF FL HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN DEPOSES AND STATES:

Q. FOR THE RECORD SIR, WILL YOU JUST STATE YOUR FULL NAME AND BIRTH DATE FOR ME PLEASE?

A. EDWARD HAROLD JAMES, 6-3-31

Q. MR. JAMES, I CAME HER APPROX. 1 HR. AGO, INTRODUCED MYSELF TO YOU AND EXPLAINED TO YOU WHY I AM HERE. IS THAT CORRECT?

A. CORRECT

Q. OK, AND I'VE REFERRED TO THE ADAM WALSH MURDER INVESTIGATION WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH. IS THAT CORRECT?

A. YES

Q. OK I MENTIONED THAT I HAD REVIEWED THE FILE AND NOTED THAT YOU HAD BEEN LISTED AS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS A SUSPECT, FOR LACK OF A BETTER WORD, BACK IN 1981 AND YOU RECALL YOURSELF BEING QUESTIONED ABOUT THE ADAM WALSH CASE.

A. YES

Q. I'M JUST UH, I'M JUST GONNA ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS AND I TOLD YOU WHY I'M HERE AND IT'S UH, MAINLY TO CLEAR UP SOME LOOSE ENDS THAT

STILL EXIST IN THE FILE THAT WE HAVE AT THE POLICE DEPT., AND IT ENDS WITH YOU STILL, QUITE FRANKLY, AS A POSSIBLE SUSPECT. AND UH, JUST TO GET A LITTLE BIT OF BACKGROUND, YOU HAVE JUST, I GUESS IN 1990 YOU WERE PAROLED FROM THE PRISON SYSTEM, CORRECT, FROM AN ARREST IN 1981?

A. YES

Q. AND IT WAS SHORTLY AFTER YOUR ARREST BACK IN 1981 THAT YOU WERE QUESTIONED BY DETECTIVES FROM HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPT. REGARDING ADAM WALSH.

A. RIGHT

Q. DO YOU RECALL, DO YOU REMEMBER SPECIFICALLY WHY THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE DEPT. MADE CONTACT WITH YOU?

A. THEY SAID THAT THE MAN THAT WAS PLACED IN, IN A CELL WITH E OVERNIGHT HAD TOLD THEM THAT I HAD TOLD HIM ALL KINDS OF STUFF ABOUT THE UH, ADAM WALSH CASE AND HOW IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE HAPPENED AND EVERYTHING.

Q. SO THIS MAN WHO HAD JUST SPENT JUST THE ONE NIGHT WITH YOU IS THE PERSON THAT WENT TO THE HOLLYWOOD POLICE OR WENT TO SOMEBODY.

A. RIGHT

Q. ONE NIGHT. OK DO YOU REMEMBER HAVING A CONVERSATION WITH THIS MAN?

A. NO

Q. AT ALL.

A. NOTHING OTHER THAN THE TIME OF THE DAY OR ANYTHING.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER, YOU DON'T REMEMBER THIS PERSON'S NAME.

A. NO

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE?

A. I REMEMBER THAT HE WAS SORT OF A GRUBBY LOOKING INDIVIDUAL, THAT'S ALL.

Q. WAS HE OLDER THAN YOURSELF?

A. YES

Q. OK AND AS FAR AS YOU KNOW, THAT IS THE ONLY PERSON THAT THE POLICE REFER TO AS SOMEONE COMING TO THEM SAYING THAT YOU HAD CONFESSED TO KILLING ADAM WALSH.

A. THAT'S RIGHT.

Q. THERE'S NO OTHER INDIVIDUALS THAT YOU KNOW OF THAT

A. NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

Q. HOW MANY TIMES DID OUR DETECTIVES INTERVIEW YOU BACK THEN?

A. THEY TRIED TO INTERVIEW ME 3 TIMES AT THE TIME I WAS ARRESTED. THEY INTERVIEWED ME ACTUALLY ONCE, AND TWO TIMES I REFUSED TO UH, SEE THEM.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER IF THERE, IF YOU WERE, WERE YOU AWARE THAT THERE WAS A INVESTIGATION CENTERED AROUND YOUR VEHICLE THAT WAS, THAT YOU HAD BACK THEN?

A. I REMEMBER THAT THEY TOOK MY CAR AND UH, AS A MATTER OF FACT, I HAD GIVEN THEM PERMISSION TO TAKE MY CAR IF THEY WANTED TO LOOK AT IT, BUT UH, I NEVER GOT MY CAR BACK.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT KIND OF CAR IT WAS?

A. IT WAS A PLYMOUTH FURY.

Q. RIGHT

A. A 4-DOOR, GOLD IN COLOR

Q. RIGHT. DO YOU REMEMBER IF ANYTHING WAS DONE TO THE CAR?

A. I REMEMBER THAT UH, MY SON UH, SAW THE CAR LATER WHERE IT WAS IMPOUNDED AND PUT AND HE SAID THAT THEY HAD UH TORN UH, TORN UP THE SEATS AND EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE CAR, THAT THEY'D MADE A MESS OF IT 'CAUSE MY CAR WAS FLAWLESS.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHY, DO YOU KNOW WHY THAT UH, THAT YOUR SEATS AND YOUR UPHOLSTERY, WAS IT YOUR UPHOLSTERY TOO THAT WAS REMOVED OR TORN OR

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS ALL TORN UP 'CAUSE HE SAW THE CAR AND HE DIDN'T, HE KNEW THE CONDITION I ALWAYS KEPT MY CAR IN AND, I HAD GIVEN THEM PERMISSION TO GO AHEAD AND LOOK AT MY CAR BUT I SAID DON'T DAMAGE IT IN ANY WAY, MANNER OR FORM AND I UNDERSTAND THAT IT WAS DAMAGED PRETTY EXTENSIVELY AND I HAD A NUMBER OF THINGS IN, IN MY CAR THAT UH, WERE ALSO TAKEN OUT OF MY CAR AND I FINALLY, MY SON GOT A COURT ORDER TO GET MY UH, TOOLS AND RECREATION EQUIPMENT AND STUFF OUT OF THE TRUNK BEFORE UH, THAT DISAPPEARED TOO, BUT UH, MY TIRE GAUGE, MY GOOD GLASSES, MY OH, I HAD A GOOD FLASHLIGHT, A NUMBER OF ITEMS IN MY CAR THAT WERE ALL TAKEN OUT OF THERE, WHICH I NEVER RECEIVED ANY OF IT BACK.

Q. WERE YOU AWARE, AND I'M ONLY AWARE OF IT BECAUSE I READ IT, THERE WAS SOME MENTION, THERE WAS SOME PEOPLE INTERVIEWED IN REGARDS TO YOUR CAR, WHICH MADE A MENTION THAT YOUR SEAT COVER, YOU HAD JUST RECENTLY REPLACED YOUR SEAT COVER.

A. RIGHT. IT HAD SPLIT AND I HAD TAKEN IT UP AND PAID SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 150 TO \$200 TO HAVE THAT ALL REDONE AT ONE OF THE, THE GOOD UPHOLSTERY SHOPS AND THAT BECAUSE I DIDN'T LIKE THE SPLIT THAT WAS IN, IT WAS ALL UH, LEATHER NAUGAHYDE INSIDE AND

Q. WAS IT THE FRONT SEAT OR THE BACK SEAT?

A. THE FRONT

Q. SO YOU DO RECALL THAT BEING

A. RIGHT. I HAD HAD THAT DONE NOT VERY LONG BEFORE I WAS

Q. RIGHT

A. ARRESTED.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER HOW LONG IT WAS BEFORE?

A. NO

Q. MONTHS?

A. NO, BUT I REMEMBER THAT IT WASN'T TOO LONG IN A RELATIVELY PERIOD OF TIME.

Q. DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE YOU WERE LIVING AT THE TIME?

A. IT'S A COUPLE BLOCKS OFF OF ROUTE 1. IT WAS AN AVENUE.

Q. OK

A. I THINK IT WAS, I CAN'T REMEMBER THE

Q. THAT'S ALRIGHT

A. THE NAME OF THE AVENUE ANYMORE. IT WAS A COUPLE BLOCKS EAST OF, IT WAS IN BETWEEN 1 AND THE INTERCOSTAL.

Q. OK WHEN QUESTIONED BY OUR DETECTIVES, THEY OBVIOUSLY ASKED YOU, OR INTERROGATED YOU, FOR LACK OF A BETTER WORD, IN REGARDS TO THIS. DID THEY NOT?

A. I DON'T RECALL THEM SAYING ANYTHING AT THE TIME AT FIRST ABOUT IT. UH, BUT THEY, THEY RAN DOWN A LIST OF ITEMS THAT UH, WERE SO NUMEROUS THAT I GUESS I WAS A SUSPECT IN EVERYTHING THAT WAS GOING ON IN BROWARD CO. AND I GUESS THAT WAS ONE OF THE ITEMS ON IT.

Q. DID THEY EVER SAY THEY SUSPECTED YOU IN THE ADAM WALSH MURDER?

A. THEY NEVER CAME BACK AND SAID ANYTHING OF THAT. I MEAN

Q. HOW DID YOU LEARN THAT YOU, THAT THAT WAS THE PURPOSE FOR THEIR

A. MY ATTORNEY TOLD ME THAT

Q. WELL, MY NEXT QUESTION IS, WELL, MY NEXT QUESTION WAS GOING TO BE DID THEY ASK YOU IF YOU KILLED ADAM WALSH, AND YOUR RESPONSE WOULD HAVE BEEN WHAT?

A. I DON'T RECALL BEING ACTUALLY ASKED WHETHER I DID OR NOT. WHEN I TALKED TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE I TOLD THEM THAT THERE'S NO WAY I COULD EVER DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT 'CAUSE THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD EVER HURT A PERSON, PERIOD.

Q. HAVE YOU UH, HOW LONG HAD YOU BEEN LIVING IN POMPANO AT THE TIME?

A. 10 YRS.

Q. 10 YRS. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD AS FAR AS, THAT YOU KNOW OF?

A. UH, MAYBE I'D GONE THRU THERE HALF A DOZEN TIMES OR SOMETHING OVER ALL THOSE YEARS.

Q. HAVE YOU EVER

A. I WORKED SO MUCH OF THE TIME THAT USUALLY 5 & 6 DAYS A WEEK THAT MOST OF MY EXTRA TIME WAS SPENT EITHER AT MY BOSS'S HOUSE FOR AN EVENING OR I USED TO GO TO COUNTRY & WESTERN MUSIC PLACE ON FRIDAY OR SAT. EVENING. THAT WAS ABOUT THE EXTENT OF MINE BECAUSE I WORKED PHYSICAL WORK, CONSTRUCTION TYPE WORK.

Q. I WAS GONNA ASK YOU WHAT TYPE OF WORK DID YOU DO BACK THEN?

A. I DID UH, CONSTRUCTION TYPE WORK FOR A FRIEND OF MINE THAT UH, BUILT CUSTOM HOMES IN PLANTATION, FL. HE LIVED OUT IN PLANTATION AND BUILT HOMES IN THAT AREA.

Q. PLANTATION ACRES OUT WEST?

A. PLANTATION ACRES, ALL THE WAY OUT TO 27 PRACTICALLY.

Q. WHAT DID YOU HAVE, WHAT DID YOU DO FOR HOBBIES BACK THEN, IF YOU CAN RECALL?

A. MUSIC. MUSIC WAS MY HOBBY.

Q. OK HAD YOU EVER BEEN TO THE HOLLYWOOD MALL?

A. I DON'T RECALL EVER BEING THERE AT THE HOLLYWOOD MALL. I COULDN'T EVEN TELL YOU WHERE IT IS.

Q. IT'S IN HOLLYWOOD. HAS EVERYTHING YOU TOLD ME BEEN TRUE TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE, COMPLETE TRUTH?

A. YES

Q. AND SINCE YOU DON'T RECALL IT BEING ASKED, UM, I'M GONNA ASK IT. DID YOU KILL ADAM WALSH?

A. NO

Q. HAS THIS STATEMENT BEEN GIVEN FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY BY YOURSELF?

A. YES

Q. HAVE I THREATENED YOU OR PROMISED YOU ANYTHING OR COERCED YOU INTO GIVING THIS STATEMENT?

A. NOT WHATSOEVER

Q. IF REQUESTED AND I'M NOT SURE THAT I EVEN WOULD; IF REQUESTED IN REGARDS TO THE ADAM WALSH CASE ONLY; WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO TAKE A POLYGRAPH?

A. IF I HAD TO. I DON'T HAVE MUCH

Q. WELL, I, I WORDED IT THAT WAY BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S GONNA BE NECESSARY BUT I JUST WANTED TO GET YOUR ANSWER.

A. I'VE BEEN SUBJECTED TO THAT QUESTION FROM SOME JOBS YEARS AGO AND THAT AND I EVEN SAID AT THAT TIME IF I HAVE TO BE SUBJECTED TO SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN ORDER TO GET THE JOB, IT ISN'T EVEN WORTH IT TO ME.

Q. WELL, YOU UNDERSTAND, YOU UNDERSTAND WHY UH, I'M HERE AND TO PREFACE THIS INTERVIEW, I, I DIDN'T COME HERE TO INTERROGATE YOU AND ARREST YOU AND UH, CHARGE YOU WITH KILLING ADAM WALSH AND I THINK, I HOPE I MADE IT CLEAR TO YOU WHY I WAS ACTUALLY HERE AND HOW THE INVESTIGATION HAS ENDED IN REGARDS TO YOURSELF.

A. RIGHT

Q. AND THE ONLY REASON I WOULD EVEN OFFER A POLYGRAPH WOULD BE FOR THAT PURPOSE ONLY TO, IN OTHER WORDS, CLOSE AND WHATEVER YOU BELIEVE IN POLYGRAPHS, I'M NOT A TOTAL ADVOCATE OF THEM MYSELF. HOWEVER, UH, AND THAT IS JUST ONE TOOL THAT WE CAN SAY THAT IT WAS DONE THAT ENDED THE STORY OF EDWARD JAMES' INVOLVEMENT IN THIS CASE. SO I'M, I ASKED YOU THE QUESTION IN A WAY THAT I'M NOT SURE I'M EVEN GONNA ASK YOU TO IF YOU WANTED TO, BUT I JUST WANTED TO GET YOUR ANSWER. SO YOUR ANSWER IS?

A. YES IF HAVE TO.

Q. YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO. THERE IS ALSO ANOTHER EASIER FORM OF ANALYSIS CALLED, AND I'M STILL ON TAPE, IT'S CALLED A VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH WHAT THAT IS. WHAT IT DOES IS MEASURES THE STRESS OF A RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY AN

INDIVIDUAL, WHICH IS LATER PUT INTO A COMPUTER AND ANALYZED. THERE IS A CERTAIN FORMAT OF QUESTIONS WHICH I ASKED AND YOU ANSWER WITH A YES OR NO ANSWER, WHEREIN IT CAN LATER BE ANALYZED BY SOMEONE WHO'S TRAINED IN VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS. THAT CAN BE DONE AND I'M GONNA ASK YOU IF YOU'RE WILLING TO DO IT BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT. U

I HAVE A FORMAT THAT I CAN END THIS TAPED STATEMENT WITH THAT FORMAT, WHEREIN I ASK YOU A SET OF 6 QUESTIONS AND YOU GIVE ME A YES OR NO ANSWER. NOW, THAT'S STRICTLY VOLUNTARY. IT'S, IT'S DONE ON THE TAPE. THIS TAPE IS THEN LATER ANALYZED WITH THAT FORMAT. WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO DO THAT?

A. I'M NOT SURE I QUITE UNDERSTAND WHAT

Q. IT'S HARD, IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN. WHAT IT IS, UM, I ASK YOU FOR EXAMPLE, IS YOUR ADDRESS SUCH AND SUCH. YOU HAVE A YES OR NO ANSWER, YES OR NO, YES. IS YOUR PHONE #904, -----, YES. NEXT QUESTION WILL BE DID YOU KILL ADAM WALSH? YOUR ANSWER, NO. DID YOU TELL ANYONE THAT YOU KILLED ADAM WALSH. NOW THAT'S A TRICK QUESTION ONLY IN THAT I WANT YOU TO BE CLEAR IN YOUR HEAD THAT YOU DIDN'T, AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK THAT BY TELLING SOMEONE, JOKE ABOUT IT AND TELL SOMEONE, WHAT I MEAN BY THAT QUESTION IS DID YOU TELL SOMEONE THAT YOU DID IT BECAUSE YOU DID IT? DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M, WHAT I'M SAYING? OK. THE NEXT QUESTION WOULD BE DID YOU KNOW FOR, DO YOU KNOW FOR SURE WHO KILLED ADAM WALSH. AND THEN THE NEXT QUESTION IS IS YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY # SO & SO?

THOSE ARE THE, THOSE ARE THE QUESTIONS AND THAT'S WHAT I WOULD HAVE AN ANALYSIS LOOK AT. OBVIOUSLY YOU KNOW WHAT POLYGRAPHS AND VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS ARE. THEY'RE NOT ADMISSABLE IN ANY WAY. IT'S AN INTERROGATIVE TOOL THAT IS USED AND THAT'S IT. IT JUST GIVES, IT'S JUST ANOTHER THING BESIDES A POLYGRAPH THAT WE CAN SAY IT WAS ANALYZED. THERE WAS NO STRESS LEVEL IN THE RESPONSES. I SEE NO DECEPTION. THAT'S WHAT AN ANALYSIS WOULD SAY. OR AN ANALYSIS WOULD SAY I SEE A PROBLEM WITH THIS QUESTION, YOU KNOW, BASED ON THIS. I'M NOT, I'M NOT TRAINED IN IT. I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEY SEE, BUT I WANTED TO EXPLAIN TO YOU FULLY WHAT THAT IS AND OFFER YOU THAT OPPORTUNITY IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'D BE WILLING TO DO.

A. THIS IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO. I JUST, I JUST WANT THIS OFF MY BACK.

Q. WELL, I AFTER HEARING YOUR STORY, I CAN UNDERSTAND.

A. IT UPSETS ME. I MEAN

Q. YOU MEAN THESE QUESTIONS?

A. ANYTHING, JUST HAVING ALL THIS STUFF BROUGHT BACK UNDER MY

Q. I APOLOGIZE IF IT DOES AND, AND I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT MY JOB IS TO DO RIGHT NOW AND IT'S NOT AN EASY ONE AND, BUT YOUR LIFE HAS NOT BEEN VERY EASY.

A. NOT FOR QUITE A FEW YEARS.

Q. OK, I'M GONNA END THIS INTERVIEW RIGHT NOW AND I'M GONNA TAKE SOME INFORMATION DOWN AND THEN WE'LL DO THAT FORMAT THAT I JUST MENTIONED. OK?

STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED 11-8-95 AT 1427 HRS.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FORMAT REGARDING MR. EDWARD JAMES.

Q. MR. JAMES, PLEASE ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WITH A YES OR NO ANSWER. IS YOUR ADDRESS 15630 KENSINGTON TRAIL, CLAIREMONT, FL.

A. YES

Q. IS YOUR PHONE #904-242-9372?

A. YES. YES

Q. DID YOU KILL ADAM WALSH?

A. NO

Q. DID YOU EVER TELL ANYONE THAT YOU HAD KILLED ADAM WALSH?

A. NO

Q. DO YOU KNOW FOR SURE WHO KILLED ADAM WALSH?

A. NO

Q. IS YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

A. YES

Q. THE VOICE STRESS ANALYSIS PORTION OF THIS INTERVIEW IS COMPLETE.

END OF STATEMENT.