

August 12, 2014
Detective

St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office
Via telephone call

[Phone ringing]

: Hello?

: Hi, is this

: Yes.

: Hi, this is again.

: Oh, okay.

: Um, what...you want to tell me what you saw?

Ahhh, I mean, su..sure, cause like ever since I done seent it I can't get this stuff out of my head. And I be scared to go home, 'cause I stay right, exactly on

: Okay. Well, what ah, why don't you go ahead and tell me what you saw?

Alright, ah...I was heading home to grab some bi...I stay at

: Okay.

...so I was heading home to ah...grab some bills, I was gonna do a little ah, errand running and ah, as I approached Canfield, I, ah...you know how you make that right coming off West Florissant?

: Yes.

Yes, I, ah, made a right...I was coming down Canfield..

: You're in your car?

Yes, sir.

: Okay.

: And, ah...and I was coming down Canfield, I was seeing a bunch of commotion so I had to ah...it was actually the police officer so I stopped...I didn't want to go around him or passed or anything like that that would get me in trouble.

: Sure.

: Okay, so ah...I see a commotion, first of all, I seent Michael Brown struggling...to get away, like the officer was holding on to him from out...from the inside of his truck.

: Okay, so you saw when he was next to the tr..the police officer's truck.

Yeah, by the time...by the time he had 'cause, by the time I seent that he had pulled up, he had back...backed real fast, like almost hittin' him.

: Michael Brown or the police officer?

: The ah, police officer...like he had, guess he had told 'em to get off the street?

: Yeah.

And, as he was pulling off...he didn't pull like, not even five... he had hurried up and he had reversed, almost hitting Michael Brown and his friend.

Oh, so he backed up his car, you mean?

: Yeah, he backed up in his, um...mobile reserve truck, yes.

: Okay, and you said he almost hit him with the car?

: Yes, he almost hit them with the truck.

Okay,

: So, I'm guessing that's how Michael Brown was so close...to the truck 'cause he had pulled up and backed back?

Yeah.

: Okay, so I seen the police officer holding on to him and his neck, from inside of his truck. As I see Michael Brown struggling to get his..get his self free, I mean it wa.., it ah, it didn't look like he was tussling to get a

hold to the officer gun is what I'm saying....He was struggling to get away from the officer but the officer kept pulling him towards his vehicle.

: Did you ever see Michael Brown in...part of his body inside the vehicle or not?

: No, I didn't. I only saw when the officer was holding on to him and kept pulling him towards his vehicle when Michael Brown was pulling to get away from his vehicle.

: Okay.

Okay. So, by then I seen him holding on to him, by then...a shot fired. Pow. Michael Brown get loose. After he get..shot, from the officer...holding on to him from inside his vehicle. He got hit. And that's when he got approximately ten – fifteen feet away...the officer let more shots go from inside of his vehicle. So...I guess, like the shots that he fired...they say he only shot one shot from inside his vehicle but it was more than one shot that was fired from inside of his vehicle, so I'm guessing the shots, that he..after he fired the first one, are like probably, ya know, hit him in his back or something....I couldn't actually see 'cause I was ducking. But...I say he got about ten or fifteen feet away...his friend was...after he had let them shots ranged out, his friend was ducked behind the police car. I seen Michael Brown stop and turn around and throw his hands up. By then, the police officer has slowed up, looked him right in his face and fired on him again. Okay?

: Was he st..still in the car or was he out?

By the time...by the time that police officer got out there...had got out of his vehicle, Michael Brown was already ten, fifteen feet away from him.

Okay.

By the time he stopped and turned around, threw his hands up in the air and asked the man not to shoot him, he fired more shots. I don't know if they hit him right in his face or what. But...he fired more shots and that's when I seen him hit the ground. When he hit the ground, I seen the officer stand over him and fire more shots on him.

: And...and what did Michael Brown say when he raised his hands.

: Ah, ah, ah...if I was-if I was hearing him right, it sounded like he asked him not to shoot him. Don't kill me.

: I'm writing, okay?

: Okay. But the point that I was trying to get across, like I was reading half of what the police officer I guess gave a statement...

: Yeah.

: ..um, he was saying like, he had got out of his vehicle and Michael Brown went for his gun.

: Ah hah.

: That didn't never happen.

: Okay, so...

: By the time, by the time...

: So...

: ... he got out of his vehicle, Michael Brown was already ten, fifteen feet away from him.

: And then he...you said he raised his hands and then...
the police officer...

: ..the police officer shot again?

: ...shot at...after he raised his hands, him and the officer was face to face. The officer let more shots go on him.

: And then you said he was on the ground and he came up...

: And he had, and that's when he hit the ground head first. I watched him. Just leaned right over...hit his ground...hit the ground so hard like, it didn't make no sense man. I got terrified, like he hit the ground, after the...after the police.. (UI) his hands were clean in the air, for him and police is in the face...the police shot him again. Right there. Face to face.

: So, he went right up to him and-and leaned over him and was Michael Brown on his back or on his stomach?

: Ta..umm.. I don't understand where your'e...wher..

: Where...on the gr...when he was on the ground did he fall forward or backward, was he laying on his back or was he on his stomach? Ya know?

: Ahh, if I got the vision right here, and..(UI) after he stopped, throw his hands in air, the officer "poom, poom", he leaned forward, right on his head, so he was on his stomach. And that's why, and that's why...

: Yeah, and the, and the police officer came up and was like, standing up over him?

And stood right over him and let more shots go on him. It terrified the shit out of me man, like I haven't been stayin' there a whole year and like I don't even like going home now.

: How many times did he shoot him when he was standing over him?

: I counted...I ah, I don't know how many times he shot him when he was standing over him but I counted from the first shot, I had counted ten. But I'm thinking they said Mr. Brown got shot like nine times.

: Okay. And what was...do you remember, um, this was, what day, Saturday, is that what your...?

Was it Friday or Saturday? Ah...

Okay, and what time-what time of day did it happen?

Uhhh, I say about good, 11 30ish, 11 20ish, somewhere up in there, it wan't, it was getting close to twelve.

: And then it..ah, you don't,..you were saying it was Saturday? Or Friday?

: Ahh, wait...

(unknown male asks)

UM: Who is it?

: ...if I ain't mistaken that was...was it Saturday D?

(unknown female answers)

UF: Yeah.

Yeah, if I aint' mistaken it Saturday...mo...ah, noon.

: Okay, around noon?

: Huh?

Around noon?

: I ain't hear ya.

: Yeah, around twelve o'clock?

'round 11:30, twelve, yeah.

: Okay. And, what was...do you remember what Michael Brown was wearing?

: He had on a, a, a regular t-shirt, some shorts and some, um, flip flops with some long socks. Like, some baseball looking socks.

: What color were his shorts, do you remember?

Ah, khaki-ish color.

: And he had on flip flops?

Yes, sir.

: And, what color socks?

: Ah, they looked ah like, lime green socks. With like, um, marijuana leaves on 'em.

: And d..do you, um...did you know Michael Brown, or not?

No sir, I didn't know the man from a can of paint.

: Okay. And did you know his partner?

: No sir at all. I just moved up there, and like...I don't know nobody out there.

: What did his, what did his partner, what was he wearing?

: Uhhh...

If you remember.

: Okay, I don't actually remember... so I know he had the vision in my head from front to back, he held that boy...he shot him from...he saying that Mr. Brown went for his gun when he got out the truck when Mr. Brown was already a couple feet away from him.

: Okay, was there any other cars around or w..was it just you?

Is was ah, I remember seeing a car behind the police officer's squad car which where Mr. Brown's friend had ducked up and took cover in.

: What kind of car was that?

: Ah, I don't really remember sir...

: Sure.

: ...I just remember it was a small...

: That's okay.

: ..small vehicle.

: But there was a car behind the police car?

: Yes, sir.

: Okay. Okay, I gonna....I want to go over this with you one more time so I make sure I got everything right, is that okay?

Yes, sir and I'll correct you if anything wrong.

: Okay. Well, you, you said that..now you were, where were you coming from?

I was just coming from running errands that I had, there was some bills in the house that I had go get.

: What kind of car were you in

: I was in a two door...a two door .

: ..okay, what year was that, do you know? What year is it?

: And I asked 'em, and I..as I drove, 'cause, ah, like, I was, like literally right there after he got done shooting I had drove into my, uh, I had to go around Mr. Brown body to get to my apartment complex and I asked him "why did you fire on him like that" and he told me "fuck you, keep fucking going."

: Okay, you...you said that to him?

Yes, sir.

[pause]

: Like I been so...like this stuff has been on my conscience so hard, like, I don't understand like, what would make somebody do somebody like that, like first of all, you started off harassing him, told him get the fuck on the sidewalk when they was crossing the street to get on the other side of the sidewalk. Let me see...okay, Canfield...they was already on the right of the street, they was trying to get over, to cross on the left side to get to their destination...and that's when yeah, ah, I guess he, that's when he pulled up and pulled back and almost hit them. That's why Mr. Brown didn't get up... (UI)

: You stay at right?

: Yes, I stay like right there.

: Are you in an apartment?

: Yes, sir.

: What's your apartment number?

Apartment,

: Okay, so...you're-you're driving in a... you've got a-a
did you tell me what year it was?

: Ah, I actually don't know...I think it's like a ?

Okay, and you see...you see this-this police vehicle...

: And I see, and I see, and I see, and I see...I'm seeing this, I'm right here watching them...and I see like this tussle, like, I see Mr. Brown struggling to pull back... 'cause the officer was hol...choking him, like literally choking him, and holding on to him. Like I ain't seen no tussling and Mr. Brown reaching in there for no gun and none of that....

: Okay, so...

: ...no Mr. Brown, Mr. Brown was struggling to get away from the officer 'cause he was choking him and holding on to him...

: Okay. Let me back up just a minute. So, you're a, now this, there's was another car there behind the police car, was that..was that car there the whole time?

Uhhhh, from my point of view, yes.

: Okay, so...you, you're kinda pulling in behind this car...

: No, no, no...I'm in front...I'm in front of the squad car, like I'm... sitting here watching...like I'm watching TV.

: Awe, So, you're facing the front of the police car?

Yeah, I'm like right in front...

: And- and there's a car behind the police car?

Yeah, so like the police was, like, he's facing towards West Florissant.

Okay.

: I'm coming...I'm coming in off of West Florissant and like I got, you know...

: Okay, he's facing West Florissant.

...front row seats.

: What is the absolute first thing that you see?

Mr. Brown struggling to get away from the officer.

: So, you see him...he's already by the side of the car, and the police officer is inside the car, right?

Oh no, yeah. Choking him and...holding on to him...

Holding on to him.?

: Not even... Yes, Mr. Brown was struggling to get away from the officer. The officer was pulling Mr. Brown towards his vehicle.

: Okay, and when did you hear this first shot?

This first shot...didn't take no longer than, the first shot ranged out in a minute, a minute and a half.

: Okay, so they're struggling...

: Pow.

...they're, they're struggling by the window of the police vehicle right?

Yeah, Mr. Brown is struggling to, you know...get hisself loose.

Is he...is he trying to get away....are his hands inside the car, or outside the car?

His hands was, like, pushing...like it's basically say it's on the outside and the in, 'cause it's like his hands was like he was trying to get the officer to let go of his neck and let go of him. Like he's...

: Okay. And then you, and then you hear a shot, right?

Yes, the officer let off shot, "pow", Mr. Brown get loose, he take off, already...he already gone after that first shot. I see the officer rang out a couple more shots out of his vehicle, from the inside of his vehicle.

: Okay.

By time he get out, I guess...they must of hit Mr. Brown 'cause by time he got out and ran up on Mr. Brown, Mr. Brown was already turned around with his hands out.

Okay.

: And that's when he walked up on him, hit him square in his face or whatever he did, he hit him right in his face.

: Let's back up a minute. So...so, you see um, they're struggling, and then you hear a shot and then-and then...Michael Brown breaks loose...

: Yes.

: ...and he, does he turn around and he's-and he's kinda running away from...the vehicle...?

Yes, he is already gone.

: And then, a, the police officer is still in the vehicle, fires a couple more shots.

: Yes, he's still in his vehicle.

: And did...

I think he ranged out at least, about three or four more shots.

: And did any of those shots hit Michael Brown?

: Ahhh, I..if, I, like, in my head, I was thinking they did, 'cause like, he slowed up pretty quick and turned around , you know.

: Okay, so he turns around and puts his hands up, right?

Clean in the air sir. I mean, he didn't reach for nothing, I mean...

: Okay. I'm just, I'm just gonna go slow, okay, so...um, so..and make sure I've got this right, so, a, they're struggling, there's a shot, Michael Brown turns around and runs, there's two or three or four more shots, you're not sure and then Michael Brown...you think maybe he got hit by the way he stopped, but your not sure...

Yes.

: ...and then he turns around and he puts his hands up in the air and he says something kinda like, ah, don't shoot me, or...

: Yeah.

: ..or whatever...

: Yes.

: ...but your not sure exactly what he says.

: Yes.

And then, a, the police officer gets out of his car and then he fires more shots as he gets out?

: As he got out his vehicle, okay, after the first shot, "pow"...

Right.

...Mr. Brown get loose, he already approximately 10 or 15 feet away...

Okay.

..I hear more shots come from the vehicle, the police officer's vehicle. Uh, 'kay, by then...the police officer gets out of his vehicle, he's running, Mr. Brown is already turned around with his hands in the air.

Okay.

And he slows up... 'cause he musta, in my vision, the way I seent it, he must have seen that Mr. Brown's friends was hiding duck behind his car, so he slowed up, looked at him...but his main focus was Mr. Brown.

: Okay.

Okay, as he's walking up on Mr. Brown, he hits him, like, it-it like it was so vicious man, like, he walks up on Mr. Brown and just hit him square in the face with his hands in the air.

: Oh? He-he hit him?

: Not hit him! I mean like shot him. You know...

Oh, okay

(UI)

Okay so how close is he...

He shoots him right in the face.

: When he fires the next round of shots, how close is he to-to Michael Brown?

: (UI) face to face shots?

Yeah, okay so he's already fired three or four shots from his car...

Yes, it wan't just one shot. After the first shot fired, Mr. Brown gets loose. He lets out..okay, Mr. Brown is running. He lets out more shots from his vehicle. By then, he stops, he gets out. Mr. Brown turns around..

Okay.

: ...puts his hands in the air.

Okay

...the police officer...approximately, not even three or four feet away from him, and hit him square in his face...that's why I think the length over.

: Okay, so..hold on, hold on...

...(UI)...and the first thing I...

: Hold on, so the police, he's standing there, and-and does Michael move forward or backward or does he just stay standing?

He stan...he stood still with his hands in the air.

: Okay, then the police officer come...

With gunshot wounds and every...I mean with shot, shot, you know with gunshot wounds and everything. He stood still with his hands in the air.

: Okay and then, ah, police officer shoots him in the face?

Shots him...shoots him in the face. I think that was two or three shots in his face.

: Okay.

: That's when I seen Mr. Brown lean over, hit his head on the ground and in my head I said "he's dead, he's dead, he's dead"...

: Okay.

..so, and not even, not even fifteen seconds later he let, he stood over and let off more shots on him and like...

Standing over on top of him.

..standing, standing over Mr. Brown he let off more shots.

And, how far away was the gun from Mr. Brown when he fired these last shots?

: I mean, if he on the ground, I mean...I don't know how approximately the...how tall your officer was or...ya know, but like he was point blank range.

: Okay, so he was right over him?

: Right over him.

: Standing right over him and he's...

Standing right over his body.

..shooting the shots right into his body?

He sh...he stood over that boy and shoot into him and then we...

: And then what did the police officer do?

Okay, that's..okay that's when I thought this must be my chance to get on passed. So, I go and pass, I hear him...I guess he made the call ...call in for the rest of the officers and that's why, when I asked "why you

shut that boy down like that?", He said "shut the fuck up, keep going, mind your fucking business".

: Okay. And then you went home?

: Yes, and I pulled into my parking lot and I ain't want to get to close but I stood in my parking lot and I watched Mr. Brown just lay there an..everything just leak out of his head like...and for what?

: Hmm. Yeah. So, now you didn't take any video or anything did you?

No, sir, I didn't...

: Okay.

: ...just, like, I was like, I live by a code, that was just be totally disrespectful just to sit there and record a man with blood coming out his head and so...

: No, no, I meant, I meant...while it was happening. While it was (UI)...

Yeah, yeah. No, no, yeah.

: You didn't do anything like that?

: No, no sir. That's not...It just... no

: Okay, no I understand.

Yeah.

I understand

I don't do, that's enough man, like I'm already terrified at the fact that I had to...I had to literally sit there and watched it.

: Sure.

: But then again, I gotta, like, I gots to go home every day, I don't like going home like...

: Okay. Well let me ah, ah, ask you a question...and,um, and I'm an investigator, I'm actually the investigator here at the Prosecutors' office...

Yes, sir.

: ...and, um, the a, I think the County Police are doing this investigation...

Yes, sir.

: ... ah, if you would ah, are you okay talking to the County Police?

: I mean...

: Or would you rather just talk to me?

: I mean... I don't really understand like, I'd rather just talk to whoever...

: That's fine.

I mean...

You can, I'll tell you what... you can...

...if, if...this is what I'm trying to get understood, I mean, if you Chief, ah, what you saying?

: Investigator.

: Investigator, I'd rather just talk to you like...

: Okay. Why don't you write my...let me give you my name and my phone number, okay?

Just a moment. Yeah, like um...like after seeing that, like I don't really trust nobody like, I don't even wanna talk to...

: I understand.

...a group of people like...

: I understand.

: ...they took my family, it took my family to str...it took my family to push me to even call this number and like...

: Sure.

.. 'cause I was hearing like one of the witness, was a witness, and he...the last person he, the last person they seen him with was a police and they found him dead behind a Dominos, like all night, true or not that was...but like....

What are you talking 'bout, in this case?

: That was-that was related, one of the eye...another eyewitness that 'posed to been up there or somethin'...

: Oh, yeah, you he, you heard that.?

Yes. I mean, I don't know if that's true or not...I'm just saying I'm going off...

: No, that's, that's not true. You're talking about the guy who was with him?

Yes.

: Yeah, no, that's not true.

That's not true? No that wasn't true. Okay, Thank God.

Yeah. You ready?

A, yes.

: My name's

: And my number's

: I mean, I done gave...Channel 5, my...part of my statement, I ain't seent nothin'...I been callin' people , I haven't had no calls, returned back and like, I, man, it's just so crazy like, I just don't understand why?

I know, I know. We're all...everybodys...we're all looking into this and we're trying to get to the bottom of it, ah, is this the best number for you,

Yes, sir.

Do you have a ce., is that your cell or do you have another number?

It's my cell.

: Okay, well let me, ah, I'll tell you what, I... I'm sure I'll be getting back to you, I've got all my...the information, I'm going to pass this on...and then, um, I'm sure I'll be calling you back, okay?

Now...if your ain't there, um, I, I won't talk to nobody.

: Talk to me. You can just talk to me.

I understand. Oka...I mean...

: And my last name is but it's, it's...if you want to write that down, it's kinda long?

I'll just call you by your first name.

: Yeah. Okay. Okay.

(U)

: I appreciate the call and I'll be getting back to you, okay?

Alright.

Okay.

[disconnect]