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**CITY OF PORTLAND
INDEPENDENT POLICE REVIEW
Confidential Taped Statement
Investigator Eric Berry**

14 **Interview Date:** 05/31/2016
15 **IPR #:** 2016-B-0014
16 **IPR File Name:** 2016-B-0014 banton.christi.05.31.16.int.wma

17 **Interviewed:** Christi Banton

18 **BERRY:** This is IPR investigator ERIC BERRY. Today's date is Tuesday 05/31/16. Time is
19 approximately 14:45. I'm present at a conference room at Harney District Hospital EMS for an
20 interview with CHRISTI BANTON on my case 2016-B-0014 and Ms. BANTON are you aware that
21 I'm recording our conversation?

22 **BANTON:** Yes, I am.

23 **BERRY:** Outstanding, thank you very much. Will you tell me your position here?

24 **BANTON:** I am the EMT.

25 **BERRY:** Excellent.

26 **BANTON:** With the ambulance service.

27 **BERRY:** And how long have you done that?

28 **BANTON:** Uh, here about twelve years.

29 **BERRY:** Okay.

30 **BANTON:** But altogether sixteen years.

31 **BERRY:** Oh my gosh, that's a lot of time in the EMS.

32 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.

33 **BERRY:** Now the date that I have on dispatch records, it looks like a Thursday April 21st, does that
34 sound right to you?

35 **BANTON:** Not sure of the day.

36 **BERRY:** I won't hold you to it, all right. Well let me ask you this, were you dispatched to accidental
37 discharge call down in South County?

38 **BANTON:** I was.

39 **BERRY:** Around Fields station.

40 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.

41 **BERRY:** Will you tell me about that, like tell me about getting toned out.

42 **BANTON:** Well we got toned out. We weren't sure where it was, where it happened.

43 **BERRY:** Mm-hm.

44 **BANTON:** But we were to meet at the Fields station and AirLife or an air crew, I'm not sure which
45 crew, was dispatched also and we also have a first responder – two first responders down there, but
46 only one showed up, her name was DEBBY.

47 **BERRY:** Okay, is that DEBBY MILLER?

48 **BANTON:** Yes.

49 **BERRY:** Is that – yeah, all right.

50 **BANTON:** Yes, and so she got the vitals and was there with the patient before we got there.

51 **BERRY:** Well I imagine that would take a while to get down to Fields from here.

BANTON: Yes, it takes a couple hours.

BERRY: Oh my gosh, so that's even running code three, you're still going.

BANTON: Mm-hm.

BERRY: Yeah.

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52 **BANTON:** Yes, and then – so when we arrived on scene there was a patient. The patient was in the
53 back seat of a four door pick-up and he was holding his left side and in quite a bit of pain and DEBBY
54 being a first responder could just do vitals. She couldn't do like, pain medicine or anything, so – and
55 we could see the air crew hovering over us at that time, so our crew got an IV going and gave him
56 some pain medicine and I believe something for nausea and that was pretty much our contact with him
57 before air crew touched down and we transferred care to them.
58 **BERRY:** Well that's what I understand is that the air crew arrived pretty shortly after –
59 **BANTON:** They did.
60 **BERRY:** – you all got there.
61 **BANTON:** So we didn't really have much contact.
62 **BERRY:** Okay.
63 **BANTON:** With the patient.
64 **BERRY:** In the time that you were there, did you have any kind of conversation with the victim, the
65 shooting victim?
66 **BANTON:** I just – I remember somebody asking him – it might've been the paramedic if there was
67 alcohol involved because he needed to know for the pain medicine.
68 **BERRY:** Yeah.
69 **BANTON:** And the patient said that he had three beers at noon with lunch.
70 **BERRY:** Okay.
71 **BANTON:** And that was it.
72 **BERRY:** I got that.
73 **BANTON:** And then – and there was some talk and I'm not sure who said it, I've been trying to rack
74 my brain on it, about a bullet ricocheting possibly to the victim.
75 **BERRY:** Mm-hm.
76 **BANTON:** Because they were all shooting sage rats, and so I just remember that sticks out in my
77 mind.
78 **BERRY:** Well that's what I was going to ask. Do you remember anybody ever describing how the
79 injury occurred?
80 **BANTON:** They weren't sure, They said they were all using .22's I believe and at that time, you
81 know, the bullet was still in the patient, so we weren't sure, you know –
82 **BERRY:** What you're dealing with.
83 **BANTON:** What type of bullet it was, you know, who had that type of bullet, if they were all using the
84 same type of bullet, but that was pretty much our – my contact with him.
85 **BERRY:** Okay.
86 **BANTON:** They were, you know, his friends were all visibly upset that something had happened, you
87 know.
88 **BERRY:** I can imagine.
89 **BANTON:** Yeah.
90 **BERRY:** Well, so you talked about having very brief contact with the patient.
91 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.
92 **BERRY:** And overhearing, you believe possibly the paramedic asking if alcohol was involved.
93 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.
94 **BERRY:** Patient said he had three beers with lunch.
95 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.
96 **BERRY:** How would you describe his appearance, did he appear to be intoxicated?
97 **BANTON:** No.

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98 **BERRY:** Or –
99 **BANTON:** He didn't.
100 **BERRY:** Okay.
101 **BANTON:** No, none of them did actually.
102 **BERRY:** Well – and yeah, that's – you anticipated my next question, so you had – the rest of the
103 guys didn't have an impression they had been drinking?
104 **BANTON:** No, I didn't smell any alcohol or anything.
105 **BERRY:** Okay, did you notice anybody stumbling around or slurring their words or anything like
106 that?
107 **BANTON:** No.
108 **BERRY:** All right.
109 **BANTON:** No.
110 **BERRY:** Okay, all right, did you have much contact with – you talked about having very brief
111 contact with the patient, did you have any kind of conversation with any of the patients' friends,
112 anyone who was there?
113 **BANTON:** Just they were all, you know, visibly upset that it had happened and they didn't really say a
114 lot. I mean, they were just concerned for the patient.
115 **BERRY:** Yeah.
116 **BANTON:** So –
117 **BERRY:** I'm already writing a little slower than I was when I started out, sorry.
118 **BANTON:** It's okay.
119 **BERRY:** Did they say where this happened, where he actually got shot?
120 **BANTON:** No I don't know where they were.
121 **BERRY:** Okay, while you were there did you ever hear anyone talk about being a police officer?
122 **BANTON:** Hm-mm.
123 **BERRY:** No.
124 **BANTON:** I was very surprised when I heard it on the news, I was like, what?
125 **BERRY:** Oh yeah, yeah, and how did you wind up hearing about it?
126 **BANTON:** It was on a news channel on T.V.
127 **BERRY:** And then you remember the –
128 **BANTON:** I'm not sure –
129 **BERRY:** – call.
130 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.
131 **BERRY:** Yeah.
132 **BANTON:** Yeah.
133 **BERRY:** All right, I didn't think to bring a picture of the chief with me. Have you read a story or have
134 you seen a picture of him since this began?
135 **BANTON:** I just saw the news and I don't even remember what he looked like.
136 **BERRY:** Okay, I was going to ask you if you knew what he looked like, if you remembered talking to
137 him in particular, but it doesn't sound like you could pick him versus anybody else who –
138 **BANTON:** Right.
139 **BERRY:** – was there.
140 **BANTON:** Yeah.
141 **BERRY:** All right, do you have a sense for how long you were with that group of folks?
142 **BANTON:** Probably half an hour or so.
143 **BERRY:** Okay.

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144 **BANTON:** I mean, it wasn't long.
145 **BERRY:** Yeah.
146 **BANTON:** Because like I said, the air crew was in the air.
147 **BERRY:** And it sounds like you were able to get the patient out to the helicopter in the same pick-up
148 right? You didn't have to move him.
149 **BANTON:** Yeah, we just left him there rather than move him to our stretcher, you know, an
150 ambulance because –
151 **BERRY:** And then into the –
152 **BANTON:** – he was in a lot of pain and didn't want to move the bullet anymore, you know.
153 **BERRY:** Yeah.
154 **BANTON:** So –
155 **BERRY:** All right.
156 **BANTON:** – it just made sense for them to take him over in the pick-up to the helicopter.
157 **BERRY:** Well how does care work, once you turn over care to the air crew, do any of you all have to
158 fly with them or is – you're done with them?
159 **BANTON:** No, we just give a report to them. They came over to the patient.
160 **BERRY:** Yeah.
161 **BANTON:** And then they kind of walked beside the pick-up as they were pulling –
162 **BERRY:** As they went out to –
163 **BANTON:** ..over, mm-hm.
164 **BERRY:** And then he's running for Boise after that.
165 **BANTON:** I don't even know where he went.
166 **BERRY:** Or wherever, I don't know, yeah.
167 **BANTON:** Yeah.
168 **BERRY:** All right, well –
169 **BANTON:** So –
170 **BERRY:** You put up with me asking a bunch of nosey questions. Is there anything that stands out in
171 your memory about this incident or anything you want to add that I haven't asked you about?
172 **BANTON:** That was it. I just thought it was a accidental, you know, shooting between a bunch of
173 buddies out, you know, shooting rats.
174 **BERRY:** Yeah.
175 **BANTON:** We have a lot of groups that do that out here.
176 **BERRY:** Oh yeah, well there's no shortage of sage rats out here.
177 **BANTON:** No.
178 **BERRY:** There's plenty of them.
179 **BANTON:** No.
180 **BERRY:** I forgot to ask you earlier, did you overhear anything that the guys were telling to the deputy
181 or the fish and wildlife guy?
182 **BANTON:** That they kind of pulled each person –
183 **BERRY:** Separately.
184 **BANTON:** – along, yeah out of ears reach.
185 **BERRY:** Yeah.
186 **BANTON:** So that, you know.
187 **BERRY:** That makes sense.
188 **BANTON:** Mm-hm.
189 **BERRY:** Well that's all the questions I have for you.

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190 **BANTON:** Okay.

191 **BERRY:** Thank you so much for meeting with me. Let's see time is approximately, call it 1454, going
192 to quit recording.

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195 Transcribed 06/13/2016 @ 2:00 a.m. Halla Stonehouse