Transcript of Interview with EMT Kevin O'Rourke on 3/24/2012. From Appendix I to Mark O'Mara's Petition for Writ of Prohibition. Reprinted by TalkLeft.com

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Today's date is March 24, 2012. Speaking is Special Agent Supervisor David Lee with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. It is now 11:09 a.m. Um, we're at the, uh, Sanford Police Department main station. Uh, also present in the room is Special Agent Johnny Baxler with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke. That's correct, sir?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: That is correct.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: As you can see, the conversation we're having is being, uh, tape recorded, or this is recorded.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I, I can.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. Um, uh, can I get you to raise your right hand, sir? Do you solemnly swear or affirm the statement you're about to give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. For the record, will you state and spell your full name?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, my name is Kevin Patrick O'Rourke, uh, K-E-V-I-N P-A-T-R-I-C-K O apostrophe R-O-U-R-K-E.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. And you are currently employed with the Sanford Police –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Fire department.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: – Fire Department.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes. Yes sir, I am.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: I apologize for that. How long have you been, uh, employed as a firefighter?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, ten years.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Ten years. Um, on February 26, 2012, um, uh, at approximately around 7, 7:30, uh, p.m. hours, um, did you respond to an emergency call on Tree View Circle?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, yes I did.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. Um, would you just kind of give me a narrative of, of what occurred from the time you I guess got on the truck to the time –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: We –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: – you **** the truck.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: We responded to that call, uh, from on the road. We just returned from another transport. Uh, we were shootin' down **** headed back towards the

station when we got the call. Uh, we went, you know, the normal route to Tree View Circle given our circumstance. Uh, we arrived on scene approximately five minutes after we were dispatched. There were several, uh, police vehicles already on scene. We were directed to the rear of the apartment or townhouse building. Um, we were told that we had a shooting victim and that the police were performing CPR. Upon our arrival that statement appeared to be true. There were several officers around the victim, or the body, uh, and we arrived on scene. We placed our **** on him and we found that he was asystole in all leads, and the medic on scene, Mike Brandy, uh, called it right there and we did a no vitals, no code, and uh, from that point on we gathered up our equipment that we had brought. Uh, the best I can remember they were, uh, telling us that they had another patient, um, with the police and he's sitting in the back of a cop, the police car, and uh, we treated him for, um, he had one or two lacerations on the back of his head and what looked to be a, uh, fractured nose, and we cleaned the, the blood off of his head and face and we treated him best we could, and once the bleeding was under control we left him with the SPD and we backed out of the scene and we went home.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. Let's back up just a little bit. Um, when you guys, the, the victim, the gunshot victim, was that the individual now known as Trayvon Martin?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. When you say we **** who is that?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I say we as a unit, uh, me and my partner Mike Brandy, so Rescue 38.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: You and Mike Brandy basically do the medical treatment on ****?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: We all do the med, uh, the entire, we run calls with both an engine and a rescue. Uh, the medic on scene is in charge of that medical scene.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: However, we're an all hands involved sort of department so

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: — if I'm driving the fire truck or I'm driving the rescue, it doesn't matter. If I'm on that scene I'm assisting in the medical call, you know, per the lieutenant's, you know, discretion unless I'm told otherwise.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay, so on this particular, with Mr. Martin, what did you specifically do?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I got on scene, I grabbed the backboard and the airway bag and we went down to the scene and I helped pla-, I placed him on the monitor if I remember correctly and —

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: When, when you say place him on it –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I place him, I, I put the, uh, stickers on him that check his –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: - his heart and -

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: You gotta remember, we –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Okay, that's fine.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: I'm not a medic.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: We don't have to use colloquial speech. Uh, I put the heart, I put the heart monitor on him and we assessed him and through a lead and that's what –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

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Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: That's what I did and then once that was done I disconnected him and, uh, I walked away from the scene and went to treat, uh, **** Zimmerman.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. Um, earlier you said that, uh, you put him on the monitor, and the monitor indicated what?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Asystole, uh, it's a flatline.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Flatline, which indicates no heartbeat whatsoever.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Which indicates no heartbeat whatsoever, and at that time we call a what's known as a no vitals, no code, which means he's DOA and we're not, uh, he was unworkable.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: All right. And uh, the paramedic, Mike Brandy, he was responsible for making that call, correct?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes he was.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. And that's his job?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: That's his job.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Is he the only one that can make that call?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: On scene? Yes. He's, he's, he's the one that can make that call. I'm sure under certain circumstances a lieutenant could make that call but, you know, we, we allow our medics to make those calls.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. So Mr. Martin was never conscious, never made any statements?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: No. No sir. He was, he was DOA on our arrival.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. All right. All right. So **** back away from that realizes that, or let me ask you this, did you know what caused his death?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: It was very evident that it was a gunshot wound.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. How do you know it was that?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Because we, we saw, I saw it.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Oh, you saw it, okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: There was a gunshot wound to, to his chest.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: I guess when you were placing the pads –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: - ****. Did you lift his shirt up, pull his shirt up,

roll his shirt up?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, if I remember I think his shirt was already rolled up.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I think they had already disrobed him at the time. We had been really busy that night and it had been just pouring rain and everything so it was, you know, it was kind of a blurry scene, and at the time we didn't even have I.D. on the, the guy. I mean, he was a John Due until several days later. We couldn't get any information on him, so we were, you know, we were in and out.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. So you backed out of that scene and then you treated Mr. Zimmerman.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yes, that's correct.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: And your treatment of him consisted of just

cleaning up his wounds.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yeah, you could say that.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Did, uh, did, was he transported?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: No he was not.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Did the **** transport?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, yes he did, I believe so.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Now, when you cleaning up his wound did he ever make any statements to you or in your presence?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Um, you know, not that I – there was a lot going on. Not that I recall really. I don't think he, you know, he might have, I'm not sure.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Who was, who was working with you on Mr. Zimmerman?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Stacy Livingston, uh, Tyler Roachfort, and we were, the entire, you know, Station 38 crew was there. You know, there's a lot going on at the time.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Right.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: You know, you kinda just do your job and, you know, you don't really –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: So as fa

So as far as Mr. Zimmerman's treatment, what

specifically did you do?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: What did I do? I, if I'm, if I remember correctly I was, uh, getting the, you know, pouring hydrogen peroxide on gauze and giving it to Stacy who was cleaning and I was assisting her in cleaning his wounds, getting the equipment ready for that.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Okay. Stacy being?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke:

Stacy being the –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Stacy Livingston?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke:

Stacy Livingston.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke:

She was, uh, driving Engine 38 I believe at the time.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Okay. Yeah, we haven't spoken to her yet.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: No.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Okay. All right. And you recall no statements he

made in your presence?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Uh, no, I don't recall any.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

Okay. After you treated him what, what did you do

then?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I gathered up my equipment and, uh, got my truck back in order, uh, got all the gear that we had brought down to the scene, you know, **** backboards and, uh, replaced all of the gauze in the trauma bag that we used to treat Mr. Zimmerman, just basically got my truck and equipment back in order and then waited for my, you know, to be cleared of the scene and then we had to back the truck out because we couldn't pull forward and we left.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Mm hmm. When you were there with Mr. Zimmerman did you, when you were treating him did you speak to him, talk to him about his injuries, ask him if he was hurting or anything like that or?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: I'm sure I did. I can't recall anything that I said though, I'm sorry.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee:

That's fine, that's fine, that's fine. Johnny?

Other Speaker: Uh, when you were treating Mr. Zimmerman, uh, and I'm assuming you were in close proximity 'cause you were having to clean –

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Mm hmm.

Other Speaker: – could you give a description of what he was wearing?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: A shirt and jeans I guess. I don't remember exactly. A shirt and jeans. I know he had, he was covered in a pretty significant amount of blood, I can tell you that. I mean, it took a little while to clean him up, but um, as far as his shirt and, I think he was wearing like a, just pretty much a standard polo shirt I think and some jeans. Uh, I don't really remember specifics.

Other Speaker: Okay. The uh, the victim, um, who we now know as Trayvon Martin, uh, can you describe his clothing as well?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: No. I mean, the only reason I can describe it is because I've seen it in the news so much what he was wearing.

Other Speaker: Yeah, we don't wanna do that, just your observations.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: No, I, I, I don't remember.

Other Speaker: And that's okay, that's just fine.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Uh, when you say significant amount of blood, can you define that a little better?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: In terms of what, like volume? I mean, uh –

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Uh, his face, his coverage of the face and head.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: It was I would say coverage of face and head, I mean, maybe 45 percent of him was covered in blood. I mean, he had a, he had a substantial amount of dried blood on his cheeks and on the back of his head.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Cheeks and the back of his head.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Mm hmm.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: How about his clothing?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: His clothing may have been covered in blood. I mean, clothing doesn't bleed so I really don't know.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: ****.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Yeah, yeah, yeah. There was, there was some blood on his shirt if I remember correctly.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay. Is there anything that we haven't asked you about that you think is significant that you wanna add for the record?

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Not that I can remember.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: Okay.

Other Speaker: I just have one question. In your ten years of, uh, experience as a

firefighter -

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Mm hmm.

Other Speaker: - uh, you've seen lots of situations, uh, with blood and, and, and, and different types of -

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Absolutely.

Other Speaker: - ****? Okay.

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Absolutely.

Other Speaker: So - okay.

Special Agent Supervisor David Lee: this interview. All right. It is now 11:20 a.m. and that concludes

Firefighter EMT Kevin O'Rourke: Thanks guys.

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