



Massachusetts State Police
INTERVIEW REPORT 2022-110-252/8

Report Date: 02/14/2022

Primary Information

Description: Interview of James Hanify (05-13-1977)
Dissemination Code: report respect the security of its associated case
Reporting LEO: Murgo, Christopher J (MSP4187 / Middlesex Homicide Squad / Massachusetts State Police)
Report Status: Approved
Report Status Date: 03/03/2022
Approved By: Delucia, Anthony R (MSP2975 / Massachusetts State Police)

Synopsis

James Hannify
05-13-1977
98 Hancock St
Lexington

1. On Saturday, 02/02/2022 at approximately 1440 hrs, I, Trooper Murgo conducted an interview of James HANNIFY (05-13-1977) at 98 Hancock St in Lexington. This interview was conducted as part of the investigation into the fatal Officer involved shooting of Brendan REILLY (06-18-1986).
2. HANNIFY is a current resident of 98 Hancock St in Lexington. This residence is a "group home" that is operated by the Elliot Group that houses several individuals. Mental health clinicians as well as a team of healthcare professionals frequent the residence to visit and assist with the individuals that reside here. HANNIFY's bedroom is located on the second floor of the resident in the back room on the left. His window shows a clear view of the long driveway which is part of the residence as well as the neighbors house and part of the sidewalk. If looking out of the window at an angle you can also see the a part of Hancock Street. This bedroom is to the left of REILLY's bedroom and across the hall from CHANG's bedroom. Each door is outfitted with an electronic padlock for the safety of the residents. I conducted the interview on the back porch of the residence and out of view from the front of the street.
3. HANNIFY advised that on this day, he observed REILLY and CHANG having a disagreement. HANNIFY stated that REILLY was yelling at CHANG and accusing CHANG of stealing his (REILLY's) medication. During this encounter, HANNIFY stated that REILLY had a knife in his hand and that CHANG had closed the bedroom door to stay away from REILLY. HANNIFY then shut his own bedroom door to stay away from REILLY and began yelling at REILLY to stop and to leave CHANG alone. HANNIFY stated that REILLY was attempting to retrieve the electronic code to CHANG's door in order to gain access. REILLY was requesting HANNIFY give him the code and was also demanding that CHANG give him the code.
4. After a short time, HANNIFY observed REILLY in the back driveway attempting to hide onto of the trash barrels that are located next to the back stairs. REILLY still had a knife in his hand. HANNIFY described several police officers arriving and attempting to speak with REILLY. HANNIFY observed REILLY begin screaming at the police and yelling that he was a gangster. HANNIFY then observed REILLY sprint towards the police officers at the end of the driveway with the knife still in his hand. While REILLY was in the driveway with the knife, HANNIFY heard the Officers scream "drop the knife" six times. Once REILLY made it close to the Officers, REILLY took a swipe with the knife at one of the Officers stomachs; which not did not strike an Officer. REILLY ran through the Officers and out into the street. HANNIFY then left his bedroom and made his way down to the backyard where he began trying to observe the scene unfold from the back of the driveway.
5. HANNIFY described REILLY as screaming during the entirety of this interaction and not following Officers commands. HANNIFY stated "Brendan REILLY went mad". HANNIFY advised that there was a standoff in the street between Officers and REILLY. HANNIFY could not observe anything further due to the distance between him and the apparent standoff, however HANNIFY described hearing loud shots. At this time HANNIFY retreated back into the residence. HANNIFY is being relocated by the Elliot Group and advised his parents of same. HANNIFY advised he would be available for any further questioning in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Murgo
Massachusetts State Police
Middlesex District Attorney's Office



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Subject #1 - WITNESS #1 - HANIFY, JAMES J

Primary Information

Subject Name: **HANIFY, JAMES J**
Record Type: **PERSON**
Bio: **44 yr. old, White, MALE**
Birth Date: **05/13/1977**
Juvenile: **NO**

Personal Information

Height: **602**

Addresses

<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Address</u>
HOME ADDRESS/RESIDENCE	98 Hancock St, LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02420 UNITED STATES
MAILING ADDRESS	[REDACTED], MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01754 UNITED STATES

Narrative begins on the following page.

James Hannify
[REDACTED]-1977
98 Hancock St
Lexington

1. On Saturday, 02/12/2022 at approximately 1440 hrs, I, Trooper Murgo, conducted an interview of James HANNIFY ([REDACTED]-1977) at 98 Hancock St in Lexington. This interview was conducted as part of the investigation into the fatal Officer involved shooting of Brendan REILLY (06-18-1986).

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4. After a short time, HANNIFY observed REILLY in the back driveway attempting to hide by the trash barrels that are located next to the back stairs. REILLY still had a knife in his hand. HANNIFY described several police officers arriving and attempting to speak with REILLY. HANNIFY observed REILLY begin screaming at the police and yelling that he was a gangster. HANNIFY then observed REILLY sprint towards the police officers at the end of the driveway with the knife still in his hand. While REILLY was in the driveway with the knife, HANNIFY heard the Officers scream "drop the knife" six times. Once REILLY made it close to the Officers, REILLY took a swipe with the knife at one of the Officers stomachs; which did not strike an Officer. REILLY ran through the Officers and out into the street. HANNIFY then left his bedroom and made his way down to the backyard where he began trying to observe the scene unfold from the back of the driveway.

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