

INTERVIEW OF LLOYD SWANSON

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Date: March 3, 2005

Held at 10th floor Confederation

**Building, 457 Main Street,**

**Winnipeg, Manitoba**

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1 THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2005

2 Upon commencing at 4:58 P.M.

3  
4 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** The date is  
5 March 3rd, 2005. The time is 4:58 p.m. We are in  
6 interview number one of the Professional Standards  
7 Unit Offices on the 10th floor of the  
8 Confederation Building, 457 Main Street in  
9 Winnipeg. My name is Roger Girard and also  
10 present is Con Pearson. For the purpose of voice  
11 recognition, please identify yourself by name?

12 **SERGEANT PEARSON:** Con Pearson.

13 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** We are both members  
14 of the Professional Standards Unit. This is an  
15 interview of Constable Lloyd Swanson regarding  
16 Professional Standards Unit file number 05-017.  
17 For the purpose of voice recognition, Lloyd, can  
18 you please identify yourself by full name and  
19 badge number?

20 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Lloyd William  
21 Swanson, badge number 1684.

22 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. I remind you  
23 that in accordance with service policy our  
24 conversation is being recorded, and for that  
25 purpose today we are using an Olympus DS4000

1 digital recorder.

2 You were contacted in a round about  
3 way and requested to attend for this interview.

4 Just by way of background, we provided a number of  
5 memos to the divisional commander in three, which  
6 gave I guess just a very brief description of our  
7 involvement in the incident, of course, involving  
8 Constable Derek Harvey-Zenk. And in that memo it  
9 said that we would be coordinating a time with  
10 your shift supervisor. And, of course, seeing as  
11 were you on course and not working tonight, you  
12 contacted me and we made arrangements to meet at  
13 this time.

14 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Right.

15 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** So we met you  
16 downstairs I guess about ten minutes ago now, met  
17 you at the front of the building, we came upstairs  
18 into the room, and I let you have a look at the  
19 witness preamble, kind of explained how the  
20 interview would take place, the background as far  
21 as our involvement. And you didn't have any  
22 questions, so we started the recorder. So is that  
23 an accurate account of what has taken place prior  
24 to the recorder being turned on?

25 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes, it is.

1                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. It is our  
2 practice to ensure that members understand their  
3 status when being interviewed, and I remind you  
4 that you are being interviewed as a witness in  
5 this matter. This statement may be used in any  
6 criminal, civil or service proceeding, or it may  
7 not be used in any proceeding at all.

8                   Were any threats made to you, or any  
9 were any promises or hopes of reward offered to  
10 you in relation to providing a statement?

11                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** No, they were not.

12                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Was anything said to  
13 you by anyone that might influence what you might  
14 say to us in a statement?

15                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** No.

16                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Our  
17 involvement in this, as I said before, was a  
18 request from the East St. Paul Police to assist in  
19 this matter. So what we are looking at is, on  
20 February 24th, we understand that you were working  
21 evening shift?

22                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** That's correct.

23                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** And we understand  
24 that a number of people on your shift took EDL?

25                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes.

1                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** And you were one of  
2 the people that took EDL?

3                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes, I was.

4                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. So if you  
5 could just run through for us what transpired  
6 after you took EDL?

7                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** A number of us had  
8 talked about going to get some ribs later in the  
9 evening at Branigan's.

10                  **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay.

11                  **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I think I was near  
12 the end of the pack for my car getting released.

13 When my car was released, I changed, went down to

14 Branigan's. I was going to buy a jug for the

15 table, top up whoever needed some, but the staff

16 there said it was cheaper if you bought individual

17 glasses. So I bought a number of glasses, and I

18 ordered some wings, sat down. The glasses were

19 all put on the table. I took one of them. And

20 about five, ten minutes later my wings came. I

21 ate my wings. At about, I would say 20 minutes to

22 half an hour after arriving, I left.

23                  **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay.

24                  **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** We had ball unit

25 stuff to do the next day, so it was more of a show

1 the flag for myself.

2 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. And when you  
3 left you went?

4 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Home.

5 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. When you  
6 arrived, who was there from work?

7 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Most of the shift  
8 was there already. Veldman and his recruit Dan  
9 weren't there, because they were behind me in the  
10 cars. I think most everybody else on the shift  
11 was already there. I think the exception being  
12 Stan, because he was feeling ill, I think  
13 everybody else.

14 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Stan?

15 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Parag.

16 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Parag, okay.

17 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I think everybody  
18 was there or arrived around the same time I did,  
19 you know what I mean. Like I know a couple of  
20 people came in, but basically everybody was there.

21 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. What time did  
22 you take EDL at?

23 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** You would have to  
24 check my slip, between 10:00 and 11:00'ish, I  
25 think. Like I just waited until the Sergeant

1 said, okay, you can go, and then handed in my  
2 slip.

3 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. And then you  
4 put your slip in, changed, and right there --

5 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes. Basically,  
6 there was no stops between the station and --

7 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Just so, as  
8 far as the time frame, it was shortly after --  
9 like the time it will say you took EDL?

10 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yeah. Shortly  
11 after that I arrived at the restaurant.

12 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** And you were there  
13 about a half hour?

14 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** About a half hour.

15 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. All right.

16 Now, where was everybody sitting in Branigan's,  
17 like as far as the area of the restaurant or the  
18 facility?

19 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** It was the far  
20 corner of the restaurant. I guess that would be  
21 the southeast corner of the restaurant.

22 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. And in your  
23 estimation, how many people were there from work,  
24 just roughly? I know it is tough to say.

25 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** 15 to 20.

1                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. And where  
2 were you sitting in relation to Constable  
3 Harvey-Zenk?

4                   **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Harvey-Zenk was  
5 around the middle of the tables, and I would have  
6 been towards the east side of the tables. There  
7 was three or four tables all set up, and I was on  
8 the far side.

9                   **SERGEANT GIRARD:** All right. Now, you  
10 said that there was wings being served and some  
11 beverages?

12                  **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes.

13                  **SERGEANT GIRARD:** I guess I will cut  
14 right to the chase. Can you tell us how, what  
15 Constable Harvey-Zenk was drinking, first off, and  
16 how much he may have had?

17                  **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** When I got there,  
18 sat down, got my wings, Harvey had a plate of  
19 wings with him and what appeared to be, I'm  
20 guessing, a draft. It was in a draft glass and it  
21 looked like draft so.

22                  **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Prior to  
23 leaving, can you -- I guess, what was his state of  
24 sobriety that you could tell?

25                  **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Everybody seemed



1 fine, including him. There was nobody that  
2 appeared to be drunk or, you know, having consumed  
3 excessively. It was -- there wasn't a bunch of  
4 power drinking or anything like that. It was just  
5 basically wings, wings and, you know, something to  
6 wash it down with.

7 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Right. Okay. Now  
8 was this sort of an impromptu gathering or had it  
9 been planned?

10 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I wouldn't say  
11 planned. It was more, you know, it is the last  
12 shift that we are having, it would be nice to go  
13 out and have some wings. We have had them in the  
14 past and, again, they have just been more of a  
15 social interaction than anything else.

16 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** I understand there  
17 is a bit of a competition as regarding the wings?

18 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Wings, yes. I  
19 think, yeah, Derek actually held the record with  
20 60 wings. I don't think he did 60 that night, but  
21 I think his plate was bigger than mine. Go  
22 figure.

23 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Did you pay  
24 for your own wings and beverage?

25 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I paid for my

1 wings and the glasses that I put on the table.

2 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Do you know  
3 if there was a group tab going at all?

4 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I don't know how  
5 the tab was figured out. I know the waitress --  
6 because I left early, it was easy for me to figure  
7 out which one was mine.

8 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. All right.  
9 Anything, Con?

10 **SERGEANT PEARSON:** You got off between  
11 10:00 and 11:00, it took about 20 minutes, half an  
12 hour to get to Branigan's from there, from work?

13 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I wouldn't even  
14 say that long, no. It was pretty much right after  
15 I got off work, like I went directly to  
16 Branigan's.

17 **SERGEANT GIRARD:** What time do you say  
18 you left the bar?

19 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** About a half hour  
20 after I got there, 20 minutes to a half hour.

21 **SERGEANT PEARSON:** 11:30'ish, before  
22 midnight?

23 **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yeah, I guess.

24 **SERGEANT PEARSON:** Anybody else go out  
25 the same time as you?

1                           **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I think I was the  
2 first one.

3                           **SERGEANT GIRARD:** Who was your partner  
4 that night, Lloyd?

5                           **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** It was TJ Spruyt.

6                           **SERGEANT GIRARD:** I am just going to,  
7 just for the sake of narrowing it down, I think I  
8 took a photocopy of the EDL slip. I just  
9 remembered that I have them.

10                          **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes, that would be  
11 about right. I guess we were probably closer to  
12 12:00 when I got off then, because it says 23:30,  
13 so --

14                          **SERGEANT GIRARD:** So as far as, in  
15 fairness, if you left work, you would have been  
16 there a few minutes later, if you left at 11:30,  
17 and you would have left sometime around or shortly  
18 after midnight to go home?

19                          **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Yes.

20                          **SERGEANT PEARSON:** It is fair to say  
21 you were the last to get there and the first to  
22 leave?

23                          **CONSTABLE SWANSON:** I don't know if I  
24 was the last to get there, but probably the first  
25 to leave, yes.

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**SERGEANT GIRARD:** I think that's about  
it. Okay.

Do you have knowledge of any other  
information that we haven't covered here,  
something maybe that we have overlooked that you  
think might be important?

**CONSTABLE SWANSON:** No.

**SERGEANT GIRARD:** Okay. Anything else  
you wish to say?

**CONSTABLE SWANSON:** Nope.

**SERGEANT GIRARD:** All right. Well,  
the time is 5:09 p.m., this interview is concluded  
and the recorder is being turned off.

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OFFICIAL EXAMINER'S CERTIFICATE

I, CECELIA REID, a duly appointed Official  
Examiner in the Province of Manitoba, do hereby  
certify the foregoing pages are a true and correct  
transcript of an audio recording of the above  
interview of Constable Swanson to the best of my  
skill and ability.

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Cecelia Reid  
Official Examiner, Q.B.

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