

STATEMENT OF: Kathleen BEATTIE

Date: 2006-05-31

Time: 16:52 Hours

Present: Tracy KENNETT, Corporal
RCMP Winnipeg Major Crime Unit
Todd DOYLE, Corporal
RCMP
Kathleen BEATTIE

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KENNETT: It's the 31st of May, 2006. Corporal Tracy KENNETT here with Corporal Todd DOYLE and Kathleen BEATTIE. And the time is 16:52 hours. Kathleen, we are continuing the investigation of a fatal, ah, motor vehicle accident that occurred at Highway 59 and Highway 101 February 25th, 2005. And I understand that you were actually a victim in this accident. Ahm, what I'd like to do is have you start from the very beginning and just tell us exactly in your recall what happened.

BEATTIE: Okay. I was travelling to work that morning. And it was roughly about 7:00 a.m. I was approaching the intersection and came to a stop at a red light. And while I was waiting, ahm, the light just, just had turned green. And just before the light had turned green, I heard a huge crash. So I turned to look around. I didn't look in my rear-view mirror, I just automatically turned around. And then my car shot through the intersection and when it started to move, I looked forward and managed to steer my car past the light stand.

And the next thing I knew, I got out of the car and I looked over and I saw a man standing by a truck. And right across from me was a red car. Ahm, nothing seemed to be happening in the red car. No one was getting out of the red car. So I thought well I'll find my cell phone. And so it took me a few minutes to rummage through the car because everything was thrown around quite a bit.

Ahm, and I phoned my husband who was in the Com Centre for the Winnipeg Police. And he, I thought well he could send somebody out really fast because that was the first thing I thought of. And, ah, so he talked to me for awhile. And I remember the fellow that was by the truck. He walked over towards the red car and he looked inside, then

he walked away and went and stood back by his truck again. Ahm, oh, but before he walked back to his truck, he came up to me. And I just asked him if he had seen who had hit me. And he just stared at me and didn't say anything. And then he walked back to his truck and just stood there.

And, ahm, then uh I remember a little while later, ahm, hearing an ambulance or a siren. First, I heard a siren. And then the siren left the area, took the turnoff on the Perimeter, went right by the accident and started heading towards Henderson Highway. So then we continued waiting.

Finally an ambulance showed up and, ah, it pulled in between me and the red car. And luckily my husband kept me on the phone long enough that I didn't walk over to the red car. Ahm, he had kept asking me questions about what was going on. And, ahm, and then the ambulance showed up and took me to the hospital.

Ahm, I do recall though, a brown van. He was the only one that stopped and pulled over to assist. Ahm, I don't know who he was. I would imagine they know who he is. I think he was the only witness at the time, other than myself. And basically that's it.

I went to the hospital and that's all that I know from the scene.

KENNETT: Okay. Ahm, anything else that you know after that?
BEATTIE: After the?

KENNETT: Well you said that's all you know at the scene.
BEATTIE: Oh.

KENNETT: Was there anything else?
BEATTIE: I just had seen the family at the hospital of the lady that had died and, you know, that's, that's about all.

KENNETT: Okay. Ahm, I'm gonna ask a few questions from you. Ahm, the fellow that approached you, you said from a truck...
BEATTIE: Um-huh.

KENNETT: ...at the scene?

BEATTIE: It was like a pick-up truck.

KENNETT: Okay. Ahm, could you describe him to me?

BEATTIE: I'd say he looked like he was probably in about his 30's. I don't really remember too much about him, whether his hair was dark. Maybe brown maybe. Ahm, nothing in the way of his features that stood out. You know, nothing that I can remember that was memorable.

KENNETT: Alright.

BEATTIE: He just had a very blank look on his face...

KENNETT: Did he...

BEATTIE: ...and said nothing to me.

KENNETT: He said absolutely nothing to you?

BEATTIE: Nothing to me.

KENNETT: But he came over to you?

BEATTIE: He did. He looked at me straight in my face. And I just kind of had a strange feeling about that, I thought that was kind of odd. And then when I asked him if he had seen who had hit me, he just stared and then he walked away.

KENNETT: Ah, how would you describe the distance between the two of you when he came over to see you?

BEATTIE: About like us.

KENNETT: Okay. So approximately four feet?

BEATTIE: Approximately. Yeah, probably.

KENNETT: And you were outside your vehicle at that time?

BEATTIE: I was. I got out immediately.

KENNETT: Alright. Was there anyone else standing there with you at that time?

BEATTIE: The man from the brown van walked over to me. I don't remember what we talked about. I think he... I think at that time I was looking for my cell phone and I think he gave me his cell phone. But I never

made a call from it, I don't think. It was my cell phone that I ended up using.

KENNETT: Alright. And going back to the fellow that had come over to talk, or just stared at you from the truck,...

BEATTIE: Um-huh.

KENNETT: ...ahm, did you make any observations about, you know, ah, how he was or did you make any observations of any smells or odours that you could detect from him?

BEATTIE: No.

KENNETT: Anything like that?

BEATTIE: I had no idea that he was involved in the accident at that point. He just seemed odd.

KENNETT: Alright.

BEATTIE: He was probably very stunned.

KENNETT: Okay. Did you watch him walk away from you?

BEATTIE: I must have because I can recall seeing him walk to his truck. Whether I watched the whole entire walk from me to the truck, I don't remember. But I do remember him approaching his truck and he was standing beside it, like leaning against it.

KENNETT: Okay. And were you there when the police arrived?

BEATTIE: Um-huh, I was.

KENNETT: Do you know who they, who they were?

BEATTIE: No. The police?

KENNETT: Yeah.

BEATTIE: Ahm, I think at that point I was in the ambulance. I think. I just don't remember seeing a policeman actually.

KENNETT: Okay. Did you see anyone in uniform, ah, in the very beginning? Shortly after the accident, did you see anyone out there in uniform?

BEATTIE: Hm. I've never been asked that question before so I've never really

thought about it. I don't know. I just remember the ambulance pulling up.

DOYLE: Was that the first emergency vehicle at the scene, was an ambulance?
BEATTIE: I think so.

DOYLE: And which direction did it come from?
BEATTIE: Because the cruiser car, the cruiser car that I saw didn't stop. It went past. And that's when I said, I was on the phone with my husband and I said, "Well I think they're coming". And then I can remember, I remember saying to him, "I guess they're not".

KENNETT: Oh-oh. Okay. Ahm, so you said you thought you were in the ambulance when the police arrived?

BEATTIE: Probably. Because I don't remember seeing a cruiser car pull up while I was standing outside my car. And I went from standing right outside my vehicle into the passenger seat of the ambulance. And it was pulled up right by my vehicle.

KENNETT: Okay. And how long do you think that was from the time that you were involved in the accident till the time that the ambulance arrived? Do you have any idea?

BEATTIE: It was quite awhile because I had time to phone my husband. I had time to phone my daughter. Ah, because I thought there was nobody coming. I was freezing. I was on my way to work with, of course, no boots or anything with me. So I phoned, I was starting to make phone calls so I could get somebody just to come over there with something warm for me to put on. So it must have been a little while. But actual time and minutes, I'm not sure. It was all kind of a daze.

KENNETT: Your husband might have an idea though how long he talked to you approximately?

BEATTIE: He might.

KENNETT: Okay. Was he at work at the time?

BEATTIE: He was at work.

KENNETT: Alright.

BEATTIE: And then after I hung up the phone, he came to the scene.

KENNETT: Okay. Did he, was he there before the ambulance arrived or?

BEATTIE: He saw the ambulance pull away with me in it.

KENNETT: Ah.

BEATTIE: But he didn't get there before the ambulance actually started to take off. Because I never saw him. But he says he saw me driving away in the ambulance.

KENNETT: Okay. So did he come to the hospital to see you there?

BEATTIE: Then after that, um-huh.

KENNETT: Okay.

BEATTIE: He came shortly after I had arrived.

KENNETT: Okay. So you had, had not even a conversation, but a, ah, a sighting, I guess, of the other fellow from the truck.

BEATTIE: Right.

KENNETT: Ahm, didn't see anyone in the red vehicle, you said.

BEATTIE: No.

KENNETT: And...

BEATTIE: No one from the red vehicle.

KENNETT: ...ahm, can you describe that red vehicle to me?

BEATTIE: Well there wasn't an awful lot of it left to describe.

KENNETT: Okay.

BEATTIE: It was just, you would have, I don't even know if it was a convertible. It didn't really have a top but I don't know if the top came off because it was hit. It was just all scrunched.

KENNETT: Okay. And prior to the, ah, ahm, accident, was there any vehicle to your immediate right waiting at the set of lights?

BEATTIE: No. No. Not, ah, I was sitting there basically by myself at one point. I wasn't aware that there was anybody pulling up behind me because

I wasn't looking in my rear-view mirror. I was having a cup of coffee enjoying my solitude on my way to work. But I know that there wasn't anybody beside me when I was sitting at the light.

KENNETT: Alright.

DOYLE: Kathleen, the, the ambulance that arrived first, ahm, what direction did it come from? Do you recall?

BEATTIE: No.

DOYLE: Now were,...

BEATTIE: I...

DOYLE: ...were you placed in that ambulance or was there another ambulance there after?

BEATTIE: I was placed in the first ambulance first.

DOYLE: Okay.

BEATTIE: In the passenger seat. And then another ambulance arrived and I was taken from that ambulance and put in the other ambulance which was further back.

DOYLE: To the second ambulance?

BEATTIE: Um-huh.

DOYLE: Okay. Alright.

BEATTIE: And I assumed at the time it was because they were looking in the red car. And I had full sight of what was going on there, you know.

DOYLE: How far would that have been from, from your vehicle where it ended up to the - as you described - the red car?

BEATTIE: I was on the side of the road just by the light standards.

DOYLE: Um-huh.

BEATTIE: And the red car was not in this lane but in this lane. So it was just not far at all. Maybe from here to that, the stair post.

DOYLE: Okay.

BEATTIE: Probably.

DOYLE: And the gentleman that came over to you from the truck, you didn't recognize him from somewhere else? You don't, you didn't know him?

BEATTIE: No.

DOYLE: You don't know him?

BEATTIE: No.

DOYLE: Okay. And did you have any contact, ahm, you mentioned the gentleman from the brown van, you spoke with him, did you have contact with anyone else other than the gentleman from the truck, the man from the brown van and the ambulance attendants?

BEATTIE: No. No, I didn't speak to anyone else.

DOYLE: And were there, did you have any chance to observe what the gentleman at the, at the truck was doing kind of in between your first contact with him and after he walked away?

BEATTIE: I saw the, ahm, well I know that they're the Fire Department because I know the men that are from the East St. Paul Fire Department and they were over at the truck just before I got into the other ambulance. So the Fire Department must have been there somewhere. I never saw a truck. Because the Fire, ah, fellow that got into the back of the, the ambulance when I first got in, I knew him. And he is, ah, with the Fire people out here. Doug ROBERTS.

DOYLE: Oh, he was an ambulance attendant?

BEATTIE: No.

DOYLE: Oh.

BEATTIE: He was with the Fire Department.

DOYLE: Okay. But you got into a Winnipeg ambulance or a East St. Paul ambulance.

BEATTIE: I don't know.

DOYLE: Or are you just not sure?

BEATTIE: I don't know.

DOYLE: Okay. But...

BEATTIE: Does East St. Paul have their own ambulance?

DOYLE: I don't know.

BEATTIE: I don't think so.

DOYLE: I don't know.

BEATTIE: But the ambulance attendants were ambulance attendants and I didn't know them. But for some reason the, ah, the fellow from East St. Paul got into the back of the van. And I, I know I did get a phone call after the accident from another one of the emergency Fire Department fellows. So they must have known that it was my name because...

DOYLE: Um-huh.

BEATTIE: ...his wife phoned me afterwards and said that her husband had heard my name mentioned and didn't know at what point the accident I was involved. He didn't know if I was in the red vehicle or in the green car.

DOYLE: Okay.

BEATTIE: So they must have passed my name on to somebody out there. So possibly that's why Doug ROBERTS, the am, the Fire Department fellow that came into the, the ah truck, I guess. I'm not too sure how it all transpired.

DOYLE: And you wouldn't, you wouldn't have an idea of the, the amount of time that passed between the accident and when you left the scene with the ambulance?

BEATTIE: Not really. My husband probably would know.

DOYLE: That's fine.

BEATTIE: Because I laid in the, ah, back of the second ambulance for awhile before we actually left.

DOYLE: And the two ambulances, they, did you arrive at the same time as the lady - and correct me if I'm wrong - you went to Concordia Hospital?

BEATTIE: Right.

DOYLE: Did, did you arrive there at the same time as the lady from the - as you

described - the red car? Do you know?
BEATTIE: I don't know.

DOYLE: Okay.

BEATTIE: I don't know because I, when I was taken from the first ambulance and put into the second ambulance, I was in the back of the ambulance, ambulance lying down and I couldn't see anything that was going on over there.

DOYLE: Okay.

KENNETT: And you were released a short time later, were you?

BEATTIE: I think, I don't know exactly how much time passed by. No, I had, I had x-rays so it couldn't have been too fast.

KENNETT: Okay.

BEATTIE: But I was looked after right away.

KENNETT: Okay.

BEATTIE: And then I had to wait for x-rays.

KENNETT: Alright. And you said that, ah, the Fire Department went over, was speaking to the fellow at the truck?

BEATTIE: Um-huh.

KENNETT: The pick-up truck.

BEATTIE: Um-huh.

KENNETT: Do you remember how many, ah, firemen went over there? Could it have... Was it one, or two, or three or?

BEATTIE: I don't remember.

KENNETT: Just... Do you, is it the City?

BEATTIE: I saw bodies. I saw bodies...

KENNETT: Okay.

BEATTIE: ...in uniforms.

KENNETT: Okay. Nothing further?

DOYLE: No, I don't think so.

KENNETT: Any, anything further that arises from the questioning or anything?

BEATTIE: No, I don't think so.

KENNETT: Okay. It's 17:08, concluding interview. Thank you.

BEATTIE: You're welcome.

Tracy KENNETT, Corporal
RCMP Winnipeg Major Crime Unit

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RCMP

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