





OPA-IS FILE NUMBER

IIS 10-0385

Date: 10/11/2010	Time: 2025 hrs.	Place OPA-IS Offices
Statement of: Officer Corey Williams		
Statement Taken By: Sergeant Randy Woolery		
Transcribed by (Taped/Translated Statements) J. Wicklund (RSW 0029)		

WOOLERY: I am Sergeant Woolery of the Seattle Police Department. The date is October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and the time is now 2025 hrs. The file number is 10-0385. I'm interviewing Officer Corey Williams, a named employee. Also present, Officer Mike Severance for the Seattle Police Officers Guild. This interview is taking place at Suite 1640 Seattle Municipal Tower. Please state your name and spell your last name.

WILLIAMS: Corey Williams, W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

WOOLERY: Officer Severance?

SEVERANCE: Michael Severance, S-E-V-E-R-A-N-C-E.

WOOLERY: This interview is documented by a recording. Officer Williams, do you understand this interview is being recorded, and agree to be recorded?

WILLIAMS: I do.

WOOLERY: Officer Severance, do you understand this interview is being recorded, and agree to be recorded?

SEVERANCE: Yes.

WOOLERY: Have you received copies of the Garrity Advisement and the Seattle Officer's Bill of Rights outlined in your collective bargaining agreement, and do you understand them?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: Have you received notification of the allegation made in the complaint?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: Under the authority of the Chief of the Seattle Police Department you are hereby ordered to answer all questions asked of you truthfully and completely. Failure to do so may result in discipline up to and including termination. Do you understand?

WILLIAMS: I do.



Statement of: Officer Corey Williams  
Transcribed by: J. Wicklund (RSW 0029)  
Taken by: Sergeant Randy Woolery

WOOLERY: Well, thank you both for coming in tonight. About how long have you worked for Seattle Police?

WILLIAMS: A little over two years, sworn.

WOOLERY: And where are you currently assigned?

WILLIAMS: Third East, Edward sector.

WOOLERY: And how long have you been at this assignment?

WILLIAMS: Two years, just, almost two years, yeah.

WOOLERY: Do you have any prior law enforcement experience?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Describe for me the vehicle stop you made on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at about 0155 hrs. at Boylston and East Pine.

WILLIAMS: Okay. The vehicle pulled in front of us. I believe it was off of Denny, driving erratically at a high rate of speed, and we paced it at about 45 to 50 mph on a residential side street, and it was coming, going into oncoming traffic, coming really close to the parked cars. When we activated our overheads to initiate the stop, it didn't stop for several blocks. It was right about bar closing so there was a lot of people on the, out and about. It was in the bar sector, it was raining, visibility was poor. They almost hit people in the crosswalks on Pike or Pine there. And we, they finally stopped. We kind of got the feeling that they were eluding us, maybe going towards the freeway. And then we stopped at Boylston and Pine? Yeah. And then, I mean, where do you want me to go from there? Just...

WOOLERY: Well, that...

WILLIAMS: ...the whole, the rest of the stop, or...

WOOLERY: No, that's fine.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

WOOLERY: And were you the driving officer or the passenger officer?

WILLIAMS: Passenger.

WOOLERY: And what was the violations you were stopping him for?



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WILLIAMS: Reckless Driving.

WOOLERY: And who did *you* make contact with?

WILLIAMS: The passenger.

WOOLERY: And who made contact with the driver?

WILLIAMS: Officer Schoenberg.

WOOLERY: Okay. Now, I'm going to, just 'cause I have to identify everybody in the video and unfortunately I don't know everybody.

WILLIAMS: Sure.

WOOLERY: So, you made contact with the, the passenger in the vehicle.

WILLIAMS: Correct.

WOOLERY: Officer Schoenberg made contact with the driver, initially, correct?

WILLIAMS: Correct. Yep.

WOOLERY: And just bear with me while I get to a couple of scenes on the tape. Is that Officer...

WILLIAMS: Schoenberg.

WOOLERY: Schoenberg? And is that you at the driver's...

WILLIAMS: It is, yes.

WOOLERY: ...side? Okay. And just for a reference on the tape, we're looking at 2 minutes, 39 seconds. (Pause...) Now who are the two officers at 5 minutes and 16 seconds?

WILLIAMS: That's me bending over, and that's [REDACTED]

WOOLERY: (Pause...) And at 6:18, is that still you and [REDACTED] in the same...

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: position? And were you the one with the in-car video microphone?



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WILLIAMS: Yes. I believe the video's logged into Schoenberg, but I was wearing the mic.

WOOLERY: Okay. Now removing the subject from the vehicle at 9:42 on the video is Officer Schoenberg. And who's the other officer?

WILLIAMS: [REDACTED]

WOOLERY: Okay. So which one, at 10:15 is who?

WILLIAMS: Steiger, that's probably [REDACTED] but I can't tell. (Unintelligible...) like this, yeah, that's him.

WOOLERY: Okay. (Pause...) So at 10 minutes and 53 seconds on the, the thing, that's Officer Steiger doing the wrist lock, and [REDACTED]

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: Okay. And that's Officer Schoenberg at 12:32, talking to the subject?

WILLIAMS: It is.

WOOLERY: Okay. At 24 minutes, 45 seconds, can you tell me who's at the back of the trunk of the car? Do you know?

WILLIAMS: I can't tell who it is.

WOOLERY: Can you tell who, who's at the vehicle door? I...

WILLIAMS: (Unintelligible)

WOOLERY: I'm just gonna play this...

WILLIAMS: Sure.

WOOLERY: ...little section, so if you can tell me...

WILLIAMS: Sure.

WOOLERY: ...who was doing that.

(In-car video: ...a long time ago. Man to man? No, good-bye.)

WILLIAMS: That's one of the ACT guys. I can't tell who it is.



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(In-car video: Charlie 33, can I get (unintelligible...))

WILLIAMS: And that's Steiger at the trunk. I think that's one of the ACT guys, and that's Officer Schoenberg and then, now myself up there.

WOOLERY: And so Officer Steiger opened the trunk?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: And were you the officer who asked the driver if he minded if you searched the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Do you know if, if he was asked, or who asked that?

WILLIAMS: I don't know.

WOOLERY: Okay. So Officer Steiger's searching the vehicle right now. Who's searching through the back passenger door?

WILLIAMS: That's me.

WOOLERY: Okay. And you said that there's several ACT officers there, because...

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: ...and they were not logged to the call?

WILLIAMS: I don't know.

WOOLERY: Okay. Do you know who they are?

WILLIAMS: No, I don't.

WOOLERY: Have you ever seen them before?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I just don't know, don't know who they are, don't know their names.

WOOLERY: Anybody else there but the original four officers named, and the ACT officers?

WILLIAMS: No, not that I know of.



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WOOLERY: Officer Severance, at this point, any questions to ask or to clarify?

SEVERANCE: Not really.

WOOLERY: Okay.

SEVERANCE: I'm waiting for you to ask questions.

WOOLERY: Okay. So when you made contact with the passenger, what was his demeanor like?

WILLIAMS: He was really intoxicated, drunk and high and really uncooperative.

WOOLERY: And what drew you to that conclusion?

WILLIAMS: His eyes were bloodshot and pupils were; I think they were dilated and just his facial expressions, sweating, slurring speech and he was making a lot of furtive movement, reaching underneath the seat, kind of in the center console on the side, uncooperative, not answering our questions, not following our orders.

WOOLERY: Okay. Is it illegal to be a passenger who's intoxicated?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Does the passenger have to ask, answer your questions?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: And what about the demeanor of the driver?

WILLIAMS: Same.

WOOLERY: Okay. And did you have direct contact with the driver, initially?

WILLIAMS: Not initially, no.

WOOLERY: Okay. At what point did you make those same conclusions about his cooperativeness or...

WILLIAMS: When he was back on the front of the car.

WOOLERY: At some point you requested additional officers. Why?



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WILLIAMS: My partner said he observed a bullet hole in the back of the trunk. They, they were making threats towards us, affiliating with MS 13 out of Yakima, saying that this wasn't their first time doing this and that they were gonna get their homies and come back and own the city and kill us, and this is why we keep getting killed. This was in March, right after everything that happened, and initially we thought they were eluding us and about to jump on the freeway.

WOOLERY: Did you actually see the bullet hole in the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: I did not, no.

WOOLERY: Did, did you ever look for it?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Was there a reason the bullet hole wasn't noted in the report?

WILLIAMS: I didn't know about it until we were discussing the stop back at the precinct.

WOOLERY: Okay. So the, so the bullet hole wasn't the reason for calling back up.

WILLIAMS: Well, I didn't see it, but my partner had. He told me, so.

WOOLERY: And who called for the additional units?

WILLIAMS: Him or I. I don't know.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: And actually, on the tape, actually just reading it there, I think I did, just initially, just 'cause they were eluding.

WOOLERY: Okay. Was this an actual pursuit?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. So were they actually eluding you?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. So after you contacted the passenger, initially...

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.



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WOOLERY: ...you asked him to roll down his window...

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: ...and he did or did not comply?

WILLIAMS: He, like a crack, and they were really dark tinted windows and I couldn't see what he was reaching at or what he was, what he was doing. It looked like he was either trying to get something or slough something.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you shine your flashlight in...

WILLIAMS: I did.

WOOLERY: ...and see anything?

WILLIAMS: I couldn't see through the window and that's why you see me go to the front of the car. I'm looking through the, the windshield.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: That's when I told him to roll down the window.

WOOLERY: And why did you want to identify the passenger?

WILLIAMS: I didn't. I just wanted to keep my eyes on him.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you ever ask him for his identification?

WILLIAMS: I don't know if I did, or somebody else did. Eventually we pulled him out of the car and did at that point.

WOOLERY: Okay. Why did you pull him out of the car?

WILLIAMS: Officer safety. He was making threats, wouldn't stop reaching under the seat and the center console and for the glove box there, saying that he was gonna come back and get us all and own the city.

WOOLERY: Okay. And how did you pull him out of the car?

WILLIAMS: Opened the door and pulled him out.



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WOOLERY: Okay. Did he open the door or did you open the door?

WILLIAMS: I probably opened the door.

WOOLERY: Do you remember, was it locked or unlocked?

WILLIAMS: It was unlocked.

WOOLERY: You didn't have to reach in and unlock it?

WILLIAMS: No, I don't think so.

WOOLERY: Why was the passenger told to shut the fuck up?

WILLIAMS: Well, we'd been talking to him for three to five minutes, and talking to him cordially and civilly wasn't working. And right off the bat, he's, they were both active DOC, they let us know that. And he's saying that I'm not new to this, dog, I'm going to fuck you up, using that kind of language. And unfortunately with gang members, you have to get on their level or typically they're gonna, it could escalate into a use of force, and my having to get down to their level and talking to them in a way they can understand, I feel like I prevented a use of force.

WOOLERY: Okay. So do you think that talking at his level was effective?

WILLIAMS: Absolutely, because they, once I used that language, and we pulled him out of the car, they were compliant for a while.

WOOLERY: Okay. Okay, for a while, and then what happened?

WILLIAMS: And they continued to escalate and they're begging us to turn off the camera and take off our badge.

WOOLERY: All right. So would you still say the use of profanity was effective?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, we didn't have to fight them.

WOOLERY: Okay. And why did you call him a shithead?

WILLIAMS: Same, same reason. He's sitting there saying that he's not gonna respect us and he's saying that we're not gonna respect him, even though at the time I was being civil and cordial, again. And I told him to shut the fuck up, he immediately did comply, and when you talked to him, calling him sir doesn't work.

WOOLERY: Okay. And why did you tell him that you don't have to suck your dick?



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WILLIAMS: I didn't say that.

WOOLERY: Okay. Let, let, let's play it then and you can tell me if you said it.

(In-car video: Don't suck my dick here, all right? I know you don't fucking respect me.)

WOOLERY: Okay. Who made that statement?

WILLIAMS: Schoenberg.

WOOLERY: Okay. Do you think that was an appropriate statement?

WILLIAMS: In, in that instance, yeah. I mean I could, I could see how most people wouldn't get that, and saying it as far as he's, they're running their mouth and not listening to us, taking fighting stances, kinda of swelling up and flailing their arms, and then once we take control of the situation they become all apologetic, like oh, hey, I respect you and none of this is personal, none of that, when they're just upset that they're not in control of the situation anymore.

WOOLERY: Okay. Was he doing that posturing you just described, flailing, flailing his...

WILLIAMS: As soon as we pulled him out of the car, yeah.

WOOLERY: Okay. Who said that they were doing 50 fucking miles down the fucking road, driving like assholes, and they're gonna kill somebody?

WILLIAMS: Probably me.

WOOLERY: Why did you say that?

WILLIAMS: They were, up and, when I'm talk, before I pulled the passenger out of the car, he's accusing us of harassing them and we're just messing with them. And I tried to explain to them that the reason for the stop is reckless driving, trying to find out why they're not pulling over for us and they're going for two to four blocks with our lights on. And he's not getting it. He doesn't understand. He's high, he's drunk, he's a gang-banger, and then I put it to him like that and the truth that he can understand.

WOOLERY: Did he seem to understand it at that point?

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: Does the passenger actually have any standing in, in why the driver is being pulled over?



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WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: So why did you think you had to explain it to him?

WILLIAMS: He asked me.

WOOLERY: Okay. Why did you say your badge was the only thing preventing you from skull fucking the subject and dragging him down the street?

WILLIAMS: That's just a non-sequitur that I picked up in boot camp. He, the whole time he was saying we're basically just a bunch of bitches and we hide behind our badge, and several occasions asked us turn off, turn off the fucking cameras, take off your badge and I'm gonna bring my homies here and well fuck you up, we're gonna come after you, we'll, we'll settle this like men right here.

WOOLERY: Sure. Do you think he was trying to bait you?

WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

WOOLERY: Do you think that you fell for the bait by saying you were gonna skull fuck him?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. Do you think it was appropriate to say that?

WILLIAMS: I do.

WOOLERY: Okay. And you mentioned boot camp. Were you in the military?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: What branch?

WILLIAMS: Army Reserves and Navy.

WOOLERY: And how long?

WILLIAMS: Seven years all together.

WOOLERY: Okay. Why is it illegal for the passenger to not do exactly what he is told to do?

WILLIAMS: In that case it was an officer safety issue. I, my partner said there was a bullet hole in there. I know that they're both active DOC. We tried to get DOC. There's none, city-



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wide. He's doing furtive movements inside the car. He's high or intoxicated and it's just for my safety, going home at the end of the night.

WOOLERY: Okay. And this might be a repetitive question, but why were the words 'fuck' and 'shit' used throughout this contact?

WILLIAMS: It's the language they were using with us, and it seemed to be the only thing that they would understand and it worked to help de-escalate the situation.

WOOLERY: Now at any point, did you contact the driver?

WILLIAMS: I, probably, I think, after he was sitting on the front briefly.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Most of my, my contact was with the passenger.

WOOLERY: Okay. So did you hear anything that was going on with the driver at the front of the patrol vehicle?

WILLIAMS: I saw that they were having difficulties with him, and it looked like he was acting the same as the passenger, but I don't specifically know, other than what I've seen on the video.

WOOLERY: Okay. So you, you didn't, you weren't listening or hearing anything?

WILLIAMS: Just...no, nothing specific, just that he was uncooperative.

WOOLERY: Okay. Why was the vehicle searched?

WILLIAMS: Well, with the bullet hole, I was looking for, in the immediate area around the driver's side for a weapon, especially with the furtive movement of the passenger. It looked like he was either stuffing something here in the center console or under his seat, so I wanted to find out what it was before we decided to put him, whether or not we were going to put him back in the car.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you search it before or after you saw the bullet hole?

WILLIAMS: I never saw the bullet hole. That's just information from my partner.

WOOLERY: Okay. So you don't know if the bullet hole was old or fresh?

WILLIAMS: No.



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WOOLERY: Had there been any reports of gunshots or, or shootings or anything that evening?

WILLIAMS: I don't specifically know, but they said they were just passing through from Yakima, and they're MS 13 gang members, so I don't know what goes on out there.

WOOLERY: Okay. Do you remember if, in the area that you were at, if there had been any reports of that type of activity?

WILLIAMS: There almost is every night. I don't specifically know, that night.

WOOLERY: Okay. But as far as you can remember, you weren't specifically looking for something...

WILLIAMS: No, not that.

WOOLERY: ...related to that?

WILLIAMS: Not specifically.

WOOLERY: And you weren't stopping the car related, because...

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: ...of the bullet hole.

WILLIAMS: No, that just came up after the stop.

WOOLERY: Okay. So why was it appropriate to search the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: I wasn't searching. I was merely frisking when I looked under the seats.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you go...

WILLIAMS: (Unintelligible)

WOOLERY: ...inside the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: Inside the vehicle?

WOOLERY: Uh-huh.

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you look around?



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WILLIAMS: Under the seat.

WOOLERY: So you searched it.

WILLIAMS: I guess. I disagree, but...

WOOLERY: Okay. Okay, well, then explain why you disagree, because I think that's important to know...

WILLIAMS: Because...

WOOLERY: ...your understanding...

WILLIAMS: I didn't...

WOOLERY: ...of what a vehicle search is.

WILLIAMS: Okay. I looked under the seat like this, didn't move anything around in the car. I'm doing the same thing when I'm outside the car, not opening things up and going through the car. So it's a basic frisk for weapons.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did, what's the justification for frisking a car for weapons?

WILLIAMS: There's a bullet hole in it. They're MS 13 gang members and they're threatening to come back and get us.

WOOLERY: Let, let, let me say, what's the legal justification for doing that?

WILLIAMS: Officer safety.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did they mention any weapons?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Did you have to open up the door to search the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: I think the driver's side door was already open. I don't remember.

WOOLERY: Right. In the video though, you're searching the rear passenger door—I, I'm sorry, the rear...

WILLIAMS: Oh, yeah, I opened the rear passenger door to look under the driver's seat.



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WOOLERY: Okay. So, so you had to open the door to go inside.

WILLIAMS: Right.

WOOLERY: Okay. And do you know that he'd already denied consent to search his vehicle?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Did, did you ask that or did anybody tell you that?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. Whose idea or, or who wanted the vehicle searched?

WILLIAMS: I don't, I don't know if that was corroborated. I'm, but I know we had two guys out of the car and I was gonna frisk it for weapons before we put them back in.

WOOLERY: Okay. Were you gonna put them back in or were, had he.

WILLIAMS: We hadn't made up our mind yet.

WOOLERY: Okay. When you searched it, had he already been arrested, though?

WILLIAMS: I don't think so.

WOOLERY: Okay. Wanna play the video to...

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

WOOLERY: ...to verify that?

WILLIAMS: Sure.

WOOLERY: Would that make a difference?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, then it'd be a search incident to the arrest.

*(In-car video: I don't have to have respect for you, but... (unintelligible...) reach into your pockets. A lot of people were, all right, it'll give you like the address, the holding...)*

WILLIAMS: He's in custody.



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WOOLERY: Okay. And the vehicle has not been searched yet?

WILLIAMS: No.

*(In-car video: (Unintelligible...) I get paid too much to be crooked.)*

WOOLERY: So who's that at the passenger door talking...

WILLIAMS: On what, *the passenger door*?

WOOLERY: I, I'm sorry, the driver's door.

WILLIAMS: Oh, [REDACTED]

WOOLERY: Okay. And that's at 22 minutes on the video. Where are the ACT guys who responded during all this?

WILLIAMS: I don't really remember them being there, but they would've had to have been behind us, 'cause I know...

WOOLERY: Did they come late in the...

WILLIAMS: ...Dan's car was behind us and then...

WOOLERY: Did they come late in the incident?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, they had to have. I don't remember them being there until I just saw them there.

WOOLERY: Do you remember if they played an active role in any of it, other than standing by?

WILLIAMS: I, no, I just thought they were watching.

WOOLERY: Do you know how the trunk was opened?

WILLIAMS: I have no idea.

WOOLERY: Was anything found during the vehicle search or vehicle frisk?

WILLIAMS: I don't think so.

WOOLERY: Okay. So just to clarify, was it a search incident to arrest, was it a vehicle search for weapons?



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WILLIAMS: Well, in my head I was frisking for weapons. That's all I was looking for when I looked in the driver's seat and around there, but he's clearly in custody and it's a search incident to arrest.

WOOLERY: Okay. And what about the locked trunk?

WILLIAMS: I don't know. I didn't do it.

WOOLERY: Did you see it being opened?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Did you see somebody searching it?

WILLIAMS: I, there, yeah, I, I look in there and it was open. I think I shined my light in here.

WOOLERY: Did you wonder *how* it opened or why it was being searched?

WILLIAMS: It didn't occur to me.

WOOLERY: Okay. What would you have done if you found something in the vehicle?

WILLIAMS: If I *found* something in the vehicle?

WOOLERY: Um-hmm.

WILLIAMS: It depends on what it was. I don't know.

WOOLERY: Say the gun you were looking for.

WILLIAMS: Impounded the car, probably, got a warrant for it.

WOOLERY: Have you ever done that before?

WILLIAMS: No, I've impounded cars, but, I mean to take for holding, but never written a warrant or anything.

WOOLERY: Never got the warrant yourself?

WILLIAMS: Un-huh.

WOOLERY: So why was the vehicle impounded?



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WILLIAMS: From what I understand, it was blocking a driveway. There's an apartment complex right here and a parking lot right here.

WOOLERY: Okay. I'm gonna play the video back, 'cause maybe you can help me see it. Okay. So I'm gonna start it at 1 minute, 43 seconds, which is just before them pulling over.

WILLIAMS: Okay.

*(In-car video: (Unintelligible...) stop the fucking car, man.)*

WILLIAMS: Right here (unintelligible...)

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Unless that's not...

WOOLERY: Where they pulled over.

WILLIAMS: ...where they pulled over.

WOOLERY: Pull it back then a little bit, so I can show you that again.

*(In-car video)*

WOOLERY: Sorry, it went back a little bit further...

WILLIAMS: Oh, that's okay.

WOOLERY: ...than last time.

*(In-car video: Siren wailing)*

WILLIAMS: You can kind of see the, the doors, the doors right there and I think that's the marker that (unintelligible...). And that's not (unintelligible...) right there.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: He's actually up on the curb, the driver.

WOOLERY: Okay. It looks like he's out of the driveway, but you say he was parked on the curb?

WILLIAMS: Well, he just hit the curb right there.



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WOOLERY: Right.

WILLIAMS: Well, the...

WOOLERY: He hit the curb, but was he parked on the curb?

WILLIAMS: I can't tell.

WOOLERY: Okay. So how, how far was he blocking the driveway?

WILLIAMS: I don't remember.

WOOLERY: Was it enough to justify the impound?

WILLIAMS: I think so. I don't who went onto the vehicle.

WOOLERY: Okay. Who was the primary on...

WILLIAMS: Officer Schoenburg and myself.

WOOLERY: Okay. Who wrote the report?

WILLIAMS: I think I did.

WOOLERY: Okay. So do you know why it was impounded?

WILLIAMS: From what I understand, it was blocking the driveway.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: But I wasn't concerned...

WOOLERY: Did you actually...

WILLIAMS: ...with that, I was more dealing with the guys right there.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: And then whoever, one of our backing officers...

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: ...stayed behind and did it.



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Taken by: Sergeant Randy Woolery

WOOLERY: But after they were taken in, into custody, before you decided to impound it, did you, do you remember looking and seeing how far blocked it was?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. Why wasn't the passenger allowed to drive the vehicle away?

WILLIAMS: He was wasted.

WOOLERY: Did you test him in any way?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: What about the...

WILLIAMS: And I don't think the... I think... no, never mind.

WOOLERY: Okay. What about the driver, was he tested?

WILLIAMS: He refused tests.

WOOLERY: Okay. What tests were offered?

WILLIAMS: Portable Breath Test and at the precinct I don't remember, I know we were debating whether or not to go DUI or the Reckless, and I don't recall what we offered him there, and then we made the decision to go Reckless because he was uncooperative.

WOOLERY: Okay. I know from the video when he was arrested he was told he was being arrested for DUI.

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: Was he given any field sobriety tests?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Was he offered any...

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: ...or did he refuse them?



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WILLIAMS: He refused the PBT.

WOOLERY: Is, is he required to submit to a PBT?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: What about at the precinct, did you actually offer him a BAC?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: So at that point you didn't think he was over the legal limit for driving?

WILLIAMS: Well, with his, with his uncooperative nature, we were kind of on that fence whether to process him for a DUI or go with the Reckless. Now, six months later, I, I can't really know why. I mean we were right there, and we went with Reckless.

WOOLERY: Did, did you screen that decision with the sergeant?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: Who was it?

WILLIAMS: Sergeant Johnson.

WOOLERY: Okay. And did he agree with your assessment?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: Okay. So do you know if the passenger was actually overly intoxicated so that he couldn't drive, and not take the vehicle away?

WILLIAMS: He clearly was. I mean I didn't test him for it, but he admitted to being high, he was drinking, so what, I'm not driving, that sort of thing.

WOOLERY: Was he more intoxicated than the driver?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I think so.

WOOLERY: Somebody read the subject his rights. Was it you? The driver.

WILLIAMS: I would have to hear it. I don't know.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you see Officer Steiger put the subject on the hood of the car and...



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WILLIAMS: Just on the video.

WOOLERY: ...use an arm-bar? Okay. Did you see it at the scene?

WILLIAMS: I don't think so. I may have seen it from behind, because I think I was over here on the passenger side of the car, and even then, it just looked like they were still struggling with the guy.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did, did you review the video before writing the report?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, just up to where we initiated the stop.

WOOLERY: And how did you verify that they were DOC active?

WILLIAMS: We ran their names.

WOOLERY: Okay. And there were no DOC officers working?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Did you do anything with that information concerning their DOC status?

WILLIAMS: I did not, but [REDACTED] wrote up a supplemental to it and contacted or emailed it off to one of their DOC officers.

WOOLERY: Who made the decision to arrest the driver for DUI?

WILLIAMS: I don't know. Probably my partner.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: He was the one contacting him.

WOOLERY: Was he ever notified at the precinct that the arrest was changed from a DUI to a Reckless?

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

WOOLERY: What was it that constituted the recklessness?

WILLIAMS: Alcohol on the breath.



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WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Same erratic driving behavior.

WOOLERY: Okay. And I'm just gonna ask you some general summary questions.

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: Why did you use the words 'fuck,' 'shit', 'skull fuck' and 'motherfucker' throughout the incident?

WILLIAMS: It was the only language that they really appeared to understand after talking with them unsuccessfully in a civil manner.

WOOLERY: Why do you feel your conduct and language used during this incident was professional or acceptable?

WILLIAMS: Because I think it prevented a use of force with two MS 13 gang members who were coming to our city, threatening us and everybody.

WOOLERY: Okay. How many officers were present?

WILLIAMS: Four.

WOOLERY: And then how many ACT officers?

WILLIAMS: I don't know.

WOOLERY: At least one or two?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, one or two.

WOOLERY: Do you believe the profanity was professional during this incident?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

WOOLERY: What justifications did you have for the vehicle search?

WILLIAMS: Search incident to arrest.

WOOLERY: Do you know what Department policy and, and case law says about that now?

WILLIAMS: Now you can't search the trunk.



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WOOLERY: Okay. And when did that come into effect?

WILLIAMS: I don't remember. It was right around then.

WOOLERY: Okay. Before, could you search a locked trunk?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I believe so.

WOOLERY: Okay. What justification did you have for the vehicle impoundment?

WILLIAMS: It was blocking the driveway.

WOOLERY: Is there anything about this incident I did not ask you that you think I need to know?

WILLIAMS: I don't think so.

WOOLERY: Officer Severance.

SEVERANCE: Officer Williams, you, you made contact primarily with the passenger in the car, is that correct?

WILLIAMS: I did.

SEVERANCE: And you stated that they told you they were MS 13 from Yakima.

WILLIAMS: Yeah, they, they said, hey, dog, I'm not new to this, you guys ain't shit to us, you think I'm new to this, I'll come back and fuck you up with my homies.

SEVERANCE: Have you ever heard of MS 13 before?

WILLIAMS: Yep.

SEVERANCE: Are they known as a violent gang?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, they're an international, violent gang.

SEVERANCE: You stated that the passenger was making furtive movements, reaching for the center console, glove compartment...

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

SEVERANCE: ...down beside the seat? And that you took him out of the car?



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WILLIAMS: Right.

SEVERANCE: And Sergeant Woolery asked you if the car was unlocked or locked, and you said it was, it was unlocked.

WILLIAMS: It was unlocked, yeah.

SEVERANCE: If it would have been locked, would you have been justified in unlocking it?

WILLIAMS: Oh, absolutely.

SEVERANCE: Based on this passenger's movements?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

SEVERANCE: Did those, his movements, raise officer safety concerns for you?

WILLIAMS: It did.

SEVERANCE: Would you have been justified in pulling him through the open window if he refused to get out of the car?

WILLIAMS: He was starting to roll up the window. He said something along the lines of, fuck you, I don't have to do this. Started reaching, and for my safety, pulled him out.

SEVERANCE: Once somebody's been arrested, eventually he was arrested for DUI...

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

SEVERANCE: ...are we allowed to un-arrest somebody with a supervisor's screening?

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

SEVERANCE: So could he, could you, after he had been arrested could you and your partner possibly have changed your mind and un-arrested him with a supervisor's screening?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

SEVERANCE: Was your primary reason for looking inside the passenger compartment of that car, because of MS 13's reputation, were you looking for weapons?



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WILLIAMS: It was the, yeah, the totality of it. They're, they're known gang affiliation, my partner telling me that there's a bullet hole in it, they're hostile aggression towards law enforcement.

SEVERANCE: Was your concern in looking for weapons based more on officer safety than say the legality of a search of a vehicle?

WILLIAMS: Yes.

SEVERANCE: And this is just a strictly hypothetical question. What's more important, officer safety or the legality of the search?

WILLIAMS: Officer safety.

SEVERANCE: I have no further questions.

WOOLERY: So what do you know about MS 13?

WILLIAMS: They're a Central American gang and they've got ties, and from what I understand they run the jails, they run most of the drugs coming out of South America, and they violently kill and murder anybody that opposes them and string their bodies up for everybody to see.

WOOLERY: Do they do that in South America or here?

WILLIAMS: Far as I know, all over the place.

WOOLERY: Okay. Is there an MS 13 problem in Seattle?

WILLIAMS: Not that I know of, no.

WOOLERY: So how do you know about MS 13?

WILLIAMS: Through the Academy. I just saw on TV they're one of the world's most prominent gangs.

WOOLERY: Okay. Have you ever contacted a MS 13 gang member before?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Do they have tattoos or markings or...

WILLIAMS: Yeah.



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WOOLERY: ...a special language?

WILLIAMS: The driver had tattoos all over him and he said he had another one, VSQ or something like that, it's an affiliate gang of MS 13.

WOOLERY: Okay. Have you ever heard of that one before?

WILLIAMS: No, I had to look that up.

WOOLERY: Okay. What about the passenger? Did he have the same tattoos or markings?

WILLIAMS: He, he did, but I didn't get a good look at them, because we didn't know the, the specifics of it. When he was telling us more in depth what they mean, that's when we found out it's an affiliate of it and everything, and that was back at the precinct.

WOOLERY: Okay. So was it the driver who said they were MS 13, or the passenger, or both?

WILLIAMS: It was both of them.

WOOLERY: Okay. So I know that there's been several comments made about the bullet hole in the vehicle.

WILLIAMS: Um-hmm.

WOOLERY: Can you tell me where the hole is located?

WILLIAMS: I don't, I didn't see it.

WOOLERY: Okay. So can you tell me at what point you were notified of the bullet hole, because you said it was...

WILLIAMS: When we first came back to the car.

WOOLERY: Okay. So was this before or after you had concerns about the furtive movements and removed the passenger?

WILLIAMS: During. I mean I went up, I feel like, even without the bullet hole I had enough to tell the passenger to keep his hands where I could see them. He was uncooperative, he was high, he was drunk. I could've yarded him out then, but two of us there pulling two people out of the car isn't a safe thing to do. So we came—as backing units were arriving and my partner and I kind of come to the back of the vehicle—he brings that to my attention, just kind of all during it, at the same time.

WOOLERY: When you saw the furtive movements, could you describe them a little bit better for me?



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WILLIAMS: Yeah, it looked like he was either reaching for something or putting something away.

WOOLERY: Okay. And what did you do in response to that?

WILLIAMS: Told him to keep his hands where I could see them, keep the window down. I couldn't see through the tinted windows, so you see me move a little forward of the A-frame or post there, so I could see into the entire compartment.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you shine your flashlight inside?

WILLIAMS: I did.

WOOLERY: Did that help you see inside better?

WILLIAMS: It, yeah, a little bit.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you alert the, your back-up or cover officer?

WILLIAMS: [REDACTED] did. When he came up, I told him what was going on with this guy.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: Keep a better eye on him, so we can get two eyes on him.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you draw your firearm at any time?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Did you think you might be going for a gun?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. So, so what do you think he was doing?

WILLIAMS: Oh, you mean like *going*? Yeah, I mean that's either hiding one or trying to get one, yeah.

WOOLERY: Okay.

WILLIAMS: If he, if he was going for a gun and I saw one, I would've drawn my firearm.



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WOOLERY: Okay. But, but you didn't see that or you didn't draw your firearm? I, I just want to clarify it, so I understand.

WILLIAMS: He was, he was either, okay, my impression was that he was either hiding something or trying to access a weapon, so that's what I was trying to assess.

WOOLERY: Okay. So at what point did you realize that he wasn't trying to access a weapon?

WILLIAMS: When I told him to put his hands where I could see them. I never really determined that, didn't really determine it until we searched the vehicle and there were no weapons.

WOOLERY: Did, did anybody search the front passenger seat?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I did.

WOOLERY: All right. Did you find anything?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: And at what point did you search it?

WILLIAMS: Search incident to arrest, after, I think it was after I searched the front of it.

WOOLERY: Okay. Did you, was the door still open?

WILLIAMS: I don't remember.

WOOLERY: Did you go into the glove box?

WILLIAMS: I don't think so.

WOOLERY: Could there have been a weapon in the glove box?

WILLIAMS: Yeah.

WOOLERY: So, so why didn't you search there?

WILLIAMS: I, I may, I don't know, I may have.

WOOLERY: Okay. What about, do you remember where you searched or how you searched?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, just with my light, looking all around where a driver or passenger could've accessed it.

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Taken by: Sergeant Randy Woolery

WOOLERY: Okay. Do you know the status of the criminal citation?

WILLIAMS: No, I, the status of like where it's at right now? No, I have no idea.

WOOLERY: Did you ever get called into court for it?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Do you know if it was filed or dismissed?

WILLIAMS: No idea.

WOOLERY: Okay. Didn't do any follow-up or anything like that?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: Okay. Officer Severance?

SEVERANCE: I guess I know the answer to this question already, but do you know if perhaps the driver didn't take care of the ticket, do you know if there's a warrant out for him?

WILLIAMS: I don't.

SEVERANCE: This is on the video that I saw earlier, but at, at one point on the video, I believe it's you on the passenger side of the car, you're shining your flashlight in, did you ask the passenger words to the effect of, what are you looking for?

WILLIAMS: Yeah, I think so.

SEVERANCE: I have no further questions.

WOOLERY: Is there anything further *you* would like to add to your statement?

WILLIAMS: No.

WOOLERY: To maintain confidentiality of this investigation, you are advised not to disclose the information discussed during your interview, except with your representative or attorney. Do you understand?

WILLIAMS: I do.



SEATTLE  
POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

**STATEMENT FORM**  
CONTINUATION SHEET

OPA-IS FILE NUMBER  
**IIS 10-0385**

Statement of: Officer Corey Williams  
Transcribed by: J. Wicklund (RSW 0029)  
Taken by: Sergeant Randy Woolery

WOOLERY:

This completes the interview. The time is now 2102 hrs. The date is still October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Seattle Police Department – OPA Investigation Section  
In-Person Interview Guide

I am Sgt. Woolery of the Seattle Police Department. The date is 10-11-10, and the time is 2025 hrs. The File Number is 10-0385. I am interviewing Off. C. Williams, a  Named Employee  Witness  Other: \_\_\_\_\_. Also present is Off. Severance and \_\_\_\_\_. (Note role/position – e.g. guild rep, attorney)  
(If no others present) Is it your decision to proceed without representation?  Yes  No

- This interview is taking place at  Suite 1640 Seattle Municipal Tower  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

- Please state your name and spell your last name. (Start with the interviewee, ask each person present)

- This interview is documented by a:  Recording  Court Reporter/Stenographer  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

(Interviewee) Williams. Do you understand this interview is being recorded, and agree to be recorded?  Yes  No (Other persons present) Severance, do you understand this interview is being recorded and agree to be recorded?  Yes  No

**Sworn Employees:** Have you received copies of the Garrity Advisement and the Seattle Police Officer's Bill of Rights outlined in your collective bargaining agreement, and do you understand them?  Yes  No  
Have you received notification of the allegation(s) made in the complaint?  Yes  No

~~Civilian Employees: Have you received a copy of the Garrity Advisement, and do you understand it?  
 Yes  No Have you received notification of the allegation(s) made in the complaint?  Yes  No~~

**All Employees:** Under the authority of the Chief of the Seattle Police Department you are hereby ordered to answer all questions asked of you truthfully and completely. Failure to do so may result in discipline up to and including termination. Do you understand?  Yes  No

**Sworn Employee Witness:** You are advised that you are being questioned as a witness, and should your answers reveal violations of ~~Seattle Police Department rules and/or regulations~~, the interview will be stopped. You will be advised that your status has changed to that of Named Employee, and you will receive a new notification and interview date. Do you understand?  Yes  No

**Civilian Employee Witness:** You are advised that you are being questioned as a witness, and should your answers reveal violations of ~~Seattle Police Department rules and/or regulations~~, the interview will be stopped. You will be allowed a reasonable amount of time to arrange representation from your bargaining unit and/or attorney. You will receive new notification that your status has been changed to that of "Named Employee". Do you understand?  Yes  No

Ask questions/conduct interview.

Before concluding the interview, ask, "Is there anything further you would like to add to your statement?"

To maintain confidentiality of this investigation, you are advised not to disclose the information discussed during your interview, except with your representative or attorney. Do you understand?  Yes  No

This completes the interview. The time is 2102 hrs. The date is 10-11-10.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION INTERVIEW TAPE RECEIPT

OPA-IS File No. 10-0385

I have received 1 "in-person" interview audio tape(s) of Off. Williams  
(Employee)  
regarding the above referenced OPA-IS administrative investigation.

List other items provided to the employee or bargaining unit representative, e.g., copies of documents, etc.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Received by:  
Signature [Signature] Date: 10-11-10

Witnessed by:  
Signature [Signature] Date: 10-11-10