

RESERVE CONSTABLE JAMES MURPHY, R6447

Response of Reserve Constable James Murphy, R6447, Craigavon DCU in relation to 17/3 served on him by Superintendent Kennedy on 27 June 2001.

Reserve Constable Murphy was interviewed at Lisnasharragh on 24.9.01 by Chief Inspector Jackson and Sergeant [REDACTED] between the times of 2.35 pm and 2.56 pm. [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] & Co, Solicitors was also present. In relation to the allegation that he neglected his duty as a police officer in that whilst he noted two males lying on the ground and broken glass on the street he took no appropriate action to secure and preserve the scene. R/Constable Murphy stated that they responded to a call from R/Constable Cornett screaming on the radio about a disturbance in the town centre. When they arrived the officers that had been in the landrover were already out and appeared to be surrounded in various parts of the town centre. There were people all over the place, they were fighting and running about like madmen. R/Constable Murphy states that there were females with both the males on the ground and he was glancing at this because there was that many things going on with few police and they were trying to watch each other's backs and trying to keep the crowd back. He states he was trying to push people up the street but it was impossible, there was too big a crowd. He states he saw a lot of small particles of glass as if bottles or glasses had been broken. It was strewn all over the place.

In relation to the allegation that he failed to make a full and accurate notebook entry and in particular to note the relevance of why a suspect, namely Wayne Lunt, was placed in the rear of the police landrover and then released Murphy stated that he saw Constable A [redacted] take Lunt to the landrover and went over to assist. Lunt was put in the back of the landrover and he stood at the back of the landrover. He states crowds were still coming up from Woodhouse Street and he was assisting to push them back and trying to watch Lunt at the same time. He presumed Lunt had been arrested but he didn't speak to or have time to speak to Constable A [redacted] in relation to it. He did not speak to Lunt and did not overhear any conversation between Constable A [redacted] and Lunt. He states that he doesn't know the reason why Lunt was released and that Constable A [redacted] did not say anything to him. He states he didn't know the reason why but was in the landrover to start with. He didn't know the circumstances and he presumed Constable A [redacted] was dealing with it.