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STATEMENT OF: Denise BUKOWSKI
DATE: 2006-05-30
TIME: 09:41 hours
RCMP MEMBER PRESENT: Corporal Todd DOYLE

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DOYLE: Okay. Uh, today's date is May the 30th, 2006. Um, its Corporal Todd DOYLE here at Selkirk detachment. I'm with uh Denise BUKOWSKI, that's B-U-K-O-W-S-K-I uh of Rural Selkirk area.

BUKOWSKI: Right.

DOYLE: Um, Denise I'm assisting in the continuing investigation of a fatal motor vehicle accident. Uh at highway 59 and 101 February 25th 2005. I understand you may have uh come upon that accident at some point uh um on that date. Could you just describe what you saw uh that morning? And uh I may follow up with some questions after.

BUKOWSKI: Uh, my husband and I were heading to work and I work at Concordia Hospital so we were going down 59 highway. Um, and we were just a few minutes away from the traffic lights and we noticed that the light was green but it didn't appear like anyone was moving. And we then realized as we got right onto the scene that there had been an accident. But we would we were the first vehicle in the not the passing lane but in the driving lane. We were the first vehicle stopped so there wasn't anyone who had gone through the intersection after us.

DOYLE: Mm hm.

BUKOWSKI: And there was a car to the right, a van. There was a car in the intersection and there was a truck that was passed the accident scene. And there was a car that had actually stopped right beside us. And then what I noticed was all the traffic that should've been turning into the intersection and going east, west, going west on the perimeter wasn't coming through the intersection either. And it was it was very surreal. Nothing was moving. So I yelled at my husband, I said well stop the car I need to get out. And he pulled over like just maybe a foot off of the off the road and I got out and I ran to the vehicle on the side of the road and for some reason I

didn't really even look at the one in the center. But I think what caught my attention was the woman was just starting to get out of her vehicle. So I went right up to her and she was not quite out but just sort of opening the door. So I asked her if she was okay and I sort of just glanced to see if there was anyone else in the vehicle and I couldn't see anyone. And um, she says no, I'm okay. I just, she was fiddling with herself when she was trying to call 911. Um, and then she said to me but I haven't seen anyone move from that vehicle. And that's when I turned and I realized that there was, I guess I had seen it but there was another vehicle. So I, I left her and I walked to ward the vehicle and as I walked to the veh' toward the vehicle it was on an angle that I came around to the, the passenger side and the first thing that I thought of (makes a noise) because I have small children I looked in the back seat and there was, there was no back seat hardly. And there was no roof on the vehicle and then I looked at the woman and just by looking at her I dr' drew the conclusion and I probably shouldn't have but I drew the conclusion that she was probably dead or very seriously hurt. Um, just by the angle of, of how her neck was just flipped completely back. Um, and I just I just remember putting my hands over my face and you know and just stopping myself from, from screaming because I wasn't really expecting that. Um, and then I, I turned slightly and then I noticed there was someone who came from behind a truck that was farther ahead of the accident. And um, he came from behind the vehicle and I just remember thinking to myself nobody needs to see this and I and as he came around I just said to him, I says are you okay? And he didn't respond. And I says is there anybody with you and he didn't respond he just looked at me. And um, and I said you, you don't need to go there. And I just figured he was fine and I just turned away. And then I came back and as I was coming back um, I did go back to in between the la' the lady had gotten out of her van I believe and she was behind the car but right beside her van. And I was walking toward her and um, she said to me I think she said to me um is, is she okay? And I says you know what? No, we, we don't need to be there. But at the same time there was a gentlemen who started coming on the other side on the uh drivers side of the vehicle um going toward the vehicle and I noticed that he had emblem, an emblem on his jacket. And I also thought he, he looked familiar but I in hindsight I didn't know who he was. Or

I di' I didn't think at that time. Um, and everything was you know there was a lot of adrenalin flowing. Um, and I walked behind the vehicle and I walked up to him and that's when I realized the car was still running. I hadn't realized that when I had been on the other side of it. And um, I met him on the other side of the vehicle and I said to him you know I, I don't think there's anything we can do for her. And all he did an' and I remember this very clearly he leaned over, he shut off the car. He looked at me and he just shook his head. And then he turned away from me. Then I went back and I believe at that time I think I just stood by the other lady who was by the van. And then I realized the ambulance needs to come, paramedics everybody need to come and maybe help this woman. Th' I gotta we have to get our vehicle out of the way because we were first. And that's when I went back to the car and I said to my husband well we better g' we better get out the way, we better go. And um, then we left.

DOYLE: Okay. And which way did you go?

BUKOWSKI: We went um, north perimeter...

DOYLE: Mm hm.

BUKOWSKI: ...up to um Henderson highway and then we whipped around and came back down uh Foxgrove to get back on to Gateway to get to Concordia.

DOYLE: Okay. And uh, you work at Concordia in what capacity?

BUKOWSKI: I'm the manager for volunteer services.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Um, at what time would this have been about Denise?

BUKOWSKI: Maybe 7:05, 7:10.

DOYLE: 'Kay.

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BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Um, did you um make any calls to emergency services at all?

BUKOWSKI: My husband was on the phone trying to. And he just could not get the cell phone working. So and that's why well you had asked him to come. You can talk to him. He's agreeable to doing that. He couldn't get out today but um, he didn't see anything 'cause he spent all his time looking down trying to get the cell phone going. (Laughs) So.

DOYLE: 'Kay. And do you know who he may have called?

BUKOWSKI: My husband?

DOYLE: Ye', yes. Did he did he tell you who um, did he call uh East St. Paul direct? Did...

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: ...he call 911?

BUKOWSKI: He woulda he woulda been dialing 911.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Okay, good. Um, so its your understanding that uh um when you attended to this to uh, the first woman that she was her vehicle was involved in the accident?

BUKOWSKI: Mm hm.

DOYLE: It was clear that, that...

BUKOWSKI: Yeah it was.

DOYLE: ...vehicle had been involved?

STATEMENT OF:

Denise BUKOWSKI

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BUKOWSKI: Yes, yes.

DOYLE: Okay. And um did she uh tell you anything about what had happened, just prior to...

BUKOWSKI: You know what?

DOYLE: ...you getting there?

BUKOWSKI: Um, yes she, she said something to the affect of she was at the light and I, I think I'm almost positive no I'm not almost positive. She said I th' I think the light turned green and then she says I just I was just thrown. Like the vehicle just like that's it just I shouldn't say just thrown with my hands but um she was just propelled forward.

DOYLE: And that's all she said to you about the accident?

BUKOWSKI: Yes, yeah ,yeah.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: And she just didn't know, it just happened so fast.

DOYLE: Right. Did you have a discussion with her after you s' its my understand that you, you um, you proceeded to the small car where you saw the woman that...

BUKOWSKI: Yes.

DOYLE: ...was there. And the gentleman who you believed was uh had a uniform on or a...

BUKOWSKI: That would have ended up being um, Dale KASPER.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: And how do you know Dale KASPER?

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Denise BUKOWSKI

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BUKOWSKI: Um, my sister is married to her, to Dale's s' my sister is a KASPER, married to Chris KASPER who is Dale's brother.

DOYLE: So...

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: ...your sister is...

BUKOWSKI: Is a sister a sister in-law to...

DOYLE: In-law to Dale KASPER.

BUKOWSKI: ...yes...

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: ...yes.

DOYLE: And had, had you met Dale before?

BUKOWSKI: Yes.

DOYLE: But it...

BUKOWSKI: Yes.

DOYLE: ...just didn't click at the time who....

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: ...who it was?

BUKOWSKI: No, he actually he installed our security system in our house.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Um, yeah. But years and years ago and I see him maybe once a year.

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Denise BUKOWSKI

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DOYLE: Gotcha.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Okay. Um, so after you, you basically had been through kind of the scene....

BUKOWSKI: Mm hm.

DOYLE: ...and you, you, you're starting to return your to your car. Did you have a conversation again with that lady from the first....

BUKOWSKI: I did....

DOYLE: ...vehicle?

BUKOWSKI: ...yes. I did come back, I know I did come back around the vehicle. Um, but she was talking to another gentlemen.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: That had come to the car as well. Like I had been alone with her for a few a brief maybe a minute. Um, and then I know that a gentlemen had come to the car. And that's when I had gone to, to the yellow car I think the yellow car. Um, and then and then came back but she was, she wasn't alone when I walked away from her. There was a gentleman that was with her.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: And he was still with her and then I believe he went and started directed traffic. Or he walked away as I had walked away.

DOYLE: You wouldn't know who that gentleman is do you?

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: No.

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DOYLE: So did you have a conversation with that first lady again at the van? Or, or not.

BUKOWSKI: I think it was only, I had said to her I know I w' had gone back to her I think and said that we can't do anything for the lady in the car.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: I, I believe I did that.

DOYLE: Okay. Um, your conversation or your exchange with uh Dale KASPER.

BUKOWSKI: Mm hm.

DOYLE: Um, c' could you just go over that again? Was it...

BUKOWSKI: Sure, I' there w' there wa' the only thing I had said to him was I don't think there's anything that we can do for her. Um, and then I know he leaned over, he shut off the car and he just shook his head. Um, but I have to tell you I felt really uncomfortable after I left the scene because I thought who am I to say that we can't do anything for her.

DOYLE: Right.

BUKOWSKI: You know? And because I'm, I'm not a nurse. I may work at a hospital....

DOYLE: Right.

BUKOWSKI: ...and I see things, but...

DOYLE: Right.

BUKOWSKI: ...um, and then afterward I, I wondered why all Dale did was shut the car off. At least that's all I saw.

DOYLE: Right. Um, so did you see Dale do anything else? Or speak to ...

STATEMENT OF:**Denise BUKOWSKI****9**

BUKOWSKI: No....

DOYLE: ...anyone else?

BUKOWSKI: ...I didn't, no. I ...

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: ...actually didn't, so.

DOYLE: Now you, you also described uh an exchange with another gentleman. Um, and uh you said uh he came from what direction?

BUKOWSKI: Um, he would have come from behind the truck that was passed the accident scene.

DOYLE: 'Kay.

BUKOWSKI: And I actually didn't, like I, I asked him if he was okay. I asked him if he was hurt, if he was okay and if anyone else was with him. But verbally he didn't say anything to me. Um, h' you know he was just, when I think back almost in shock too. He was just there was no affect on his face. He was just none commental. Just...

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: ...yeah.

DOYLE: Um, so was it your impression that his he was also involved in the accident?

BUKOWSKI: You know what? No.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Um, no. I, I no. I and actually I, I knew I was almost sure he didn't he didn't come from across the intersection. I didn't believe he came from north but he di' he came right from behind that truck. But I couldn't see any damage on that side of the truck. So I don't know.

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DOYLE: Okay. So at that time you didn't have the impression that he was or his vehicle was involved in that

BUKOWSKI: No...

DOYLE: ...accident?

BUKOWSKI: ...no. Because it was to far. It seemed....

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: ...it, it from perspective wise...

DOYLE: Yeah.

BUKOWSKI: ...it seemed like it was much to far to be involved, but.

DOYLE: Right. Um, and I take it at in late February at 7:00 a.m what would have the light conditions have been?

BUKOWSKI: The road conditions?

DOYLE: The light.

BUKOWSKI: The light?

DOYLE: A light conditions, daylight (inaudible).

BUKOWSKI: Oh it was It was it was light. Yeah, yeah.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Um...

[Pause]

DOYLE: ...can you describe the, the man that came out from behind the truck at all physically?

STATEMENT OF:**Denise BUKOWSKI****11**

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: No? Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Maybe if I saw him but I you know what? I...

DOYLE: Did you notice any injuries on him?

BUKOWSKI: No, no he didn't.

DOYLE: 'Kay. Uh do you...

BUKOWSKI: Like physically I looked...

DOYLE: ...yeah.

BUKOWSKI:at him and he, he wasn't limping or you know, he seemed okay.

DOYLE: Um, did he um, can you describe any of the clothing he was wearing?

BUKOWSKI: Other than it was uh he had sort of a short jacket on. Or just no not really.

DOYLE: Okay. Um, did he have a hat on? Or a.

BUKOWSKI: I don't think so.

DOYLE: Okay.

[Pause]

BUKOWSKI: I would say clean shaving though, sort of.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: You know. Um, not a lot of hair on his head, that that's all I really can...

DOYLE: Sure, no that's fine.

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Denise BUKOWSKI

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BUKOWSKI: ...you know and, and more...

DOYLE: And how far...

BUKOWSKI: ...like not tall but like...

DOYLE: Okay. Average height?

BUKOWSKI: ...five, my husbands 5'9'. 5'9", 5'10" .

DOYLE: 'Kay. And how far away would he have been? Did he come right up to the vehicle?

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: Or...

BUKOWSKI: No, I not that no. We would have been about um, ten feet away from the vehicle.

DOYLE: Okay. And how far away....

BUKOWSKI: And...

DOYLE: ...from him?

BUKOWSKI: ...he was about...

DOYLE: Between you two.

BUKOWSKI: ...four feet...

DOYLE: Four feet...

BUKOWSKI: ...from me.

DOYLE: ...between you?

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

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DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: That's about as close, four or five feet.

DOYLE: Okay, very good. Uh....

BUKOWSKI: And I really didn't give him a second thought you know.

DOYLE: Sure.

BUKOWSKI: I just asked him how he was and he seemed fine. And I just turned my back and you know.

DOYLE: So when, from, from coming up to the accident and the um, um, you know the conversation's you had with people. How many, what was your impression as to how many vehicles were involved in this accident?

BUKOWSKI: Three.

DOYLE: Three? 'Kay.

BUKOWSKI: Mm hm.

DOYLE: And which is the third?

BUKOWSKI: Um, well it would be the van with the woman on the side.

DOYLE: Mm hm.

BUKOWSKI: And then the um yellow car in centre...

DOYLE: Mm hm.

BUKOWSKI: And then the truck.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: But.

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DOYLE: Right. Now is that your impression now or that's was at the time you, you thought that truck was involved in the accident?

BUKOWSKI: That's a good question because um, I would say I, I couldn't I couldn't say at the time that it was because I couldn't see the damage on that side of the vehicle.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: But yet in hindsight when I think back, how did it get there. You know that's...

DOYLE: Right. A'...

BUKOWSKI: ...speculation.

DOYLE:can you describe the truck...

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: ...at all? No?

BUKOWSKI: I can't, no.

DOYLE: No, that's fair. Um, so you departed um, where there any emergency responders on scene before you left?

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: Okay. Did you see any on route....

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: ...uh while you were taking your route to Concordia Hospital?

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: No? Okay. And was your husband able to get a hold of emergency services when he had called?

STATEMENT OF:**Denise BUKOWSKI****15**

BUKOWSKI: No. 'Cause the phone wasn't working for him.

DOYLE: Your cell phone?

BUKOWSKI: Yes.

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yes.

DOYLE: Um, do you know anyone else um, uh personally that may have obviously there's a lot of people that travel that highway and they're from that area. Do yo' did you know or recognize anyone that was at the scene that may have been out of a vehicle or recognize a...

BUKOWSKI: No.

DOYLE: ... vehicle?

BUKOWSKI: No I didn't.

DOYLE: 'Kay.

BUKOWSKI: I do know of a few people at the hospital that went by it.

DOYLE: Afterwards?

BUKOWSKI: Afterward, yeah.

DOYLE: Oh okay.

BUKOWSKI: Yeah.

DOYLE: Um, okay. I think that' all uh Denise do you have any, anything else to add? You know we've...

BUKOWSKI: Mm.

DOYLE: ...explored this a little bit into maybe a little more detail than you

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the first time you spoke with police but uh do you have anything else you wanna add to this?

BUKOWSKI: No, no....

DOYLE: Okay.

BUKOWSKI: ...not at all.

DOYLE: Okay. Um, the time now is uh 10:00 a.m. Um, and our interview had commenced at 9:41. Um, and that will conclude the interview with uh Denise BUKOWSKI. Thank you.

BUKOWSKI: Thank you.

Corporal Todd DOYLE

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