

ROBERT LEE FARR

Statement of: Taken in the office of the Prosecuting Attorney of Wayne County by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Max M. Silverman, on July 8th, 1963, at about 10:40 A.M., in the presence of Officer Charles Schlachter of the Homicide Bureau; Thelma B. Lilley, stenographer.

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Questioned by Mr. Silverman as follows:

Q What is your name?

A Robert Farr.

Q Where do you live?

A [REDACTED]

Q My name is Max M. Silverman; I am an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney acting under the direction of Samuel H. Olsen, the Prosecuting Attorney of Wayne County; I want to ask you some questions about something that happened the early morning of July 5th; are you willing to answer my questions?

A Yes, sir.

Q Everything will be the truth that you tell me as far as you know it?

A Yes, sir.

Q I can't hear you?

A Yes, sir, it will.

Q Now, did you see something happen at John R and Edmond on the morning of July 5th?

A Yes, I did.

Q What time?

A Approximately it was -- frankly, I don't know the exact time.

Q Now, what did you see happen?

A Well I seen this police car come down John R; it was at John R; I was coming up Edmond Place from Woodward and they had a lady in the car and they stopped this lady and this fellow that was on John R in front of this apartment building; and this policeman sitting on the right, he got out of the car and was talking to the lady; he

tried to get the lady and fellow in the car, so she told him she wasn't going to get in; she hadn't did anything; and he came over and stopped and I was looking and he told her to get in the car. She said, "I'm not going to do it." And she started to walk across John R and he called and told her, "Come back here, you black bitch or I'll kill you." And she kept going. Just as she got ready to get up on John R, he taken his gun out and fired.

Q Did you see both officers?

A Pardon?

Q Did you see both officers?

A Yes, I did.

Q Who did the firing, which one?

A I didn't see the one in the car until he shot her; he got out then too. And this fellow that was with the lady, they had been talking and he got away and he went up Edmond Place. And the tallest one, he's the one that did the shooting, and he when he shot her, she fell. He went over to her. She had got a knife out of her skirt. He went over to her and got the knife and slashed his hand.

Q Who did that?

A The police officer.

Q You say she had a knife in her hand?

A No, she had got the knife when she was going across John R; she didn't take the knife out of her skirt until she was about mid-ways of the street and it was in her hand when she fell down.

Q You saw that?

A Yes, I did.

Q How far/^{away}were you from the scene of the shooting?

A I was standing on the corner of John R and Watson.

Q Did you give your name to any officers around there?

A No, I didn't.

Q Where did you go?

A I went on home; matter of fact, I don't think they asked anyone for his name until later; there was some of them people was standing in front of the apartment building there.

Q Now, you say there was another woman in the car?

A There was a lady sitting in the police car.

Q Now, you talked to the detectives?

A Yes, sir.

Q About this, yesterday?

A Yes.

Q Did you tell the detectives the two officers were alone in the scout car; there was no one else in the car?

A I seen this lady in this car.

Q All I asked you if you told the officers there was no one else in the car?

A I might have.

Q All right, have you talked to anyone about this matter?

A No, I have not.

Q Who did you give your name and address to originally?

A Yesterday downstairs, I did.

Q All right, have you called anyone and told them you were a witness to this thing?

A No, I did not; I called yesterday morning down here and talked with the policeman and he told me to call Homicide and I called them and they told me to come down and make a statement and I did. Are you speaking of did I talk with the police department or someone in the streets?

Q Someone in the streets.

A No, I did not; the people I live with, I told them when I got home that morning; I woke my landlord up and told her. She said, "Did you talk with the police?" I said "No/"

Q Did the first shot the officer shot strike her?

A It didn't strike her, I don't think; it came near her shoulder; the second one hit her in the back.

Q Have you ever been arrested and convicted of anything?

A Just once.

Q Of what?

A They said accosting.

Q When was that?

A That was last year.

Q That was 1961 you were arrested and convicted of accosting and soliciting?

A Yes, sir.

Q You did 60 Days in the Detroit House of Correction?

A He said 30, but I did 60.

Q Were you ever on probation?

A Yes.

Q For what?

A Gross Indecency.

Q That was in 1955?

A Yes, sir.

MR. SILVERMAN: That's all.

Q I want to ask you another question. You told the officers one officer cut the other one's shirt?

A After they got back in the car; he had the knife, he did cut his shirt.

Q Which officer cut which officer's shirt?

A The tall one did cut the short one's shirt.

Q Did you tell the officers when you talked to the detectives that the officer that did the shooting was cut on the shirt by the other officer?

A The one that did the shooting, he's the one that cut the other one's shirt, partner's shirt.

MR. SILVERMAN: That's all.