

PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF JERMAINE BAKER

Witness Statement of Stephen ALEXANDER

1. I am Stephen ALEXANDER. In 2015 I was a Detective Sergeant serving with the Technical Surveillance Unit of the Metropolitan Police Service and I was the Team Leader for the technical deployment into a black Audi A6 motor vehicle displaying the index KM13YPT. I am no longer a serving Police Officer, having retired in 2018.
2. I have been asked to provide some further detail concerning that deployment and the events of 11th December 2015. I have provided one previous statement which is dated 14th June 2016 and which was provided to the IPCC.
3. In particular, I have been asked what was the requirement presented by the operational team at the planning / strategy meeting. I can say that at the strategy meeting that resulted in the technical deployment into that vehicle the request was for the facility to monitor live audio product from within that vehicle for the purposes of assisting in the decision making processes during the live operation and also for the securing of evidence.
4. I have further been asked what was the TSU plan to meet that ask. I can say that my team considered the request and all the available information and intelligence in order to identify how best to support the operational objectives within the constraints of the resources available, competing demands and the terms of any relevant authorities.
5. The plan that I discussed with the Operational Team and which I subsequently presented to my Management Team was to deploy two (2) independent systems.
6. The first would provide 'live' audio product from within the vehicle. This live feed system was to be monitored and recorded by staff provided by the Operational Team from within a Covert Monitoring Post to be installed in a Police building. This system was expected to provide good quality product, but as that product was to be transmitted away from the vehicle the quality could not be absolutely guaranteed. An additional facility to be integrated into the 'live' monitoring was the ability to 'live review' sections of this product. My understanding of this function was that the operator would be able to scroll back through the audio product in fifteen (15) or thirty (30) second increments permitting an immediate review of a limited, recent section of product.
7. The second system would record audio product from within the vehicle and store it in a 'store and retrieve' device within the vehicle. This product was intended to be downloaded at the conclusion of the operation and after the vehicle had been

recovered. This system was to be voice activated and was expected to provide high quality product.

8. It was my belief that this plan exceeded the terms of the initial request from the Operational Team. My team was to complete the deployment of these systems in a covert manner in a hostile environment *and* within a limited time frame and it was my belief that the plan represented the best support available from the TSU at the time.
9. I have been asked whether consideration was given to providing a review capability to the 'live' feed that did not undermine the ability to listen live and whether there was any discussion with the Operational Team around this limitation on the 'live' monitoring. I can say that I was not aware of any 'live review' option superior to the one identified to me by the Engineers on my Team and subsequently provided to the CMP Staff. Members of my team installed the CMP and provided instruction in its functions to the individuals identified by the Operational Team. I was not present when this instruction was provided.
10. Separately, in going over my documents I have noticed there is a typo in the final paragraph of my witness statement dated 14 June 2016. The sentence should read: "The equipment was successfully deployed on another operation on 10th March 2016" not 2015.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Signed:  _____

Dated: 26th July 2021