

PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF JERMAINE BAKER

Witness Statement of Chief Superintendent Andrew Walker

1. I am a Chief Superintendent in the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). Since March 2018 I have been the head of the MPS Specialist Firearms Command (SCO19).
2. I have been asked to provide a statement explaining the current role in which 'W80' is deployed. This is in the context of the ongoing public inquiry into the fatal shooting of Jermaine Baker on 11th December 2015.
3. W80 was originally suspended from duty on 16th December 2015. There then followed a criminal and misconduct investigation by the IOPC into W80's actions.
4. W80's suspension was rescinded on 26th June 2017, following the CPS's decision earlier that month that W80 would not face any criminal charges. W80 returned to duty after his suspension was lifted.
5. Since W80 returned from suspension, he has not performed an operational role at any time. He has been posted to various administrative and support roles and he is currently posted to one of our training teams.
6. The training teams within the Firearms Command are responsible for training all of the authorised firearms officers (AFOs) in the MPS. This includes initial training courses for new firearms officers as well as the mandatory continuation and refresher training for all current AFOs. This training requirement is a significant undertaking and requires around 230 permanent officers and staff. These officers and staff have a variety of roles, ranging from lead firearms instructors to administrative support.
7. W80's main duties currently involve supporting one of our continuation training teams in administrative functions. This includes, for example, booking facilities and accommodation, managing the vehicle fleet and the input of training records onto the MPS training system. From time to time, he also assists the training team by adopting a role in a training scenario, such as playing a member of the public. W80 is not involved in any training that involves the use of live ammunition and he is not involved in any training of CTSFO tactics such as those that were used during the operation where Jermaine Baker was killed.
8. I believe that this role is suitable for W80. It is a meaningful role that provides essential support to his colleagues and is a key enabler for this critical training. It provides good value to the public who pay his salary. It supports W80's wellbeing by ensuring that he has meaningful and valued responsibilities.



3rd August 2021