

Riverside Police Department
Continuation Sheet

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05/25/12

245(d)(1)PC

File #P12-030492
Det. Medici #203

Present during the interview:

Detective Mike Medici
Detective Ron Sanfilippo
Detective Rick Wheeler (Assist with sign language)

Interview:

On Thursday 03/01/12, Detective Ron Sanfilippo and I interviewed witness Harold Smith in an interview room at the Magnolia Street Police Station. Detective Rick Wheeler assisted us with the interview by using sign language to communicate with Smith. Smith is deaf and mute but he can read lips proficiently.

Smith told us that on 03-01-12, prior to the incident in question he was at his apartment complex at [REDACTED]. He and his girlfriend were packing and preparing to move out of their apartment. Smith said he saw Brandon Dunbar on the grounds of the apartment complex visiting with several other people outside. He's met Dunbar before through other acquaintances that they both had in common. Smith said he believed Dunbar [REDACTED]. Just prior to the incident, an unknown female friend of Dunbar's asked Smith if he would drive Dunbar to the eastside of Riverside. Smith said he first said, "No" because he didn't have money for gas but then Dunbar offered him \$20 to take him so Smith agreed.

Smith said he never knew that Dunbar was concealing a handgun on his person until he heard about it from officers after the shooting was over. Smith said all he was supposed to do was drive Dunbar to the area of the Food 4 Less Store on University Avenue at Chicago in Riverside. He didn't know why and he didn't ask. Smith said shortly after they left his apartments on Lincoln he saw the patrol car pass them and then make a U-turn to get behind them. Smith said he was on probation and he immediately pulled over on Anna Street when he saw the overhead lights of the patrol car go on behind them.

Smith said one officer took him out of the car first. When Smith was out of the car and being searched he saw a second officer removed Dunbar from the passenger side of the vehicle. Smith saw Dunbar run from the officer as soon as he got out of the car but he was not able to see anything beyond Dunbar initially running. Smith said the officer still with him immediately put him in the back of the patrol car. Smith said he did not see anything else beyond that.

Smith never witnessed the shooting. He was released after the interview with no charges pending against him. Detective Rick Cobb released the van that Smith was driving back to Smith's girlfriend from the crime scene later the same night.

No further details.