

**Evidence Title: Sgt. [REDACTED] USCP.MP3**

**This transcript has been verified by [REDACTED]**

**This transcript starts at Jan 16, 2021 4:01 PM -05:00 and is 16m 39s in length**

Agent [REDACTED] Today's date is January 6th, 2021. It is approximately 1855 hours. I am Agent [REDACTED] of the of the Internal Affairs Division we are located at the US Capitol Police headquarters at a 119 D street. Northeast present is the witness in this admin; excuse me, in this criminal matter, sir, would you please introduce yourself? I am Sergeant [REDACTED] United States Capitol Police. I work in the House Chamber section of the United States Capitol police. Thanks for record factor and your pin [REDACTED]. Also, present to serve you. Please introduce yourself

Sergeant [REDACTED] NPD, uh,

Agent [REDACTED] ID agent [REDACTED] And sir, if you please, Special Agent [REDACTED] [REDACTED] United States, Capitol Police, Criminal Investigations. Thank you very much for that, sir. As I said, you are a witness in this criminal matter for, uh, you were, uh, to the, uh, officer involved shooting that happened earlier today. Yes I was. So if you would, sir, uh, you said your tour duty started at 1300 hours. If you've kind of work me through your, what happened today, sir?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Sure. I arrived at work at 1300 hours. Got to my desk. Uh, Sergeant [REDACTED] had asked me when he saw me, if I can come up and we can start getting the, uh, the House Chambers ready. We, we thought we may go into a lock-down because the protest had started in front, on the East, front and West front of the Capitol. So we, we had gone up there and we were preparing the floor just in case we would have to lock down.

Sergeant [REDACTED] And we were talking to all of our officers and letting them know if they knew the exact procedures for doing that. Uh, we were liaisoning with the Sergeant at Arms office to what we would do if we've had to get the members out of that area or where we would take them. Where were they? What was their route of? They were going to travel. Uh, the House went into the Capitol Division, went into lock-down. I'm not exactly sure what time, cause we were just, we would run around so much. I didn't even, I wasn't aware of any time at any point in this whole situation that happened. Uh, so I do remember us starting to get the way we had told the members that they had to go because there was a breach in the Capitol and protesters were starting to bang on the main door of the house floor.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Uh, we moved all of the members out. We had blockaded the East side of the Speakers Lobby, which would give them direct access onto the House floor. And protestors showed up there, started banging on the door. Shouting. There was a lot of shouting going on. I went back onto the House floor and glass had been broken on the door for the main door of the House floor. Uh, there was a report of shots fired at that time over the radio, the shots fired call. Uh, no someone had yelled at, in, in, on the House floor that shots were fired. And then someone came to me and said, no, it was just glass breaking. So I went across the radio and tried to

correct the shots fired. And then someone came up to me, one of the other officers, I can't remember who it was and said no shots were fired on the house floor.

Sergeant [REDACTED] So I corrected myself again on the radio and said, the report is shots fired on the House floor. Uh, I stepped out of the House floor back into the Speakers Lobby again. And so the glass breaking on the East door of the Speakers Lobby, uh, one of the panes fell out. I saw that officers and Lieutenant Byrd had taken up positions with their guns out. So I pulled my gun out. I took up a position behind one of the pillars on, in the Speakers Lobby. The glass fell out of the window and one of the protesters started to come through. Uh, there was a lot of screaming going on at the time. I heard somebody screaming get back, get back. Uh,

Agent [REDACTED] So,

Agent [REDACTED] So let, let me, uh, see you're in, uh, another pillar upon another pillar in the Speakers Lobby.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes. The pillar, the Speakers Lobby is a, like a, kind of like a hallway. It's a long hallway. We have doors that go onto the House floor and then there's the whole way, but the pillars are there and then there's a lounge area next to it. That's all the members can sit during in between votes. So those pillars of what we took up positions behind.

Agent [REDACTED] Using the clock, the clock directions, where was Lieutenant Byrd, the other officers compared to you?

Sergeant [REDACTED] 12 o'clock.

Agent [REDACTED] So they were, so they were directly in front of you?

Sergeant McKenna: Yes.

Agent [REDACTED] And where was the, uh, door where the person started climbing?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Also, probably at 11 o'clock when I was on the pillar.

Agent [REDACTED] So, so, uh, so the Lieutenant and the other officers were in front of you?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes. So I had a pillar, uh, officer [REDACTED] had the pillar in front of me and then Lieutenant Byrd was actually along the wall where the door was located.

Agent [REDACTED] So, and so, and, and I know there were inaudible and the floor, foot, Lieutenant Byrd is here. Where's the door,.

Sergeant [REDACTED] The door's right here.

Agent [REDACTED] Okay. So the, and the, the person was climbing the other way.

Sergeant [REDACTED] You had two windows and you had two large swing doors that go from the ceiling to the floor and those doors were locked, but what they wound up breaking was the window along the side, pane of the door. And that's where the, uh, the protests started to climb through.

Sergeant [REDACTED] And what did that, can you give a description of that protester? It was a white female black hair. Uh, she was wearing a gray sweater. Uh that's all I really remember about her.

Sergeant [REDACTED] And I remember hearing a shot. I remember seeing her shoulders kind of, cause it's like burned in my brain right now of her shoulders crunching in like the shot had hit her in the chest somewhere and her falling back out of the window that she was trying to climb into. And I do remember after that shouting for, because it did stop the crowd, the crowd, you could actually see that they all took a step back and hands started going up. And so I just started screaming. Everybody stay back, stay back, stay back. Uh, I saw Lieutenant Byrd kinda. I don't know if it was before or after. Cause I was trying to figure this out of, but there was at one point where I remember seeing him and he kind of went like this and then came back up again. Uh, I don't know if that was from him taking the shot and then him stepping back from that shot or if it was before that, I can't, no matter how I tried to rack my brain, I can't, I can't figure out when that happened, but uh, so I don't know if something happened to him where caused him to take the shot or not.

Sergeant [REDACTED] But I mean, I don't, I don't want to.

Agent [REDACTED] And what else recording ,the recording. You can't see your body language. I mean, you said that Lieutenant [REDACTED] uh, excuse me,

Sergeant [REDACTED] Byrd

Agent [REDACTED] Excuse me. Okay. And I'm looking at your name? Not yet. That's why, uh, when Lieutenant Byrd, you said he kind of, you kind of showed that he kind of moved back with like you moved your shoulder back. Yeah.

Sergeant [REDACTED] He kinda, he like an, a ducking or he, he stepped, he stepped back and I don't know if that was from him taking the shot and realizing that he shot somebody and he was like, Oh my God. You know, I actually did what I did, but, uh, I was just, I dunno, I don't know why it was such a crazy, hectic moment that I don't know what else I could add to it. Uh, you know, I think right before that, we, we had just got all the members out.

Sergeant [REDACTED] There was still a Member on the floor when that was going on because he refused to leave. He was over by the door where the shots, where the shots were fired by the main door. So I'm sorry, I'm starting to get out of, uh, context in time here. That was actually before the shot, where I, where, and when I was out on the House floor and I had stepped after that, after making sure that everybody was okay on the House floor, I had stepped out and that's when I saw the glass starting to break on the door and I took my position at the pillar.

Agent [REDACTED] So now when you, do you know about what time that was now?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I have no, no concept of time on that. I understand.

Agent [REDACTED] Now when you saw the woman climbing through, could you see if she had anything in her hand or anything that could you hear saying anything?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I could not hear anything. I, I didn't see. I didn't see anything in her hands now. Like I said, I saw her climbing through the window and uh, just her shoulders, just

Agent [REDACTED] from your, uh, how did you know Lieutenant Byrd that fired?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I didn't until after,

Agent [REDACTED] So you just heard the shot.

Sergeant [REDACTED] I heard the shot.

Agent [REDACTED] And you had came from, in front of you between the know.....

Sergeant [REDACTED] If someone in front of me shot, I don't, I wasn't, I suspected it might've been him just from the way the sound and where the sound came from. But I did not know until after, when, when he looked really upset and I said, what, you know? And then he was like, I was the one who took the shot and I was like....

Agent [REDACTED] Did he say anything else besides that?

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, his eyes were red. He was, you could see he was visibly upset and he, uh, just, you know, kind of comfort him and told him, you know, we gotta get outta here.

Sergeant [REDACTED] We gotta,

Agent [REDACTED] What did he do at that point?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Uh, we all got rounded up everybody to make sure we did a head count on all of our officers to make sure everybody was there. When we did that, uh, we were asking where we should go, what we should do. And we wanted to get off the House floor because there was pepper spray all in the area. So we'd gone down through the tunnel, over to the Rayburn subway. And at that point we were just basically helping anybody who came over from the Capitol, where to, I think they were grouping people in the, uh, in the [REDACTED] and the Members. They were grouping up in, uh, [REDACTED].

Agent [REDACTED] Where you fit people like staffers,

Sergeant [REDACTED]: Staffers, staffers, press, anybody that was stuck in the Capitol when the, when everything jumped off.

Agent [REDACTED] So when you say the shot goes off, you see the woman go down, what did you do? What did you do immediately after that?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Uh, I just started yelling for everybody to get back, get back because I didn't want anybody else try to get through that window. And I could see that, that it, you know, in their anger, I guess, and shot, you know, their anger kind of dissipated and took over shock, took over. Cause like I saw some guys with their hands go up and so I just wanted to make sure that they didn't try to get back in the door again. So that's when I just started screaming, get back, get back. Don't come in that don't come in this door. Don't come in this door.

Agent [REDACTED] Did you do go up to her.

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, no, no. I maintained my position.

Agent [REDACTED] Did you see anyone go? Did you see anyone go up to her?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I saw somebody was in the, in the window and was yelling at us. couldn't even hear what he was yelling. Cause it was so crazy at that time, but it almost looked like one of the Sergeant at Arms guys, cause I could recognize, saw his beard underneath his, and I think he was saying somebody call for help or something like that. And I think it came over the radio that we needed medical attention at the.....

Agent [REDACTED] Who do you think that was, if he was one of the Sergeant at Arms people?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Ah, I don't know. I just recognized his face, not his name,

Agent [REDACTED] so, and this is my own ignorance of the intricacies of your agency. So I apologize.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Sure.

Agent [REDACTED] Um, so the there's other people who worked for the Sergeant at Arms that are not Capitol police officers?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes.

Agent [REDACTED] And what would their title be?

Sergeant McKenna: Uh,

Agent [REDACTED] Did it have a title or they know they

Sergeant [REDACTED] No they just worked for the Sergeant at Arms office. I don't know any titles. I just know that they help out on the House floor and you know, they helped to maintain, or they usually help run the House floor basically. I mean we're protection and security, but they're the ones that run the day to day operations.

Agent [REDACTED] So they're not armed?

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, no they're there for like their staff,

Agent [REDACTED] Their staff.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes. And that Sergeant arms office...

Agent [REDACTED] That was unclear about that ain't man, I didn't even know that existed that he had staff like that.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Right.

Agent [REDACTED] So then after that, how, who made the determination for you guys to go down into the subway? How did that?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I think it was a Lieutenant Byrd had said, you know, when he first didn't want to get a head count and make sure that everybody was there, we did that. Uh, made sure everybody was accounted for that. We had up there with us all this before this started, we have 15 officers that were posted up there. So we wanted to make sure we had the 15 before we went back down again.

Agent [REDACTED] So you and the other 14 officers moved down

Sergeant [REDACTED] And Sergeant [REDACTED] So it was it, the two sergeants were myself and Sergeant [REDACTED] Lieutenant Byrd, and then the 15 officers.

Agent [REDACTED] What is Sergeant [REDACTED] position. And what was he, was he in charge of the, uh, uniform detail that

Sergeant [REDACTED] He's worked with me where we both worked together as the sergeants for the House Chamber section.

Agent [REDACTED] So, so that, so then that's when you guys went back downstairs.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yep. And that's when we made our way down the stairs or down the elevator to the basement and the basement over to the Rayburn building.

Agent [REDACTED] Yeah. And I know this is kind of obvious, but, but I'm gonna ask you any anyhow. You've worked for the Capitol police department for [REDACTED] now.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes.

Agent [REDACTED] This was not a typical day was it.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Definitely not my craziest day there,

Agent [REDACTED] nothing like this has happened with now, has it.

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, I'd say the closest one was, I don't know if you guys remember when we had the, the shots fired back in 2004, 2005 in the Rayburn building or what they thought it was. And we locked down the whole building and had to search floor to floor.

Agent [REDACTED] I vaguely recall that.

Sergeant [REDACTED] That was, that was my first craziest day. Now this one, definitely top that one.

Agent [REDACTED] I was [REDACTED] and that happened. I think that's where I was, but I do remember that. Yeah. Not an everyday occurrence.

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, definitely not. No.

Agent [REDACTED] Yeah. Do you have anything you would like to

Sergeant [REDACTED] same thing as far as the crowd were, what were your actions? Was it what was like the whole,

Sergeant [REDACTED] Oh, it was that they wanted to get in there. I mean, they, they were, they, they came right up to the door and just started smashing. I mean, they had guys in the front that I saw the window to the door crack. And then when I saw the, they started smashing that side window, I guess that side window kind of gave on them. So you could see them getting over there and trying to push that through. And I don't know who actually did it, but I just remember seeing the window and it came out like a whole pane came down.

Agent [REDACTED] Who was smashing out that window?

Sergeant [REDACTED] I don't know if they were using their fists or if they were had something with them. I mean, I know I saw her a couple of flags, so I don't know if they were using the flags to kind of

Agent [REDACTED] Like the pole,

Sergeant [REDACTED] The pole to bang in the window. I wasn't sure what they used, but by the way, the windows, uh spidered I guess you could say it probably was some kind of pole or something like that that they, if I had to guess.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Not to pull your man card at all. Was this a frightening situation?

Sergeant [REDACTED] Oh yeah.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Oh yeah. I mean, when, when we went to lock down and you know, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Whenever they came in.

Agent [REDACTED] What's [REDACTED]

Sergeant [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Agent [REDACTED] Okay. Well, once again is my ignorance.

Sergeant [REDACTED] No, no, no problem. I'm sure if you used acronyms like, what's that? Huh?

Agent [REDACTED] Well, its the kind of thing police agencies are all kind of the same, but they're not identical.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yeah.

Agent [REDACTED] So,

Sergeant [REDACTED] But yeah, I'm not afraid to say I was, I was scared shit. I'd never been in that situation and all I kept thinking is we're actually going to stay in here and we're going to wait for them to come and we'll be trapped in here. And that's the way I felt. I felt trapped because if they would've came around to the other side, if they would've blocked the West side at the same time, they blocked the East side and they had that main entrance blocked. We weren't getting out of there and the Members would have been trapped in there also. The only thing that saved us from getting, being able to get the members out was that they only came to the East side and we were able to open up the West side and shoot everybody down the stairs there.

Agent [REDACTED] Right. I don't think I have any other questions, sir. Sir. Is there anything else you'd like to add to your statement that would help us resolve the situation? I think I covered it. All right. I do. Thank you for your time. I do want to remind you that this is a confidential criminal case.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

Agent [REDACTED] And that once this interview is concluded with the exception of any disclosures necessary for kind of legal representation or legal proceedings or any kind of medical or counseling needs, you may not discuss the contents of this interview with anyone. Okay.

Sergeant [REDACTED] Yes, sir.

Agent [REDACTED] All right, then I'm going to end the recording at this time. It is approximately 1912 hours.