

WITNESS STATEMENT

Statement of Winchroy Budhoo

Occupation: Police

Rank: Assistant Commissioner of Police

Station: Area 1 Headquarters

Telephone: 952-2417

States,

This statement consisting of two(2). page(s) each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature Date 5/4/2016

States,

I am presently the commanding officer in charge of Area One, with Head Quarters situated at # 9 Sewell Avenue, Montego Bay in the parish of St James.

In May 2010 I was stationed at the Mobile Reserve Division in the parish of St. Andrew and was a part of the operation in West Kingston. I, along with Major Goulbourne was in charge of Headquarters' Company and as a result of my involvement I was required to testify at the West Kingston Commission of Enquiry appointed by the Governor General to inquire into the events.

On Tuesday March 22, 2016 I received a notice from the Commission Secretary titled "Proposed Adverse Comments' , which proposed the following adverse findings;

"Supt Winchroy Budhoo's evidence is worthless. His credibility was destroyed by the several corrections he sought to make to his witness statement and the reasons he gave for making the corrections. We deprecate his corrections to his evidence after seeing Sgt. Waugh's evidence on television and secondly, in response to a telephone conversation with superintendent Turner after Turner had seen part of Supt. Budhoo evidence on television. Such an approach to sworn evidence does not only adversely affect the quality and reliability of Supt. Budhoo's evidence.it is also unworthy of senior police office of Supt Budhoo's rank. Above all it should never happen."

It is inconceivable and beyond my imagination that the Commission could ever propose to use the word "worthless" and in such a finding which only seeks to malign my character as it is without any evidential support or basis. The reason for the Commission of Enquiry is to establish the "truth" and I only sought to achieve this by making the relevant corrections/and or amendments on record and under oath.

Sign. Date..... 5/4/2016

The proposed finding makes clear to me that the Commission does not appreciate what my role as it was in the Operation , i.e., that I was at Command Post along with ACP Donovan Graham and that the information that I sought to provide was information not within my specific knowledge, but information that I received. I am amazed that the Commission would seek to disparage my reputation in circumstances where I sought to ensure that the understanding they have is correct.

The information which I had in my possession at the time of the operation in May 2010 was supplied to me by Sergeants, Waugh and Pratt. Having heard their testimonies I consulted and conceded that I may have recorded the wrong information and there is no other way of verifying the correctness of the information but to go to the sources themselves. I made the relevant corrections in good faith. I do not believe that making corrections should be regarded as worthless and be treated in such a manner by the commission. What I regard as worthless would have been to not make the corrections when it I discovered them.

There is no other information on record which contradicts these corrections that I made.


Regarding the telephone conversation with Supt. Turner; this was in relation to a question that was asked of me by Commission Counsel Symone Mayhew, as to whether Inspector Linroy Edwards was a part of Superintendent Turner's team. I ought to have not answered, as it was information within the specific knowledge of Superintendent Turner: Instead I gave the answer in which I stated that I believed he was a part and this based on prior relations between the two officers.

Supt. Turner called and corrected me and so I made the necessary corrections and made it known to the Commission that this information was supplied to me by Supt. Turner who had heard the evidence. The correction was supported by the testimonies of Inspector Linroy Edwards and Lt Col Mahatma Williams. Again, I was asked about information that was outside of my specific area of responsibilities. Not only did I correct at the earliest, but I indicated who it was that I spoke to.

I have served the Jamaica Constabulary Force for almost 36 years with distinction. My Integrity, judgement and commitment to the Jamaican People is without question. It is only human to make an error. What is worthless is not to have corrected myself. My only interest is to ensure that the truth is conveyed to the enquiry.

Commissioners, I humbly submit that the word 'Worthless' be withdrawn and that my evidence be considered as the truth.

I have told the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. I am therefore respectfully in disagreement with your propose adverse finding.

Signatures 
Date 5/4/2016
The signature is a cursive script in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Dugloo'. The date is written in blue ink as '5/4/2016'.