

NAME: MICHELLE LOUISE
BRAND

AGE / DATE OF BIRTH: 24 06111973

Who states:- This statement consisting of 008 pages, 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.

DATED: 170398

M L BRAND (SIGNED)

About 2000 hours on Wednesday 110398 I walked from my flat to the Off-Licence in South Road opposite the Village Inn Public House. I went in and purchased two tins of dog food. At this time I think there was only one other customer, but I remember who it was. I decided that I would wait for my friend Claire DYMOND to finish work at the Village Inn where she was a Barmaid. I stood outside the Off-Licence. I have drawn a sketch plan of the area which I can produce as Exhibit MLB/1. I have marked where I was standing waiting for Claire as (1). There were some other people standing at the front of the Off-Licence. They were Mitchell WHIPPS, Gary WYBROW, Le-Anne RILEY. I was talking to Mitchell as Claire came out of the Pub. She was with another girl called Vicky DEFREITAS. The two girls walked across the road to where I was standing. I can't remember if Claire went into the Off-Licence or not, but we stood on the forecourt of the Off-Licence for about five minutes. During this time I remember seeing Sam BROADBRIDGE sitting on the bonnet of a car which was parked on the edge of the car park. I have marked this position as (2). The colour of this car is blue. I don't know what make or model. There

were two boys talking to him, but I don't know who they were. I think there was also a girl sitting in the passenger seat of the car.

Whilst I was standing at (1) I saw a man I know as Dave SIBLEY walk from my left. He was with another man whom I didn't recognise. I shouted hello to them, they replied hello back and walked into the Pub through the front doors. I had been standing with Claire and Vicky for about five minutes when I heard banging and crashing coming from inside the Pub. I looked over and could see a lot of people moving around but I couldn't make out anyone specific inside the Pub.

I can't remember if Sam was still there then or not at this time.

I then saw two people I know to be Jason and Brian BOLGER come out of the Pub. They carrying a man I would describe as, white, shoulder length dark hair, quite tall, skinny. His face was bloody. I think he had stubble on his face. He was wearing blue dirty jeans. I can't remember what he had on his top half. Jason and Brian were on each side of this man with one of their arms under each of his. They carried this man, who wasn't struggling in any way, to the edge of the footpath as indicated as (3). They continued into the road about six feet. The next series of events appeared to happen all at once.

Brian and Jason drop the man. As he hit the floor a car travelling from left to right past the Pub almost hit Gary. I'm

not sure if the car hit Gary or not, it was that close. The car was a big one. My dad drives a Carlton and it was about the same size. I can't remember the colour of the car and I don't know the make or model. I can't remember how many people were in the car. The car stopped at the bus stop for a few seconds then drove off towards North Ockendon.

I remember seeing four or five people come out of the Pub at this time. One of them was Craig WICKS. One of them was wearing a white woollen jumper. He had his arms up in the air above his head. I think he had a broken bar stool in his hands. Once Jason and Brian had dropped the man they were carrying whom I will refer to as Male (1) they stood back for a split second. The group of people came out of the Pub and stood just behind Jason and Brian. There was lots of shouting and screaming coming from this group. I can't recall what was said specifically. This group then began kicking Male (1) whilst he was on the floor. The group appeared to be jostling with each to get at the man on the floor. During this period I saw Jason and Brian kick the man on the floor, who didn't appear to move at all. This part from the time the group came out of the pub to them kicking the man lasted a matter of seconds. The group then ran all except Brian and Jason. The group ran along South Road towards the Garden Centre. I can't remember what happened to the bar stool.

At this time I saw a car pull up outside the Pub position (4). Claire walked across the road and walked straight into the Pub. I called after her and followed a few yards behind. As I walked

across the road I walked in a big arc. As I crossed the road I saw a man get out of the car, which was a big posh sports car. It looked brand new. It was a light colour. As he went to get out of the car Brian and Jason approached the man. There was also a lady in the car. The man shouted to the boys, "Leave it out."

He then got back in his car and locked the doors. Brian went to driver's door and punched the window. Jason was at the front of the car. I saw him punch the bonnet. At this time I was standing at position (5). The man then reversed his car to get out of the way. Jason and Brian stood and looked around as if they were deciding where they were going next. Whilst Brian and Jason were at the car I was screaming at them, "Stop Jay stop." I was also screaming at the people in the car, "Get in the car, go, go."

Jason and Brian then walk over to where Male (1) was lying. They began kicking and using their feet to roll this man's lifeless body over and over. I think at one point one of them grabbed his feet and dragged his body to the kerb side. They left the body lying on his back. I ran over and grabbed Jason from behind. I grabbed his clothing and pulled him backwards. He turned. I was saying, "Jay, stop it, calm down, what's the matter. Jay, Jay, stop it."

He didn't say anything. He just looked around. His eyes were wide open as though they were going to pop out of his head. They were glassy and he was just staring through me as though I

was invisible. I kept screaming at him, and at one point he tried to pull away. I said to him, "Leave it Jay he's dead, he's dead."

I can't remember where Brian was at this time. I screamed, "Jay", as I was tugging at his arm as he was trying to pull free.

Suddenly a man appeared from nowhere, although I had seen him earlier outside the Off-Licence I will refer to him as Male (2). At this time we were standing at point (6) with me with my back to the Pub wall. Male (2) came over and stood between me and Jay. He said something but I can't remember what. Jay began pushing the man. I stepped out of the way. Jay pushed the man up against the Pub wall to where I had been standing. I screamed, "Leave him Jay."

I tried to Jay away from the man. Jay didn't say anything. It was as though he was possessed. I couldn't pull Jay off the man so I stepped back. The man ran into the bar. Jay chased him into the Pub. I then saw Brian follow Jason. Before he went inside I remember he looked at me and saw this evil glare in his eyes. He appeared to look right through me.

There appeared to be a lot of people standing around in groups, but no-one was doing anything. I walked over to the body laying on the ground motionless. I remember what appeared to be steam coming off the body. It was at this point I went hysterical. I ran over to where Mitchell was standing with Vicky, and Le-Anne.

I was reminded by Vicky that I was pregnant and should try to calm down because I was shaking uncontrollably. I looked over my shoulder and saw Jason and Brian come out of the Pub. They approached Male (1). I turned and said to Le-Anne, "Don't look."

She was crying. We started walking towards the phone box. I didn't know what to do. Then I decided to go and get Darren, Jason and Brian's older brother. If anyone could bring them back to reality then he could. Both Jason and Brian were walking around the forecourt of the Pub as though they were hyper and didn't know what to do next. Both looked agitated. They went towards Male (1) several times as though they were guarding him. Preventing anyone going anywhere him. Almost like an animal would guard his prey after he has killed it. I then saw several police vehicles turn up. I can't remember how many, but I have indicated the ones I can remember as points (7) and (8). I saw Jason and Brian run from Male (1) towards the police.

As this went on I turned and ran down an alleyway which runs along the rear of the houses facing South Road. I then ran to Darren's flat in Celandine Close. I told him there had been a fight and his brothers had been involved. We both ran down the stairs to his flat and then Darren ran ahead of me. I walked back to the Pub which was about two hundred yards away from the flat. I can't remember exactly the route I took back but I ended up outside the Off-Licence was again. I looked across at the Pub and saw Brian was on his knees with his hands cuffed behind his back. He was shouting, "Fucking DF's, he gave my brother

DF's. Do you know what they do to you?"

He kept on repeating this. I couldn't see where Jason was, but I saw Darren walking from point (9) where Brian was towards the car park out of my view and back again several times. So I assume Jason was somewhere in the car park. There were lots of people milling around. I remember seeing Paul McCLEARY and Dave SIBLEY in the crowd that were standing outside the house next to the Off-Licence.

Gary WYBROW then came up to me and told me that Male (1) was as he put it was, "Piss head Gal."

I knew this man to be Gary who lived close to my flat. I then felt sick in the stomach because it was someone that I knew had been assaulted in this way, so I went to my boyfriend's mum's house which is in Viola Close. I have seen someone showing the same staring spaced out look, violent actions, and similar mannerisms to those which I saw from Jason and Brian on this night. This was when an ex-boyfriend took the drug DF and alcohol then assaulted me.

M L BRAND SIGNED

STATEMENT TAKEN
PLACE:

TIME: DATE: 170398

WITNESS TO SIGNATURE:

OFFICERS SIGNATURE: DC2350 DAY