EDISON POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT EDISON, NJ

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT OF:

OFFICER JOSEPH KENNEY

STATEMENT TAKEN BY:

LT. GREGORY P. FORMICA

DATE OF STATEMENT:

AUGUST 6, 2008

TRANSCRIBED BY:

MARILYN V. SUTKOWSKI EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

LT: This is Lt. Gregory P. Formica of the Edison Police Department. I am presently here in the Internal Affairs Offices at Edison Police Department. The date today is 8-6-08. The time now is 2220 hours. I am here with Officer Joseph Kenney regarding the incidents that occurred on D Squad starting on 7-3-08. Officer Kenney, please spell you last name for me?

OFF:

K-E-N-N-E-Y, Badge 220.

LT:

How long have you been a police officer with this department, sir?

OFF:

23 years.

LT:

You are presently assigned to D Squad, correct?

OFF:

Yes.

LT: Go back to the initial day of July 3rd when you were working for the first time with Sgt. Glinsky. You come into Muster. Can you tell me what happened on that day in Muster if you recall as best you can?

OFF: I reported for Muster, after Roll Call I went into the Watch Commander's office Lt. Staback, excuse me Lt. Polkowitz, and there were several jobs on the front desk. I went upstairs to handle these assignments.

LT: Okay, well prior to that before Muster started, do you recall somebody saying, "Are you going to play nice this time? Do you recall anybody saying that by any chance?

OFF:

Yes, I believe I heard Officer Sisolak say that.

LT: How did Sgt. Glinsky respond to that? Did he say it as a joke or did he take it as an offensive?

OFF:

I took it as a joke. I don't believe I heard any response from Sgt.

Glinsky.

LT: So on that day, you go into the Watch Commander's office and then you take some jobs up at the desk, correct?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Did they call you on that day? Did headquarters call you not knowing that you were upstairs on the desk?

OFF: Not to my knowledge. I was up on the desk taking the assignments. I don't have a walkie-talkie on. I don't recall.

LT: So you go through the rest of the day. There is a motor vehicle accident on that night on Road 2 and Cedar Lane?

OFF: Yes, later on in the evening, yes that's right. At the front desk.

LT: You hear some cars respond. Next thing you know, well tell me in your own words what happened at that point in time?

OFF: It was about 2130 hours. There was a call of a motor vehicle accident on I believe it was Road 2 and Kilmer Road. They sent to radio cars. I heard one of the officers that was arriving, he said we have a confirmed 56, which is a death. A short while later I heard Sgt. Glinsky on the air. He said he had two individuals trapped in the vehicle. At this time I responded to the scene.

LT: You responded to the scene. What happens from there? OFF: As I arrive on the scene, there are two or three other radio cars on scene already. As I exit the vehicle, I observe what appears to be a male literally cut in half on the street with parts of his body on the grassy area. I realized there was nothing I could do for that individual. I ran to where I observed a car on the grassy area flipped over. Standing near the car was Sgt. Glinsky. He said to me we have two people trapped in the car. I responded, "Well, lets get them out". I went to the passenger side of the vehicle which I couldn't get into the car. I went to the driver's side of the vehicle which I couldn't get into the car. The car at this time was up on its roof. I managed to go to the rear of the car, get on my belly and slide under the car. At this time the car was smoking and steaming. I honestly thought the car was going to burst into flames. I observed two individuals in the front seat, the driver and passenger were both hanging upside down in their seat belts. I took out my knife and I cut the driver out of the vehicle who was choking in what appeared to be on his blood struggling for air. Once I cut him from his seat belt, still in the vehicle, I managed to get him and clear his airway where he had debris and stuff in his mouth. I took him and pulled him out of the rear of the vehicle on my belly and got him out. At that time, there was a First Aid was there. I said to him, he is still alive so he wouldn't continue to pull in. Before re-entering the vehicle, I looked around and I remember saying something to the effect, "where is Sgt. Glinsky". I observed no other officers. At this time, I went back on my belly, went back under the car which was again smoking and I thought that any second it was going to burst into flames. I cut the second individual, the passenger out of his seatbelt. He fell. He became trapped within the vehicle. As I tried to pull him, I couldn't free him from the debris. I got on my portable unit and I made a transmission, please help me get

these individuals out of the car. I again tried to pull the individual and I still couldn't free. I went back on my walkie talkie a second time and said can you please send me some help? I can't get this guy out of the vehicle. I put my walkie away. I pulled so hard on this individual that he fell on me, basically trapping me under the vehicle, between the roof of the vehicle and the grassy area. I managed to get the guy free, pulled him to the rear of the vehicle also and as I exited the vehicle with him, two officers came up. I laid him on the ground, tried to clear his airway, assist with some first aid, but I had received severe burns to my right arm and I had severe chest pains which ultimately were fractured ribs. The two young officers took over administering first aid. At that time, I went and told Sgt. Mintchwarner what happened, what my burns were. I went to the EMS bus, they poured water on my burns, on my bloody hands, at which time I told Sgt. Stein, who was in charge of D squad at the time, and along with him went to JFK Hospital and was treated for my injuries.

LT: Treated, came back to headquarters and ready to go home?

OFF: Yes, I was treated and released.

LT: Come to work the next day, Muster goes on, Sgt. Vaticano gives Muster, asks if anybody else wants to say anything and you then address Sgt. Glinsky, right?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Can you tell me what you said to him?

OFF: Yes. I had said to Sgt. Vaticano, when he had said Joe are you all right after that motor vehicle accident last night, I said I'll be fine but I have something to say. Sgt. Glinsky was standing at roll call also. I said to him basically, what were you thinking last night? His reply was nothing. I said where were you last night, how come you didn't help me? His reply was nothing. I said to him, if you don't like me, I said there is no reason to get me hurt. I responded to that scene, Al, because you called for help. When you called for help, I went to the scene of the motor vehicle accident. Why didn't you help me get those two young college kids out of the car? His reply was, that's not my job, that's the first aiders job. I have a lot on my mind. Then I went on to tell him basically how I felt. After a short period of time, I walked into the Watch Commanders office with Sgt. Vaticano and Lt. Polkowitz.

LT: You went on the road that day?

OFF: I went on the road that day.

LT: Any other problems you had with Sgt. Glinsky on that day?

OFF: Not that evening, no.

LT: What about on Saturday?

OFF: On Saturday, about quarter to one in the morning, Sgt. Glinsky got on the air and I'm in Unit 38, he said Unit 38 I want to see you at the Pines. I said

can you give me a minute because I was talking to Sgt. Stein. He said no, get over here immediately. I told Sgt. Stein that I had to respond to the rear of the Pines Manor, which I did. I responded to the rear of the Pines Manor and he said to me, Sgt. Glinsky said to me I want you to come in at the end of the night. I said I do that already. At which time, Sgt. Mintchwarner pulled up along side of me and Sgt. Glinsky said I want you to call out of service at 10 minutes to 2. I said I do that already also. I said do you have anything further. He said no. Then I drove back to police headquarters. I went into police headquarters at 10 minutes to 2, went downstairs, he was standing in the Watch Commanders office, he requested that I come into the Watch Commanders office along with Lt. Spielman on the desk that night. He had what appeared to be two performance notices informing me that he is going to counsel me on the time I come off the road and call out service. I refused to sign them and I took them into my possession and at 2:30 that evening I went home.

LT: The next day, Sunday starts, come in for Muster. Tell me what happens at that Muster on Sunday?

OFF: Basically Sunday at Muster, Deputy Chief Tom Bryan was at Muster and Sgt. Glinsky made a comment at Muster that there will no longer be discussing anything regarding....the only things discussed at Muster will be the schedule. Nothing else will be discussed at roll call. After Muster, Deputy Chief, along with Sgt. Vaticano, Sgt. Stein, Sgt Glinsky and Lt. Polkowitz went into the (inaudible) and had a closed door discussion.

LT: And you hit the road?

OFF: Then I hit the road.

LT: Any problems that night at all?

OFF: No.

LT: Okay. Prior to go on tape, I think you addressed there was some problems with (inaudible) numbers with Sgt. Glinsky before in the past right?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Can you explain that to me again please?

OFF: Going back several years ago, I have three nephews. Presently two of them are State Troopers and one is on the East Brunswick Police Department. They were at a party. When they came out of the party, an individual had hit them on the head with a metal object given them stitches to the head. At the time, my sister lived on Edison Township. It was approximately 3 o'clock in the morning. I received a phone call from my sister that at the time Ptl. Glinsky refused to take a police report in reference to the injuries to my three nephews. I asked that Ptl. Glinsky get on the phone. I said to him, Al, they are my nephews, please take a police report. He became very combative with me and basically refused. One of my nephew's father was a Captain on the East Brunswick Police Department, Ken O'Conner and he insisted that Ptl. Glinsky take the report and he became combative will also my brother-in-law. At the time, Sgt. Joe Vasta arrived on the

scene and he basically ordered Ptl. Glinsky to take a police report and my three nephews were also treated at JFK Hospital for head injuries.

LT: That is not the first incident. There are other incidents also with I think you son in the past?

OFF: Yes, my son, he had, my son, my son is now a police officer in Edison Township. Prior to being hired on the police department, he got into a verbal confrontation in reference to the job at a local tavern here in town, threatening him that you're not a cop yet and if I basically have anything to say about it, you won't become an Edison Police officer.

LT: Anything else you think Sgt. Glinsky is doing? Well, let's go back. I think before we went on tape, I guess you are aware that Sgt. Glinsky made some statements about one of the K-9's, he said something in the Muster Room one day? OFF: Yes, going back a couple of months prior, he made a comment about, one of the K-9 dogs at roll call was sniffing the carpet. He made a comment that because we locked up some fucken nigger last night. Officer Jeff Suriano was present at the time.

LT: Did also he make comments about Officer Rodriguez at any time?

OFF: On several occasions he'd make comments about Officer Rodriguez that he is nothing but a dirty spic.

LT: Also in reference to, I think you had second knowledge about some comments made about Officer in the second knowledge about some is that correct?

OFF: Yes, several officers had come to me, this was approximately a month and a half ago at the midnight roll call, he was addressing the officers, Sgt. Cimmino was present, he made the comment in reference to Officer, she is apparently pregnant and the rumor is that she is pregnant by another Edison Police officer. That's her business. Sgt. Glinsky at roll call stated, she's nothing but a dirty fucken whore and she should be killed. We should abort her baby and kill her baby, which I think is totally, totally outrageous for a sergeant to make a comment like that.

LT: Do you fell that Sgt. Glinsky is targeting just you or other people he is targeting also on the squad?

OFF: I honestly believe that Sgt. Glinsky has some type of personality disorder. Is he targeting me, yes. Has he targeted my family in the past, yes. He is also targeting other officers, being very tyrannical in the way he supervises.

LT: According to this petition that was find, this Operations Report, this Inter-Office correspondence? Did you generate that?

OFF: No.

LT: Do you know who generated it?

OFF: I don't know for sure. I believe it was Officer Rodriguez.

LT: Okay and did you sign it?

OFF: Yes, I did.

LT: Okay and you signed it of your free will, not being intimidated?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Was anybody intimidated when you were signing it?

OFF: Not to my knowledge.

LT: Were there any superiors in the room when this was being passed around and signed at the end of the shift?

OFF: I believe Sgt. Vaticano was there as I recall. Sgt. Vatican was there, yes. I believe Sgt. Vaticano.

LT: Have you had problems with Sgt. Glinsky in the past?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Okay, the previous time he was assigned to your squad?

OFF: Yes.

LT: Can you just briefly go over what happened with that incident, what he was doing there?

OFF: The same thing, being very tyrannical. This is going back approximately 18 months ago. I had brought it to the attention of the desk lieutenant which at the time was Lt. Staback and Captain Luminiello. I brought it to their attention that he was being very tyrannical in the way he supervised the other guys on the squad, making lewd comments on different jobs, in particular he went on a job where a woman was a little overweight, he would make a comment under his breath, loud enough for the woman to hear it, she's fat and ugly. I know she heard it and I think it is unprofessional to work under these conditions. Ultimately the road lieutenant which was Lt. Pat Kelly, the desk lieutenant was Lt. Staback and the road Captain was Captain John Lumineillo all wrote reports in agreement with my observations of Sgt. Glinsky that he be transferred off the squad immediately and sent to supervisor's school, which was done.

LT: Anything else you think would help with this investigation at this time?

OFF: I just believe the Sgt. Glinsky is tyrannical in the way he supervises men. He is very, very unapproachable. You approach him and try to ask a question, his type of question is that's why I'm a sergeant and you are a patrolman. He is very abrasive to the public. He is always making racial comments on jobs as I said prior, just loud enough for them to hear but not directly towards them. He is very, very, very confrontational with people on the street. Very unapproachable to other officers especially younger officers and his supervisory skills are definitely (inaudible). He can't go on the way he is going on. I personally say that I cannot,

and I will put this on the record, I cannot work under the conditions that I am being forced to work under here with Sgt. Glinsky.

LT: All right. I am going to terminate this statement now at 2240 hours.