

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN [] [] [] [] []

Statement of: Mr Roy Pegrum

Age if 18 or under: *see overleaf (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Retired

This statement (consisting of 1 page(s) each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and 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.

Victim / Witness signature: [Signature] Date: 07/06/18

I am the above named person and I live at the address listed over the page. I have known SCOTT LAFFERTY for around twenty years, ever since he moved into 21 ~~CALTON WALK~~ CALTON WALK, BATH. I used to live at [redacted], and I owned and let [redacted]. I cannot recall if I was still living at CALTON WALK when SCOTT moved in. In any event, as I owned two properties on CALTON WALK, I would regularly visit. I often met with SCOTT and talk. I do not recall the circumstances of our first meeting, except that I would have introduced myself as a neighbour when he moved in. SCOTT seemed a reasonable and intelligent person. He did Oceanic surveys, and was often away on boats. I have an interest in photography, and Scott often expressed an interest in seeing my pictures. We were also both keen on fishing, which was another topic of conversation. He was a bachelor, and never had an apparent girlfriend or anyone whom he co-habited with. He didn't seem to have any male friends who would visit. I never knew anyone to visit him. He did sometimes

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Continuation of Statement of: Ray Peppin

mentions his father, and I was aware that he was American and that he came from SEATTLE WASHINGTON in the UNITED STATES.

Over the course of time I knew SCOTT, I would ~~soon~~ see him with varying degrees of frequency. I let the two properties on CALTON WALK to students. This would mean I would visit the properties more often in the summer for maintenance. This would mean that I could see SCOTT as frequently as twice a week in the summer. During winter I could go a couple of months without seeing him. SCOTT had my phone number, he would generally only ring if there was any problems with my properties. I let 2 students, so this could include moving the bins, and that rubbish hadn't been taken out. He would never ring for a general chat. This situation went on for a number of years.

At Christmas six or seven years ago I received a call from my tenants at 22 CALTON WALK. They could hear running water, and there was a damp patch on the adjoining wall to SCOTT'S property. I managed to get hold of SCOTT. He had been away and the pipes had frozen in his home, the pipes had burst, and SCOTT'S property could not be lived in. I asked SCOTT what he would do, and he told me he was going to reside in West WALES. The frequency of meetings went out of the window, we wouldn't speak for ages. Up to this point I had no cause for concern with SCOTT. I wasn't aware of any mental health concerns.

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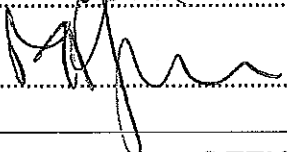
Continuation of Statement of:

Ray Pegrum

He always struck me as a normal bloke. When we did meet, it was sometimes difficult to get away. This may have been a sign of loneliness, this is only a view though. My contact from now was generally limited to maintenance of my properties. Right up until before Christmas 2017 SCOTT was not living at the property, but was in West Wakes. I am aware that he had a financial settlement from the insurance company to carry out the work on his home. I do not know the frequency of his visits to CALTON WALK. We would still sometimes meet up on CALTON WALK to discuss either his or my properties. It wouldn't be social. SCOTT seemed no different during these meetings.

In early summer 2017 I received a phone call from SCOTT. He said he was in the area of my home address and he wanted to come around and see me. This was unusual, although he may have visited me before. I said that of course he can come to my home. SCOTT told me that he had left his partner in West Wakes. I never knew he had a partner. I don't think he mentioned a name at the time. He also said that he was living in temporary holiday accommodation. He said he had two dogs and that it was difficult to get rented accommodation. He seemed a little bit more tense and concerned. He didn't give the impression of being settled. He asked me if I knew somewhere that he would be able to rent. I asked him "WHY DID YOU LEAVE?" and he responded

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Continuation of Statement of: Ray Peggum

that he was "IN FEAR OF HIS LIFE". I was gobsmacked when he said this to me, and didn't know how to respond. A normal person wouldn't say something like this. My first thought was that he had had an out and out "barney" with his partner. This was the first time that something seemed unusual about SCOTT. I didn't pry though.

In July 2017 I had conversation with SCOTT both face to face and via the telephone, about work that needed doing on his property. His garden needed clearing, a tree needed cutting down and his garage door needed replacing. I sorted the contractors out for him and paid them.

He had given me some money in advance. He was still in various accommodation, he never volunteered where they were. I never pursued this as it was awkward. I never pursued the situation in West Wales. I felt awkward asking.

SCOTT never seemed to have money issues, he always gave me cash paid me the money into my account.

Scott and I subsequently had a conversation about his home. I told him his house could be made habitable. We discussed what needed doing, and looked round his property. I gave him details of various tradesmen who had previously worked for me. He bought himself a bathroom and kitchen from "Wicks". He made the top floor perfectly habitable as a self contained unit. I kept on at him to complete the rest of the restoration. He moved into the top floor just prior to Christmas 2017.

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Continuation of Statement of: Ray Pegg

SCOTT offered to pay me for the work I had helped him with eventually I agreed for him to pay my airfare to the UNITED STATES for a holiday I had planned. I didn't want to take money off him. I was helping him as a mate. It wasn't a professional relationship. The air fare cost around £400-£500. The holiday was planned to start on the 29th April 2018.

On the 14th April I went to one of my properties on CALTON WALK to replace a bed. As I was over there I popped in to see SCOTT. He apologized for not opening the door straight away as he had just got up, and he had only just taken his "meds". That's the first indication to me that he was on any form of medication. He didn't say what they were. I asked him what they were for. He reiterated to me that he was still in fear of his life. He seemed tense and jittery. He didn't seem his normal self. I was there for half an hour, and discussed sub contractors for his house. The conversation was reasonable, there was interaction from him. I left him to play squash.

On Monday 16th April I was again on CALTON WALK I knocked on SCOTT'S door, it was raining. He stuck his head out of the window and said he wasn't dressed. I told him it was fine and that I would see him when I got back from my holiday. This was in the mid afternoon. I could tell he only had a vest on. I was on the ground floor and he was two floors up. I had no concerns, except that it was the same as of the previous interaction.

Signature Ray Pegg

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Continuation of Statement of: Roy Pymon

on the 14th, in that it was mid afternoon and he wasn't dressed. This was the last time I saw him

The only dispute I can ever recall he told me about was one SCOTT had been involved in ten or fifteen years before. The dispute involved ownership of equipment he used for work. I do not recall if he ever told me the identity of the person he was in dispute with. I have no further detail

In all the time I knew SCOTT I never thought he would take his own life, he never gave me cause for concern that he would do this

I do have keys to the doors of SCOTT'S property, including his garage. I am aware a lady, IRENE KING, had keys to this property. She lives at [REDACTED]. She gave these keys to me in summer last year as the work was about to commence

SCOTT has left items in my shed, which include a large quantity of paperwork. Most of this is in a rucksack I am certain that there is some laptops and tablets as well. I am also aware that SCOTT has a garage on Holloway. This is chock full of SCOTT'S things

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