

Statement of: Jeremy Shuler (JS)

2 Ref: Isaac Dawkins

3 Officer: Sgt. Stanley Sutton (SS)

4

5 SS: 'Kay this is Sgt. Stanley Sutton with the Floyd County Police Department - 'day's

6 date is December the 22nd a 2000 - it's a Friday morning at 11:06 AM - I'm interviewing Jeremy

7 Shuler at uh, at his place of business which is in Floyd County a Rome - this interview is in

8 reference to a - a homicide case that I'm working back on January 11th of 2000 where Isaac

9 Dawkins had been shot in the back a the head leaving Floyd College and he got shot on Highway

10 27 Floyd County a Rome -- during my interview Mr. Shuler I had uh, interviewed uh, some

11 people and I've interviewed a Adam Elrod that had told me that you had an incident with uh, one

12 a my suspects that I arrested, Joey Watkins, where he had uh, threatened a stab you with a knife -

13 - for the records Jeremy, I want you to state your name please.

14 JS: Jeremy Lee Shuler.

15 SS: And where do you live at Mr. Shuler?

16 JS: Uh, 80 -- 8442 Calhoun Highway.

17 SS: And uh, that a mailing address is --

18 JS: Adairsville, Georgia.

19 SS: But it's still in Floyd County, is that correct?

20 JS: Yes sir.

21 SS: How old are you Jeremy?

22 JS: 22.

SS: Do you know Joey Watkins?

24 JS: Yes sir I do.

25 SS: How long have you known Joey Watkins?

26 JS: Uh, I dated uh, his girlfriend last - about - two - a year or two maybe.

27 SS: 'Bout two years ago?

28 JS: Yeah.

29 SS: Alright, you said you dated his girlfriend, who would that be?

30 JS: Brianne Scarborough.

31 SS: Okay, tell me um, uh, Mr. Shuler - all I ask outta anybody prior to going on tape

32 is - is the truth, is that correct what I asked you --

33 JS: Yes sir.

SS: -- to tell me the truth?

35 JS: Yes sir.

36 SS: Alright tell me in your own words, um, about what happened to you uh, at an

37 incident at Buffalo's.

38 JS: I was - I called uh, Adam and - and asked him where he was eating at and he said

39 he was eating at Buffalo's with his uh, uncle - so I was gone go up 'ere with them and eat and uh,

40 and I noticed somebody follering me and it was Joey in his car - is that Charger - and uh, and so I

41 pulled in Buffalo's and they pulled up beside me and I got out and then just Joey got out and I no-

42 - they was two other guys in the car and uh, Joey started mouthing off about Brianne, mouthing

43 off about what he's gone do 'cause I'd dating Brianne -- and uh, and then he pulled a knife out his

44 pocket, I wouldn't real sure if he opened it, but he pulled it - I knowed he pulled out 'cause he

said - he said "well I'll just stab you right here" - and - and I told him if he stabbed me - or - I said  
46 "well you just" - I said "you come over here and - and I'm on stick that knife up your ass" -- so  
47 he put the knife back up and -- and then the other two guys got out of the car and said, "come on  
48 Joey let's go, let's go, let's don't, let's don't bother, do nothin' here or nothing" - so they got  
49 back in the car and left and uh, and - and I -- all while this was going on I seen Adam and his  
50 brother-in-law going down the - the Turner McCall -- Shorter Avenue right there in front of  
51 Buffalo's and uh, and I knowed they still wouldn't in there so I just got in the truck and left when  
52 they left and went to the house and uh, called Adam and told him what they - what they -- what  
53 they did when I got in my truck and uh, I's wondering why he didn't - I's asking him why he  
54 didn't come over there you know, with me but he ju-- he said "I didn't" - he said "I wouldn't  
55 gone get in the middle of it" and that's when I said "alright" -- and then that's all that happened  
that day and then uh, I think it was three or four days later my mother and daddy went out to eat  
57 and I was at the house by myself and uh, I got a phone call and some - and it was Joey and he said  
58 uh, --

59 SS: Joey who?

60 JS: Watkins.

61 SS: Was the same Joey Watkins that pulled a knife on you at Buffalo's?

62 JS: Yes sir. He called uh, - my phone rang and I answered it and he said uh, he said  
63 "hey boy" and - and I's like who is this, he said "this is Joey" he said - he said "I ought to just  
64 come up there to your house and whoop you ass while they ain't nobody here" - and I didn't  
65 know how he knew nobody was there or nothing unless Brianne told him 'cause I just had left  
66 Brianne's house - and uh, so - so I hung up the phone, I said, I said "man" - I said, "just drop

this" and I hung up the phone and he called right back and he said "I got a shotgun and I'll come  
68 up" and - and I said "well I got 63 acres you know, if you wan come on up here we ain't - I ain't  
69 got a problem with that" and uh, so - so hung up the phone and nothing - nothing - nobody  
70 called no more, my dad pulled - pulled up 'bout right after it happened and I told uh, my daddy,  
71 Bruce Shuler, what happened and he said uh, he said "well just - if it don't happen no more, don't  
72 worry - don't worry with it and just - and just be careful" and uh, and that - and - and I ain't heard  
73 from him since - ain't - ain't seen him - ain't even talked to him - ain't talked to anybody about  
74 him or nothing like 'at until - till this incident happened and then - and then I got to talking with a  
75 - well I talked with Adam and I's like you know, 'cause he's - he said "I don't know who did it  
76 but" and I said "well I don't neither but as much stuff as he's done to us and he's done to  
77 everybody else and - and with Brianne it's gone, it's gone you know, come back to him 'bout you  
know be - to be a pretty good suspect 'bout it" and uh, and that's I - that's all I know 'cause ain't  
79 talked to him.

80 SS:            Alright let me ask you, uh, when he told you he had a shotgun, when he called you  
81 and told you had a shotgun, what'd he say he was gone do with the shotgun, did he make any  
82 comment?

83 JS:            Yeah, he said - well he said "I - I'll just come up there and" - ah, he said "I got a  
84 shotgun and I'll be up there in a minute" - that's what he said and uh, so I had all intentions of  
85 you know, he's gone trying to scare me or some'em 'cause he'd never come up here.

86 SS:            Why - why was he having a har-- a dis-- dislike for you - he pulled a gun, I mean  
87 uh, threatened you with a shotgun and pulled it now why did he disliked you?

88 JS:            Well, when he broke up with his - with Brianne uh, me and him was still buddies

and I said - you know and it was a couple a months after they stopped talking - I said-- well  
90 Brianne uh, got one of her buddies asked me if - if - if I'd want to go out and eat with her-- so -  
91 and I asked Joey, I said "you think it'd be alright" 'cause me and bu-- Joe - Joey and Adam and  
92 Todd and all used to hang out and uh, and he said "yeah, 'at's cool man" he said "I'm not, I'm  
93 through with her" and I said "well alright you wanna go out and eat" and then next thing I know  
94 he's all pissed off at me and pissed off at Adam 'cause - I don't know why he was mad at Adam -  
95 I guess 'cause Adam hung around with me and he mad at Adam and then mad at me at the same  
96 time and --

97 SS: Mad at you because you dated Brianne.

98 JS: Right, yeah.

99 SS: And during the the time the Buffalo incident, uh, he brought up about Brianne.

100 JS: Yeah, I don't 'member really what he said just - but I knowed it was all - what -  
101 that was what it was all about 'cause he said, you know "I thought you was my buddy and I  
102 thought you this" and I told him - I said, "well you know I asked you if it would bother you, you  
103 know and you said no - you said you're through with her" you know it's just young kids stuff I  
104 think.

105 SS: Do you know - do you remember how long ago that happened -- now see it's  
106 January -- here it is December the 22nd, 2000 - do you know 'bout when that happened?

107 JS: Uh, let's see - it wouldn't real cold outside, it was - I'd say it was in the Summer  
108 of '98 maybe.

109 SS: '98.

110 JS: Yeah.

SS:            Alright, and was the same incident happened about him calling at your house, did it  
112 happen around the Summer of '98 also?

113 JS:            Yeah just -- oh, yeah just a couple days after it, yeah.

114 SS:            Okay, and uh, do you know what type a demeanor Joey's got - is he hot headed?

115 JS:            Yeah, he - well he just like - you can say he's just like me, he's hot - you know  
116 when some'em goes wrong he's you know, just - he ain't got a - a walk away point, it just - it just  
117 blows up right there in his face and - and I - and I - I mean that's one thing that I've learned to -  
118 you know to cool my temper 'cause I know I got a - I'm hot headed 'bout stuff - and uh, and he  
119 - and I don't think he knows how to control it - he just --

120 SS:            But all this incident over the knife pulling and him threatening you - to stab you -  
121 that was over Brianne.

122 JS:            Yeah.

123 SS:            And uh, the gun deal where he called you and said he had a shotgun he's coming  
124 up, that was over Brianne.

125 JS:            Yes -- yes sir.

126 SS:            'Kay, do you know of any other incidents that he's done to you, threaten you in  
127 any way because of Brianne or anything?

128 JS:            Um-um, no sir.

129 SS:            Okay.

130 JS:            After the gun incident he - I never heard from him again.

131 SS:            What kind a - you said he pulled up in a Charger - followed you - what kind a car  
132 was it - what color was it?

JS: '69, red Charger with a black top.

134 SS: Is it his?

135 JS: Far as I know he gave - his gave it - his daddy gave it to him for his 16th birthday,

136 'at's all I know.

137 SS: Okay, uh, you say he had two guys in the car with him?

138 JS: Yeah.

139 SS: You know who they were, do you --

140 JS: No sir, I got - I really didn't know any of the buddies he - I hung out with him but

141 when I hung out with him he was with people I hung out with, I wouldn't with his --

142 SS: Who were they?

143 JS: Who I hung out with?

4 SS: Uh, that he and you hung out together when ya'll --

145 JS: Adam Elrod, Todd Mann uh, just everybody that hung - and that some other

146 people that I didn't go to school with but I knowed 'em but - out there in the - we - when we

147 used to talk out there in Home Depot parking lot and stuff.

148 SS: Did uh, did uh, you talking 'bout hanging out Home Depot parking lot - did Joey

149 and you and all ya'll used to hang out at Home Depot parking lot a lot?

150 JS: Um-hum, yeah - yes sir.

151 SS: Is that a popular hang out for Joey and - and you and everybody?

152 JS: Well, just on uh, Friday and Saturday - you know ev-- everybody wouldn't up 'ere

153 ever night just to meet or some'em like that, it was just you know --

154 SS: That's just where --

JS: -- that's just where we stopped -- I mean ever -- everybody from any other school  
156 was up there too so --

157 SS: So it's a common place where --

158 JS: Yeah.

159 SS: did Joey - did ya'll go there a lot at Home Depot parking lot?

160 JS: Not - not me and Joey, but me and Adam and them and their - their - he'd pull up  
161 you know --

162 SS Joey?

163 JS: -- by his self -- yeah.

164 SS: But there's a lot a times you saw Joey in the Home --

165 JS: Yeah.

166 SS: Home -- Home -- Home Depot parking lot?

167 JS: Yeah, but this is - when - when we did this he - that's when he was dating Brianne,  
168 so she was with him and all that stuff.

169 SS: So the - but you would see him quiet often --

170 JS: Yeah.

171 SS: -- how many times did you ever see him at Home Depot parking lot - Joey?

172 JS: I don't even 'member -- we used to go there ever Friday and Saturday night when  
173 we's in high school.

174 SS: So you say it was a lot --

175 JS: Yeah.

176 SS: -- that it was a common place.



7 JS: Yeah.

178 SS: Okay, alright and you have in fact seen him many times at Home De-- Home  
179 Depot parking lot.

180 JS: Oh yeah, yes - yes sir.

181 SS: Okay, alright uh, is anything else that he might a done to you or done to anybody  
182 that you - aware of - threatened or pulled guns or anything?

183 JS: Um-um, no sir.

184 SS: That's it? Alright, this is ending the interview with a Jeremy Shuler on the 22nd  
185 of December, 2000, Friday morning at 11:17.

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