

Tape #7885, Side A
Statement of Anthony Thomas
Case #98-5207
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Today's date 03-25-98, case number 98-5027. Incident location is Genesee and Hartsuff. Approximate time of incident os 2000 hours. Victim being Anthony, A-n-t-h-o-n-y, Thomas, T-h-o-m-a-s, date of birth 12-17-72, address 3221 Fulton Street, phone number is 753-1264. Following will be a statement from Mr. Thomas regarding an assault that occurred on him, where Mr. Thomas believes the assault was intended to do great bodily harm to him, if not to actually kill him. Following suspects, one would be a Duane Julks, Peter Rabbit..a nickname, his real name is Thomas Wicker, and a couple other individuals that were inside on the assault. We're currently at 612 Federal interview room with Mr. Thomas.

Q = Detective V. Sanchez

A = Anthony Thomas

Q: Mr. Thomas, in your own words, tell me what happened from beginning to end which brought this entire event today.

A: Approximately fifteen, twenty minutes before this incident happened I was walking to my car.

Q: What time was that, do you know?

A: I'm not exactly sure. I was walking to the car and...

Q: Where were you walking from?

A: Uh the..by the Hair Gallery...

Q: And where..where is that at?

A: ..on East Genesee. Uh 1717 East Genesee.

Q: And the Hair Gallery, what were you doing there?

A: Uh I was just coming out of uh work.

Q: Okay. Uh you were walking to the car, whose car?

A: My car.

Q: And what kind of car is that?

A: A '92 Seville.

Q: Okay, is it a two door or four door?

A: Four door.

Q: Color?

A: Uh cream.

Q: Okay. And continue.

A: Uh as I was walking to the car, a gray Cadillac pulled up real fast like skirded, so..I seen doors start opening so I took off running.

Q: When you say pulled up, do they come up next to you or pull into the driveway or what?

A: No, I was just coming towards my car..I hadn't even got to my car yet...

Q: Alright.

A: ..when they pulled up real fast.

Q: They pulled next to your car?

A: They blocked me in the same way it was when you found it.

Q: Right.

A: Okay, they blocked me off, and...

Q: Mr. uh Thomas is referring to that the gray Cadillac which the suspects arrived in were parked in an angle to his vehicle that was parked in the driveway preventing his vehicle from leaving the driveway. Continue.

A: Uh so I took off running towards uh the back which is towards Crapo.

Q: When you say the back, the back of what?

A: The back of the Hair Gallery.

Q: Okay.

A: I took off running and I didn't know if they were chasing me or not 'cause I didn't bother to look back 'cause I was scared, so I just kept running and I kept running and I kept running. So I hid behind a house somewhere, I didn't even know where I was at, I just hid behind a house and I waited..I didn't see any cars. So as I thought it was safe I walked back to uh towards the Hair Gallery to go get my car.

Q: Back to your car.

A: Yeah.

Q: Okay.

A: So, as I was sitting in my car, I dialed 9-1-1..I called...

Q: Okay, let's go back to when you first chased. When you're first chased these guys came out in a gray vehicle, did you know who they were?

A: No, not at that time.

Q: Do you have any idea why these guys were chasing you?

A: No.

Q: Did they make any kind of statements of threats while they were chasing you at that time?

A: No, they said uh..uh, "Why you running, come here, come here, just..uh we wanna talk to you." And so I just kept running..I kept running. And uh 'cause I didn't know who they were and so I just kept running and then I..when I thought it was safe I..I came back to my car, that's when I called...

Q: Did you feel threatened by them at all?

A: I didn't know.

Q: Alright.

A: 'Cause it's so much stuff that's been going on and I just didn't wanna take any chances.

Q: Alright.

A: So, the car..the way the car sped up you can tell it wasn't no one just, you know...

Q: Just strictly say hi to you.

A: Yeah. The way..the way they pulled up.

Q: Okay, they chased you, you hid behind a house...

A: And...

Q: ..now you're coming back to your car because you think it's safe.

A: Yeah, so I think it's safe, so I come back to my car. As I'm sitting in my car I dialed 9-1-1. Uh I called the dispatcher, I told her...

Q: Okay when you said you dialed 9-1-1, how did you dial 9-1-1?

A: On my cell phone.

Q: That's inside of your car?

A: Yeah.

Q: Okay.

A: Okay I dialed 9-1-1, I talked to the uh 9-1-1 dispatcher, she told me..I told her I wanted to report an incident that uh just occurred, and she asked me what happened. I told her and uh she told me where were I..where was I at, I told

- A: ..her the Hair Gallery. She told me just to um..I told her it was a cop a couple feet from me...
- Q: When you say a cop, what are you referring to?
- A: A officer..a police officer.
- Q: I mean how could you tell?
- A: He had..he had someone pulled over and the lights was on..it was on Genesee.
- Q: Was it a city cop or a state cop?
- A: City cop..city cop.
- Q: So he had somebody pulled over...
- A: Yep.
- Q: ..you were in your car requesting for help that somebody was chasing you?
- A: Yep.
- Q: These guys that were chasing you, were they there right now?
- A: No.
- Q: Okay.
- A: They wasn't there yet.
- Q: Alright.
- A: So I'm waiting for the police..so I sit in my car to wait for the police to come.
- Q: Um-huh.
- A: I'm thinking its safe since its a cop right there so I just sit there 'cause I'm thinking its okay 'cause I see a police right there.

Q: Alright.

A: So uh as I'm sitting in the car they pulled back up. So they jump out the car, the guy you have in custody...

Q: Um-huh.

A: ..and the light skinned guy jumps out the car.

Q: Do you know who the guy was that we had in custody here?

A: No.

Q: Okay.

A: They just..they..they knew me though. I didn't know them but they...

Q: Did you know him from anyplace before in the past?

A: I never seen him a day in my life.

Q: The light skinned guy, do you mean a light skinned black male?

A: Yes.

Q: Okay. Uh can you describe him?

A: He was tall, uh kind of thin, had short hair..he didn't..uh I don't recall if I seen any facial hair on him.

Q: Alright. What was he wearing?

A: Uh I couldn't..it happened so fast, the only one I really...

Q: You didn't pay attention?

A: ..the only one I really seen that had something on was uh Peter Rabbit, he had a black leather coat on.

Q: How do you know Peter Rabbit?

A: I just..I just know of him. He told me who he was when he um got in the car, he said, "Do I know you?" I said, "No." He said, "Do you know me?" I said, "No." He said, "Well I'm Peter Rabbit."

Q: Okay, you're gonna have to back up. First, the guy we had in custody who's known as Duane Julks, J-u-l-k-s, and a light skinned black male approached you first...

A: Yeah.

Q: ..and then came back up.

A: Yes.

Q: What did they do?

A: They..they uh..I rolled my window down 'cause I didn't know him. I didn't think they were gonna harm me or nothing. I though I just overreacted when the car pulled up so fast.

Q: Okay.

A: I thought I overreacted, so I'm thinking well maybe it was just a mistake..you know maybe I'm mistaken them for trying to um hurt me or something. So I rolled my car window down and they said, "Why you run, we just wanted to talk to you." And I said, "Man, I didn't know who y'all was."

Q: Okay.

A: So I was rolling my window down but I still didn't roll it down all the way. He tried to stick his hand in my window so I rolled my window back up, put my car in park..'cause he had me blocked in. And as I put my car in park my doors unlocked automatically, so they snatched the door open. That's when Peter Rabbit jumped out of his car, and uh...

Q: Who's..who's holding the door open when Peter Rabbit jumps out?

A: Uh the light skinned guy.

Q: Okay.

A: The dark skinned guy walked towards the uh passenger side, opened the door, he got in. Peter Rabbit put his face in..in the um car...

Q: Right up to you?

A: ..I was sitting, yes, I was sitting in the driver seat.

Q: Okay.

A: I was sitting like this looking at him and he had his face...

Q: Mr. Thomas is indicating that he's leaning back away from the left side window.

A: And uh the black guy..uh the darker..the dark, dark guy that was Peter Rabbit, he..he looked me in my face and he was chewing some chicken, I smelled it on his breath, and he was spitting it in my um face, and he said, "Do you know me?" I said, "No." He said, "Well I'm Peter Rabbit." He said, "I'll kill you, I'll kill your mother, I'll kill whoever." And so I'm..I'm looking at 'em, I'm like, "Man why y'all..why y'all messing with me?" He was like, "Shut up, put a..we gonna.." then the uh that guy right there said, "Let's do him," he said, "Let's do him."

Q: You're referring to that guy right there, you're referring to Duane Julks that we have in custody?

A: Yeah.

Q: Okay.

A: Uh he said, "Let's do him," and uh...

Q: What did you think he meant when he said, "Let's do him"?

A: Just..just kill me I guess.

Q: Okay.

A: And um...

Q: You can't guess, you gotta know in your own mind what you believe.

A: Well in streets slang it would mean kill him.

Q: Okay.

A: Okay so Peter Rabbit said, "Put him in the back, put him in the back." And uh Peter Rabbit had me..my head like this...

Q: Um-huh, in a headlock?

see A: Yeah, in a headlock, and he reached his..his hand under my leg like he was gonna pick me up and throw me in the back. But I was resisting and that's when they start hitting me, and...

Q: When you say "they", who do you know was hitting you?

A: Peter Rabbit the light skinned guy and the guy Duane.

Q: Duane Julks?

A: Duane was on the passenger side hitting me. Peter Rabbit and that light skinned guy was on the driver side.

Q: They were hitting you?

A: Yeah. And um as they told me..as they uh Peter Rabbit told..to put me in the back, the police rushed up.

Q: What police did you see, did you recognize anybody?

A: I recognized lights..that's all I seen was lights.

Q: Okay.

A: So I jumped out the car..when they start running I jumped out the car to run towards the police for protection, and that's when they uh put me on the ground and I guess they...

Q: So they didn't know if you were the victim or not at that time?

A: No, they didn't know.

Q: Okay. And they put you in the ground and then what else happened after that?

A: I was just laying face down on the ground, that's all I knew.

Q: Okay. So then what happened after you got on the ground and you were picked up by the police?

A: I was yelling uh, "I'm the one called you guys, I'm the one called you, I'm the one called you." And um he told me that he didn't get..he didn't get my um call yet...

Q: Okay.

A: ..he say they were on a different station or something. He said he didn't get my call yet. So uh they put me inside of a van and I guess they went looking for Peter Rabbit and the other guy and they had one guy in custody, and that was...

Q: That was it?

A: Yeah, that was it.

Q: You have no content before in the past or threats by Peter Rabbit and his crew or his guys that hang with him?

A: Never. I never..I don't even..I don't even hang out. I don't even go to clubs.

Q: You ever hear of Peter Rabbit's reputation?

A: Yeah.

Q: Do you know Peter Rabbit's real name?

A: No.

- Q: You ever have any dealings with any of his other friends?
- A: No, I don't associate..I don't even associate with people like that.
- Q: Are you willing to prosecute against uh these individuals that assaulted you tonight?
- A: Yes, I told the cops I wanted to press charges.
- Q: Are you willing to go to court and press charges and testify if you have to?
- A: Yeah.
- Q: Okay. Uh any other way to reach you if we need to reach you besides this phone number here that you gave already?
- A: No, that's..my mother's number. 3-9-1-3-1.
- Q: Mother. So is that 7-5?
- A: Yeah, 7-5-3-9-1-3-1.
- Q: You got a work number?
- A: Uh 7-5-5-9-6-7-9.
- Q: Okay. You spoke to Ageng uh Cally already, FBI?
- A: Um-huh.
- Q: And uh basically he told you what?
- A: Uh he wanted to know what was going on, why did they uh try to take my car or try to assault me and I didn't know.
- Q: So were they trying to take your car after they...
- A: I..they had to. 'Cause why..why else would they put me in the back seat...
- Q: Okay.

A: ..and while all this was happening it was a cop right there, right..I mean a cop, he had to see something.

Q: Peter Rabbit's like that. He may not have if he's paying attention to another traffic stop..probably didn't even know what was going on. Okay, anything else you can add regarding this incident?

A: Oh as it was going on I was dialing 9-1-1 and I pushed send and so that means the um 9-1-1 operator had to hear something.

Q: So...

A: That's why I thought that they came so fast.

Q: So you're thinking that while they're inside your car talking to you and assaulting you...

A: I had the phone...

Q: ..the phone was on...

A: Yeah.

Q: ..and 9-1-1 should have been hearing or picking up...

A: Yep.

Q: ..the entire conversation?

A: Yep.

Q: Okay. I did request for a copy of that tape if anybody has got it so that's what we'll do. Alright conclusion of the interview. Time now approximately I would say ten..uh 21..correction, 2230 hours.