



Statutory Declaration

I, Tumeric, Willie, Umiujaq (currently in CFF penitentiary 6099, 1992-12-13
(Name, first name, address, birth date)

I do solemnly declare that,

I solemnly declare, meeting with Marie-Hélène Francoeur-Malouin, investigation agent from the Viens Inquiry, in CFF penitentiary 6099, on April 6, 2018.

I'm originally from Umiujaq. We are experiencing a lot of problems with the police force. They are young. We are having issues with them because they have issues with us.

Police officers are trying to go out with young women, teenagers. My aunt was trying to complain about that, because something happened to my cousin. But she never got any reply so she kind of gave up, lose hope. Her daughter started to live with her father instead. I am willing to help her, because she was there for me, she raised me too.

Q1: Do you remember when it happened the situation between her daughter and the police officer?

A1: I'm not sure of the year, but I think it was 2015 or 2014.

Q2: And how old was she?

A2: 14 or 15.

Q3: Do you know where your aunt tried to make a complaint?

A3: I don't know, she told me that when I was there. I used to go there for her internet. She told me that she tried to complain about her daughter being picked up, or that she went by herself. They were talking through Facebook and all that. And my aunt went through her Facebook. I don't know what happened, but she told me about that situation, that she wanted to have help but never got any.

Declarer signature Willie Tumeric

Declared before me, Guillaume Archambault

at CFF 6099 on 2018-08-07

My cousin tried to tell my aunt what happened and she started crying. I was there. So my aunt was trying to ask her questions, roughly, she was kind of mad, because she loves her. My cousin tells my aunt that they were watching movies, cuddling. That's all that happened, she said. I don't know if it's true, I don't know if they had contacts. These police officers have to make our community safe, but acting like this, the way they are treating us, it doesn't even feel safe.

We have a lot of issues with the cops back home. Most of them are trying to go out with the young females, teenagers. And those cops are all adults. And we can't do anything about it because, you know, they are cops. If we want to do something about the cops, they are going to arrest us, injured us or do something stupid to us. When there are female cops back home, we don't have any problems at all. They are stricter, respectful. They have more respect, they don't do anything stupid, and they are doing their job.


Police officers back home are trying to have problems with Inuit, when we are drunk, when we are busted, when we are having trouble or gotten into a fighting, we are ending in detention for the whole weekend, or a couple of days, until we get a phone appearance. It's not a good thing for us to be in jail, especially because of the food. It's mostly frozen food from the store. That's all they give us. Some of the cops don't accept the food from our family. I don't know why. They don't have any rights to refuse the food that our family is bringing.

Q4: Is there any Inuit police officers sometimes?

A4: No. We had Inuit police officers before, in the '90s, I remember 3-4.

Q5: Do you think it could work better?

A5: I have no idea, I was a child. But I know that Inuit cops were caring for me, because my parents had alcohol issues and I was kind of scared of them. So the Inuit cops were bringing me to my grandparents. Right now, I don't think that anybody could be interested to be a cop, because we don't like them, they are arresting us, sending us to jail. There's a lot of Inuit in jail.

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Déclarant

Q6: You were talking to me about the conditions while detained at the police station, is there any other situation that you lived there?

A6: Yes, when I was incarcerated, back home, I was there for about two weeks, starving and all that. Some of the food was not even cooked. They use a microwave. So I don't know why they are refusing to give us the food from our family. It's better, it's cooked, it's hot, and it's a nice meal. But the food from the store, the frozen food, like Hungry man, it's not cooked. There was a time when my mother tried to visit me and brought some food, but the cops refused and let her go. I called the Inuit guard who was watching us, and I asked her to call my parents for them to send me food and junk food, because I was starving. My mother was trying to come in but the cops refused. I told them that I was starving and I was thirsty. We only drink water there, and I don't like it. Even when I was complaining, they did nothing about it. They told me: "we are already feeding you." They add that the food that I was getting would be the only one I get.

Q7: Those police officers are speaking in English or French?

A7: English, because most of us don't speak French. Only a little part of the population can understand French. Once, my friend was acting like he wasn't speaking French. The cop was speaking in French about us. He was listening about what the cop was saying, he was being racist and all that. He was saying that he didn't like Inuits, that they are all eating raw food, that's disgusting and nasty. My friend told him that he doesn't have the right to be racist, that he's a cop. That cop was surprised that my friend understood what he said. Cops are talking behind our back.

Q8: Do you remember the name of that friend?

A8: No I don't remember. He was from another community.

Q9: You told me before about police officers being violent with drunk people?

A9: When we drink, we drink pretty hard, because we like alcohol. We are related to alcohol, our parents were alcoholic, we like smoking weed, drink alcohol. And when we mix alcohol and weed, we are getting black out. And it is those moments, when nearly don't know what we are doing, what's happening. The other people who are watching us know what we are doing, and we don't. So anytime we are doing something stupid or bad, they are calling the police. And they are coming in, and most of us, something, we are resisting. Many times before, I resisted and I never got injured.

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Enquêteur

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Déclarant

But in the year 2013 or 2014, in summertime, I was really drunk, not knowing what I was doing. I was kind of resisting when the police tried to arrest me. When I woke up, the next morning, my arm was really big and I asked the cops about what happened to my arm. I felt pain, it was swelling. They told me that I resisted my arrest and that I told them that I wasn't feeling any pain so they put me in detention. We were trying to watch you the whole night, they said. I was in great pain and I told them that I needed to go to the nursing station. I woke up around 7:00, got release around 7:30 and went to the nursing station around 8:00. I was told that it was fractured and during the lunch time, I was Medevac to Puvirnituk. I was in huge pain, it was swelling, and it was red. It was fucked up because I was drunk, I wanted to know what happened to my arm. Even though I was resisting, they could have used pepper spray. I had to wear a cast for a couple months, to stay away from my job, to stop lifting heavy stuff. I used to be working at the store, doing the cargos. Everything is about lifting, deliver food, the boxes. It's my right arm and I'm right-handed.

Q10: Do you know the name of those officers?

A10: No. I don't really ask for cop names, since I started getting arrested, I was kind of against them, not interested in knowing their names. I can remember their faces, but not their names.

My cousin got arrested with me, back in October 2015, for a dangerous situation. We were partying, drinking, we got drunk. My cousin wanted to get some guns. We were drinking outside, and he went to get some guns. I thought he was saying that to be cool. I went to get the guns from my parents, while my mother was sleeping. After Christmas, my cousin [REDACTED] was stopped for carrying a knife. He was shot 7 times by police officers, from what my sister told me. I was in big shock because he was my crime partner, my cousin. I was close to him, we got into a fight together, and we did everything together. So I was shocked for my cousin to be shot several times for carrying a knife. I can say that the cops don't have any right to be shot several times for carrying a knife, they could have shot him in the leg. Ever since my cousin got shot, I got problems with my sleeping, right now I'm ok. But I lost 3 family members since I got arrested it's hard for me to go through that situation, I'm looking forward to seeing my family, before it's too late.

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My other cousin committed a crime in 2015, before my arrest. He did a 26-hour standoff. I can say that the cops didn't know what they were doing. They had to call in the SQ, the SQ came in, they couldn't take him down, and so the Swat team had to come in to take him down. I can pretty much say that the cops back home in Umiujaq they are all kinds of rookies.


So they don't have the knowledge to intervene in those kinds of situations, so every time a cop arrives, a new cop, we always think that they are rookies because we can see that they are young, we can see by their faces, the way they act or talk. I can say that in our community, in Nunavik, they all need professional cops, not like rookies, most of the time, we are receiving new cops. They don't really know what they are doing. It's like this since the KRPF came in replacing the SQ. Sometimes, I think that the SQ should come back, instead of the KRPF. Here, the KRPF officers are staying 8-9 months, not even a year. After other cops are coming. I started being arrested when I was 13 there a lot of cops, and they are all different. Never the same. We used to have Inuit police officers before, but I don't what happened to them, maybe they don't like arresting other Inuk. Because they know them, they grew up with them and maybe feel bad to arrest them.

On our community, we used to have a court system in the school, but it was stopped in 2008 or 2009. I used to go to court, it was stopped because I think it was too dangerous for the kids, to have criminals there. Because the Court was at the same time as the students were at school. There was a lot of Inuit there. It was too dangerous for the students to be there while we were there too. Most of them were arrested before, had promised to appear, they got postpone.

We have to travel to Kuujuarapik for Court. We have to bring our clothes, in case we are getting sent to jail, we have to be prepared. And the problem is that they won't pay for the hotel for us to stay for as night. They told us that they would pay for the food, but they never did

Q11: Who told you that?

A11: The police in the community. Because usually, when we go to court in Kuujuarapik, we have to take two flights, because there is 60-70 people that go to court. Most of us got our cases postponed for another 4 months. And after, it's going to be postponed and postponed again. So we are travelling for nothing. My case was postponed for 6 times, so I had to come to court back and forth 6 times. I had a drug-trafficking charges and the case was just postponed. One day I got drunk and I committed a crime. I had gun charges, other violent charges and assaulting, breaking and entering, I was told that I was going to get 10 months house arrest for drug trafficking, my case was postponed for 6 months, and during one of my trips to Kuujuarapik, I got new charges. I'm going to finish my sentence in 2019, in August and I'm up for parole in June.

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Déclarant

Back in 2015 when my cousin made a standoff with the cops, the 26-hour standoff, shooting randomly, he didn't have any problems with other Inuit in my community. He just got drunk and things got carried away. There's this guy who got shot, and got medevac to Montreal, during that standoff. He was shot when he was walking.

Q12: Where is your cousin right now?

A12: He's back home right now, in was in juvenile, he was a minor at that time, he was 16 or 17.

There is a weird situation that I want to talk about. There was a guy that I was with, near the beach, when he was doing the standoff. There were some people telling him to shoot him, the cops didn't know what they were doing, me I'm pretty glad that he wasn't killed. It was bothering me that people from the community were telling the cops to shoot him. We were in a bad situation before. Me I didn't know it was happening, I was in the sack with my friend, we ended up riding around in a scoter and the cops told us not to go around in town, because there's someone shooting randomly. I was kind of surprise it was happening.

I can say that Cops in Nunavik, we have to have new cops. SQ or more trained cops, more skills one. Because, when there's a big blizzard, we can't see what's happening, so they have to be more experienced. Like I said before, there were women cops before and we weren't having problems back then. They were respecting us, not harming us. When they were asking to calm ourselves, we would do it. Also, if it's a girl cops and a man cops, the man will be more respectful.

Also, cops need to take their warrant first, before they take someone personal stuff, because there was a one time, they were trying to get my stuff, my iPod. They told me that there was something suspicious in my case that they had to take my package to the station, we are getting you a warrant. They are supposed to show you the warrant first before they take the stuff. It was in 2014.

[REDACTED]

MODIFIÉ À LA DEMANDE DU TÊMOIN, LE 28 AOÛT 2018, PAR
MARIE-HÉLÈNE F-MALOUIN

[Signature]

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Enquêteur
X *[Signature]*
Déclarant