

Statutory Declaration

I, Harrington, Alan, [REDACTED], 1976 in Montréal

(Name, first name, address, birth date)

I do solemnly declare that,

R1: One of the situation happened fifteen (15) years ago when I was outreach worker here in Montreal and also outside, I know that there is difference within the police force for Aboriginal people. The outreach work that I have been doing in the past with the *Ka'wa'she street patrol* at Native Friendship Centre. I was used to be part of that mobile intervention team and we patrolled the streets helping Native homeless people. I have seen a lot of bad situation between the homeless and the local police here.

Even for myself, I do not drink anymore but about seven (7) or eight (8) years ago, while I was too drunk, I don't remember too much but I remember leaving the bar and the SPVM police officers arrested me to be intoxicated in public because I guess I was too intoxicated and could be uncooperative and they moving into the car with strong force and put in the drunk tank. I thought that was unnecessary because I was trying to get home, I was going to call a cab but they see me intoxicated in public. I spent the whole night in the drunk tank and they gave a ticket and I have no choice but to pay it. I was not causing any trouble and I believe they were choosing me because I was Native. They just ignore me until the morning.

I related this past experience of my own with others situations that I see on my duties also with the homelessness. For my opinion, at a certain point, the police harassed them for no cause and they gets a lot of tickets. Also I used to work at the Cabot square, I was the one who running the small café project to what it is right now. In the summer time, when the cadet and the bike patrol are come out, those are very intimidating they could come at full speed on their bike, you don't know what they are going to do. When they brake just in from of you and they appears to do it in a form of sworn toward the aboriginal people. They scare and intimidating people and I have seen a lot situations like that in the park that escalate to a self-defence mode because is just instinct.

I talked to people like Nakuset, Director of the Native women shelter and the workers from this organisation have the same portrait. The city workers from native women shelter feels that if they voice to much their voice, then they could lose their job.

Declarer signature _____

Declared before me, _____

at _____ on _____

Q2: Is there any situation that you remember that police officers were verbally or physically abusive?

R2: Yes, just last week, I took a picture of it while it was the March for Coulten Boushie at Concordia University outside and when we were there, I cannot believe the amount of police that were there. After the protesting, when I was going to the metro and I was down the escalator, the police officers were knocking with their stick and one of them nudge me and his stick hit my leg but they kept going. They were going down real fast. There were tapping with their sticks even if there was no violence or anything. It seems that they just wanted to intimidated people.

When we got down the stairs, there was this homeless guy sleeping in the corner and the captain, the one with a different color bandana on his arm and they noticed this homeless guy. They all stopped and the first one kicked him once or twice and was able to hear them kick him in order to waking him up. He woke up and they were circling him and they told him to leave. I stopped and I pulled out my phone and one of the officer saw me pulling out my phone and I decided not to take pictures because I did not want them to come over me. It was very unacceptable because it is very cold outside and you telling him to go outside. He got up right away and you could feel the fear on his eyes. After that, two (2) officers look at me and give me that look smirk face. I just got a very bad vibe from the whole five (5) officers that were there.

I founded that there are very good cops outside helping with the homeless people. You also have a lot of them that are to receive their pay checks, to do their jobs and they do not care. They pushed as far as they can.

Q3: Would you says that some of police officers are rough with aboriginal people?

R3: with anyone, but it seems that they are particularly rough with aboriginal people and persons of colours, I see a difference out there.

Q4: And what about the tickets?

R4: Yes, they give a lots of tickets that are not needed. The police using and buse from their authority. My ex-wife is from Kanesatake and the police from Deux-Montagnes and they are known to be very brutal especially with minority, the people from Kanesatake or Kahnawake. I founded that they seems more start an argument with people from these two (2) communities. From me, I witnessed that too with a Deux-Montagnes police officer happened a few years ago. We were at a green light and there was a police officer who pulled us over. This police officer said that we went through a red light which it was not. I was passenger and my ex was driver, we both watched and it was green. We got to the police station and an SUV came from nowhere and pulled us over. I videotaped the whole argument and he asked why am I videotaping him and I said that it is because I am in fear, you are not listening on what the driver is telling you. The police officer was busy writing a ticket so how he can possibly seen us.

X

Enquêteur

X

Déclarant

I recorded the whole thing and the police officer was very mad that I was recording. The police officer give us the highest ticket. We brought this ticket to Court and the judge took it out because there was abusive power.

There was another time, during the summer time when we back from a Pow Wow at La Tuque area, we were at a gas station and what I remembered is there was an SQ officer passed, he saw us, he turned around and he parked near the gas station. He was watching us you know. We paid and we came out and didn't followed us but I am sure that he read our plate but for me it is it another example that of being scooped out.

Q5: Is there any other situation that you would like to report?

R5: There is another situation regarding a **DUI** with Deux-Montagnes police again but it was in St-Eustache area. I had no intention of driving but I had the keys on me and I was passed out on the vehicle. I just remembered the police officer coming up, tapping on the window. I woke up and he I told him that I am sleeping. The police officer told me to get out because someone reported that you are passed out. I got out and other patrols officer showed up and they started to run my name. Is a situation that I felt that I don't need to be charge because I had no intention of driving but it didn't change the situation. I don't know if they did to do their quotas, they towed by vehicle and they gave me a ticket. They said that I was too intoxicated and I told I know that this is why I am sleeping. They left me there and they gave me a court date on the ticket. I woke up the morning and I was almost hit by a car because I passed out on the road and I just vaguely remember walking away from this place.

Q6: They left you there?

R6: They didn't take me in. So I think that if I was too intoxicated then I guess they have the responsibility to put me in a safe place but that never happened. I went to court but I didn't have any money so it was just easier to plead guilty. If I would be able to pay in order to fight I would do it but that wasn't the case.

Q7: Did you heard stories about people that had been brought far in order to sober up?

R7: Yes, I have stories out there with homeless people here in Montreal that some SPVM police officers would do that. They would brought them on the outskirts of Montréal, dropped them off and asked them start walking. I know three (3) if them but they do not want to come forward on that. I talked with them about it and suggesting that they need to speak about that. When you are so much harassed and bullied by the police, I think you come at a point that you don't want to say anything.

I also know people that intervned with was flirted by police officers.

X

Enquêteur

X

Déclarant

Q8: You heard about these kind of stories?

R8: Some police officers are there doing that. Again, the people does not want to come forward and talk about it, they are too scared.

FIN: Thank you very much M. Harrington for your testimony.

X

Enquêteur

X

Déclarant