



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Occurrence #: _____

Statement no.: 1 Date: 27/01/2011

Statement of

Name of witness: HARMAN, Danyel Samon

Date of birth: [REDACTED] Age: [REDACTED] Occupation: Store manager

Police officer taking statement

Name of police officer: FISHBOURNE, Daniel

Rank: Constable Reg. no.: 22006

Region/Command/Division: Toowoomba Station: Toowoomba Station

Statement:

1. My name is Danyel Samon HARMAN and I reside at [REDACTED] Gatton. I have lived at this address for 1 week (since the floods). I live there with Sabina Maree SHORT.
2. My mobile phone number is [REDACTED] I do not have a home phone.
3. On the Thursday before the floods I moved into [REDACTED] Grantham with Sabina SHORT as I was going to live there with her permanently.
4. [REDACTED] Street is a 2 storey wooden house. The underneath is all built in with bricks. There's no rooms under the house, just the laundry and storage stuff.
5. The back of the house backs on to Sandy Creek. Its 3 houses down from the main road in Grantham.
6. On the 8th day of January 2011 my sister Rebecca Lea HARMAN stayed with us at Harris Street because the roads back to her house were cut from the floods. She stayed with us for a few days.

[REDACTED]

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

[REDACTED]

(Police officer's signature)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: HARMAN, Danyel Samon

7. On the 9th day of January 2011 there was a flood that came through Grantham. It was flooding like a river down the main street. It didn't come up Harris Street.

8. I can recall the events that occurred on the 10th day of January 2011.

9. On the day of the floods we walked down to Grantham shops to get some lunch. We picked up our food and took it back to [REDACTED] Street and ate it there.

10. There was a little bit of water running down the gullies and gutters and that but nothing major.

11. We then watched some movies and had a sleep.

12. At about quarter past 3 that afternoon Sabina got a call from her dad, Christopher SHORT.

13. He told Sabina that there was a flood coming and that we had to get out immediately.

14. He sounded like it was pretty important but we just thought that it's flooded before so it can't be that bad.

15. We did our hair and makeup and packed some clothes and things we might need.

16. About 5 or 10 minutes later Bec got a call from our mum saying that we should leave. Mums a "worry wort", she was almost in tears because she was just panicking.

17. When she sounded urgent we decided that we should leave pretty quick but we still took our time getting ready.

[REDACTED]
(Witness's signature)

[REDACTED]
(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

[REDACTED]
(Police officer's signature)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: HARMAN, Danyel Samon

18. We went down stairs to see if we could get out. Our cars were parked in the middle of town up at the railway. We could see that the water had already flooded the main street of town. We knew that we wouldn't be able to make it out of town so we didn't try.
19. We could see that the water in the gutters was creeping from the sides into the middle of the road. It was pretty freaky. We then turned around and saw the creek was quickly flooding the back yard so we ran upstairs.
20. We stood on the veranda at the front of the house. From there we can see over the street and down the right hand side of the street.
21. We watched as the water came up. The water came up so fast; it was taking about a minute per step. It was really fast.
22. When it was about half way up the stairs I saw the fence fall over and wash away. Not long after that a car that was around the side of the house floated out the front onto the street. It hit a telegraph pole and stopped.
23. While we were on the balcony we were getting phone calls from everyone telling us to get out of Grantham. We kept telling them that we couldn't leave but they didn't get it.
24. Mum was in hysterics. She was crying and really worried.
25. When the water got to the 3rd or 4th top step we went and got the computer desk and a chair from inside and put it on the veranda.
26. I steadied the chair and table while Bec and Sabina climbed up onto the roof. Sabina put my dog and her dog on the roof before she climbed up.



(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)



(Police officer's signature)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: HARMAN, Danyel Samon

- 27. I had trouble getting on to the roof because no one was holding my chair. The girls grabbed my arms and helped drag me on to the roof.

- 28. While we were on the roof I continued to watch the flood waters. We could see all sorts of stuff floating down the river.

- 29. We saw pumpkins, water melons, bleach containers, snakes, all sorts of things in the water floating past. There was even a dog swimming against the current.

- 30. While we were on the roof, it started to rain pretty heavy.

- 31. Sabina climbed down and grabbed some plastic bags to put our phones in. She climbed back up and we sat there for a few hours.

- 32. From where I was sitting I could see a house that washed away. I could only see the end of the house. I could see 2 people on the roof of the house.

- 33. The water was starting to recede from about 6:30pm onwards.

- 34. We were up there until 10 minutes to 8pm.

- 35. At about this time a bloke called Ray came up to the house. The water was only about a meter deep. He said that he was getting everyone together at his place so that the rescuers only had to go to one place.

- 36. We said we didn't want to walk through the water so he went and got a canoe and took us down to his place. I'm not sure what the address is.

- 37. When we got there I fell asleep.



(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)



(Police officer's signature)

38. I'm not sure how long I was asleep for but I was woken up by people saying that someone was coming to get us.

39. Not long after that, about 12 or 12:30am a tractor came with a big front loader bucket. They took 10 people at a time over the sandy creek bridge to the western side of Grantham. We were in the first group of people to leave.

40. When we got to the other side of the creek the Police took us to Helidon community centre.

41. From there Sabina's dad came and picked us up and took us to his place.

42. On the 27th day of January 2011 I attended the Gatton Police station and made this statement to Constable Daniel FISHBOURNE of my own free will.



Danyel HARMAN

Justices Act Acknowledgement

Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of section 110A(5)(c)(ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 27/01/2011 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 5 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything that I know is false.

..........Signature

Signed at Gatton this 27th day of January 2011.



(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)



(Police officer's signature)