
From: Gareth Davie [REDACTED]
Sent: Fri 07/06/2024 10:13:36 AM (UTC+10:00)
To: Gareth Davie [REDACTED]
Cc: Jonty Bekkers [REDACTED] Courtney Scott [REDACTED]
Subject: Cody witness statement

The details being; I witnessed 4 men standing on the shared bikepath about 39 metres away (referencing to my knowledge of crane radius) I was positioned in the crane, at the time I was hooked onto a load, although the load was not suspended - the crane was idling. I witnessed Ben O'Brien being spoken to through the fence, by a guy in a black shirt and running shoes on, from afar he seemed of arab descent, the man was using strong hand gestures and was pacing back and forth like a tormented, caged animal. I grabbed my handpiece for my 2-Way- Radio and asked Ben "Who are they", he responded "They asked for you" Ben O'Brien gave off the impression he had been verbally abused, his body language had changed from prior to this being his typical; fun, energetic self to a definitive sign of intimidation, and possible sheepishness - upon initial viewing of Ben O'Brien I assumed he had been bullied by the group of men. I quickly grabbed my hard hat from the coat hangers situated along the handrails of the crane and started walking towards the 4 men, having 3 children and being an eldest brother of 5 I engaged protector mentality and was eager to consult with these men as to why my colleague had felt intimidated by them. As I was approaching the perimeter fence the man in the black shirt and sneakers was identified, and clarified that he definitely looked of arab / Lebanese descent. Alongside him was 3 other men, 1 of whom I had encountered on the 30th May 2024 in a discussion which became heated, at the same location. I now had a brief knowledge of what everything was about. The man in the black shirt was yelling "Brother, Brother" In a foreign accent I addressed him and greeted him "Hello Brus" He followed the conversation with an aggressive "Why the fuck are you threatening my men" I began to respond but at the same time I started my commute to meet them face to face, without a perimeter fence between us, he mirrored my paces alongside the perimeter fence until I reached the gate, of which I removed the chain, padlock and opened the gate to provide them the respect of not having to converse through a meshed fence panel. I 'dummy locked' the gate as I closed the gate behind me to protect my colleagues from what I had assumed to be a potentiality dangerous altercation, the abrupt body language and violent behavioural traits could only be determined as that was what was going to occur. I met with them out the gate, and positioned myself in a position where should anything violent have happened I could only be assaulted from 2 sides of my body. I felt like they were ready to 'roll' or 'gang bash' me - I was not afraid at the time, my goal was to correctly position myself to protect myself and my colleagues. The man in the black shirt was attempting to be verbally intimidating, his questions were about an altercation I had with his acquaintance standing close by on the 30 May 2024. He stated that I had "Threatened him, and called him a goose", he further stated that "this is my company" referring to the security / logistical relations firm (hired by BMD Constructions) I responded with "I threatened him did I?" I singled out the acquaintance (of whom I understand his name is Gary) and asked him "Did you feel threatened mate?" he declined to respond at first, so I requested that he answered "Go on, did you feel threatened?" he responded with "Cody, yes" I responded with "what a joke, Oh...My..." The man in the black shirt became extremely aggressive, and aggravated and asked "do you know who the fuck I am?" I responded with "ummmm.... no" He responded proudly "Benji, from the Commos" (Commos, I understand to be

a very violent 1% gang, called the Commancheros) I responded with a laugh, and a "what?" as I didn't imagine a person of that affiliation would disclose that. In a public / workplace area. I asked him again "Hold up who are you?" He responded "Benji, from the Commos" I asked "where from?" He responded with "Melbourne, ring your fucken lads do your fucken homework" He continued talking He stated "I'm up here to deal with you!" I responded "how are you going to deal with me?" He responded with "I'll fucken burn your house down cunt and kill your kids brother" "I fucken know where you live brother" I responded with "go for it mate, I don't even know what the fuck you're here for, or what justifies you saying that" I imagined he wanted me to react, I didn't. I turned and started removing the padlock and chain to enter the site again. Having my family and children threatened, I needed to take myself away from the violent, aggressive situation. He mirrored my footsteps outside the perimeter fencing as I entered and redummy locked the gate He was verbally abusive calling me a "fucken dog" and that I "shouldn't call the fucken police" I was shaken up by the threat on my family, but responded to his constant verbal abuse. I "exclaimed this is a fucken joke, what a waste of my fucken time" I went to the crane area and checked on my colleagues, I seen the 4 men continue their walk down the shared path. The man in the black shirt continued his verbal contact.

I pondered the traumatic experience for 5 minutes or so with colleagues, they were evidently shaken up also. Paul Arcadiou and Ben O'Brien immediately rushed over to check-in they had both witnessed this event from afar. But both equally seemed to have shared the same similar conclusive behaviours, I understood they seemed worried, and intimidated.

I started walking back towards the gate, as the 4 men had left, I was intending to assist Greg Scott of Universal Cranes with 2 lifts, so he could have his lunch. As I was walking across the shared path again to the Abutment A area, the 4 men approached again. The same man in the black shirt was still displaying violent, aggressive behaviour, he threatened me again stating "I know where you live you fucken dog" and "I'm going to burn your house down cunt" "Brother, Brother" I approached the fence as he said that, and responded with "Don't call me brother" and "you have no fucken idea" I turned and started walking down towards the crane he was still yelling abuse "fucken dog" multiple times, and "watch out" I responded with the following "you have no idea", and "no idea" multiple times as response to his violent abuse.

I proceeded to conclude my job and took over for Greg Scott removing 2 spud piles in the CKE2500 whilst he left to get something to eat.

After I completed that I started walking back to the Sany, at the top of the hill access from pier 1 a security guard came and asked me if I was okay, and assured me he was "not with him" I responded "thanks brother" I noticed 2 men, a very tall man and a shorter structured man, of whom I had known both of them to be hierarchy assets to the project is my understanding. I approached them quickly and explained what had just happened and that they should "do background checks on the security firm they hire" "because I was just threatened by a man that claims he's a Commanchero from Melbourne and this is his security firm" Neither man responded to that but instead praised my work with the install of the box girder gantry rails, and instead asked me what the earthworks on the Western side of the shared path was "I answered its the shared bike path, which will tie into the new footbridge" I pointed to the bridge and left the conversation.

Gareth Davie

Senior Project
Manager



Our vision is to be **'the best people to work with'**

Georgiou Group acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, and pay our respects to elders past and present.