

Record of meeting Charlie Francis #34 4/11/17 (DC Trott)

Charlie Francis was visited at his Home address on 03/11/17 with the view of obtaining a statement. He has declined to provide a written and signed statement, however he was cooperative and verbally provided the following.

He has been employed by G4S since 2011 and was dismissed for misconduct on 2nd October 2017 as a result of the Panorama programme.

He explained that he normally worked on E Wing which was designed for detainees waiting for a flight departure time but was changed to Detainees requiring medical and detainees who were self-harmers.

He could not recall the actual dates and times but explained that some time mid to late April 2017 he was working his normal shift 0845 – 2100 hours on E Wing and given the call sign Kilo 1 – Supervisor on E Wing. Does not who was on duty at the time. He explained that 2 detainees were on constant watch, they were normally roommates, however on this occasion they were in opposing rooms, 7 and 8.

He recalls that at some point Callum Tulley was brought in from Tinsley House.

During the day possibly late morning an incident occurred in one of the rooms but was dealt with by Oscar 1 and management. He does not know what happened.

He then goes on to explain that after food was served, between 6 and 7pm he came through from the segregation unit and heard a commotion going on in the wing. He entered the room and saw that the male detainee was lying by the Toilet area, due to the location of the toilet and small area he pulled the detainee to the middle of the room and could see that there was something tied around his neck, possible a t shirt or something but could not recall. He has tried to remove the ligature and at some point it has become undone – he has a vague memory of someone reaching for his fish knife (Similar to a seat belt cutter) which was on his belt. This may have been used or he simply untied it. He then explains that the detainees hand kept raising and going towards the detainees mouth, he believes he knocked it back, may have held it. He confirmed that he was on the right side of the detainee. He cannot recall who else was present at that stage.

He explains that Yan is there and is kneeling at the detainees head, he could remember where his hands were. He thinks that at some point someone mentions a battery but he never sees this battery and is not aware of the location of it.

A first response was called so staff were arriving, including medical and other detainees were trying to see what was going on, he recalls telling others to lock the unit down to secure everyone and give them space to work.

He states it all happened really quickly and was over within a couple of minutes. He does not know who did what.

Francis confirmed that no paperwork was filled out and cannot give a reason why, apart from forgot and was not given time due to staffing issues, but ultimately has no excuse. He thinks he saw Yan sat at a computer later on that day and assumed he was filling out paperwork.

Francis confirms he saw bits of the programme and admits that the person on the footage is him.

He explained that G4S showed him the clip during his internal discipline meetings and confirmed again this was him

He explained that Brook house is not run very well and has issues with staff shortages, he stated that the wing should have 4 staff plus others for various tasks such as constant watch with relief officers to take over, but this does not happen so will often work with any breaks or relief from tasks.

Francis states he is extremely stressed out, albeit not seeking medical attention yet, he wants to put this matter behind him and try to get on with his life but every time someone talks about this it come flooding back knocking him back.

Charlie Francis will not support the Police and will not provide a statement.