

Vanan Group of Companies

File Name: Bus driver who Wilson Romaine killed Deshon Johnson 7-18-12 (pt 2)

Detective: Mike Booker. How are you?

Lawyer: Detective how are you? This is Romaine... this is Mr. Romaine.

Detective: Yes

Lawyer: All the way through please.

Detective: No, Let him...(gesture) set there you set here.

Lawyer: You wanna go here? You want me go over there? Okay.

Detective: Thank you.

* **Lawyer:** I've left a message for Detective Nardon when I was on my way up to...

Detective: Oh, he's out today.

Lawyer: He's out today?
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Detective: Yeah.

Lawyer: He's still kind of skinny?

Detective: Yeah, he's like half the person that he used to be.

Lawyer: It's true wasn't it? He needed that...he was...he needed that...it was good for him.

Detective: He actually looks good. He needed that let's see... hm. Since you're here we'll give him Miranda, it's not necessary, but since you're here we're gonna do it.

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Lawyer: Okay. Are you up to give a statement, are you upset tonight? I mean that's the only reason why I – they don't wanna talk to you if you're not gonna be in the right frame of mind.

Bus driver: I'm little be– because I never have something like this.

Lawyer: Well...a lot of people have not.

Detective: Yeah thats, your ...your one of the ...well. ..It happens, but you're – you know, it's not like it happens every day. You know, you're one of the few people that unfortunately that it happens to. Um, you know, this is-this is an accident. There's nothing that you could've done that would've prevented this.

Bus driver: Because I see somebody running for the bus when it was, even I... (He stood up to demonstrate what happen)

Lawyer: intervene to stopped Bus driver from talking and gesturing about what happen.

Lawyer: You know, why don't you wait 'til. Michael let's do the... Let the Detective give you your [cross talk] he's gonna ask you some questions about what happened, and if you need-if, you know, it's gonna be a big interview today or?

Detective: No, we're gonna do [cross talk]

Lawyer: Sometimes I come in like a week later or so and see Vincent, you know
more than a week

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Detective: Um...is everything you told me here today been the truth?

Bus driver: Yes.

Detective: Okay. Is there anything else you'd like to add to this statement?

Bus driver: [grumbling]

Lawyer: Well, if you have something you want to tell me.

Bus driver: [over talk, I am very scared] this the first time something...

Detective: Of course.

Bus driver: ...that I killed somebody.

Detective: Yes, I understand. You didn't do anything wrong.

Lawyer: No. And I work with you gentlemen all the time, sometimes...

Bus driver: [See...I see this guy]

Detective: You didn't see him, you didn't do anything wrong. It's not your fault.

Lawyer: [over talk] In a low voice-you did not see anyone.

Lawyer: I work with these gentlemen all the time, Wilson. If you remember something,

if you want to say something...Bus driver was going to talk more about what happen but

Detective and Lawyer cut him off looking at one another.., I can always get in touch with either

Detective [inaudible] or Detective [Nardone] and we can go from there. Or if they have more

questions, sometimes that happens, too. Everything we're hearing is...

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~~*~~ **Detective:** This is gonna be-this is gonna be pretty short and sweet.

Lawyer: I-I-I – that was my impression.

Detective: Yeah. This is just-this is just so we can get what he was doing. I've already taken statements from the people on the bus. Everybody's consistent so he has nothing to worry about. Okay?

Lawyer: Gottcha. You're understand Wilson?

Bus driver: Yes, how are you?

Detective: And again, this is – we're gonna do this because your Lawyers already hear right...

Bus driver: Yes.

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Detective: All right, just to make everybody more comfortable. Okay. You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to talk to a Lawyer, and have him present while you're being questioned. If you cannot afford to hire a Lawyer, one will be appointment to you-one will be appointed to represent you before any questioning if you wish one, but he's here. You have the right to stop answering question at any time, questions or giving of a statement at any time. If you wish to have, um, you don't have to give a reason why you wanna stop, if you wanna get your Lawyer that's fine. And again if you can't afford one, but your-your attorney is here. All right? This is the waiver . Okay? I've been advised, I have read the statement of my right shown

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above. I understand what my rights are, I'm willing to answer questions and make a statement.

All right? You don't have to worry, you have a Lawyer here. Okay?

Bus driver: Okay.

Detective: You're gonna sign here, okay. Okay, today is – the time is 01:26 p.m.

You can put 7-18-12, and it is 01:26. No, That's it.

Lawyer: And I just wanna tell you, like as Detective mentioned, if the questions, if you at any time for any reason you need to talk to me that's all part of what we just explained to you, you have that right. I think like Detective said, I think it's gonna be short and sweet, but if there's something that you-you're stuck on or you're upset about something, any time you want we can stop this, but I think we-we're here to tell them what happened and what you know.

Detective: Okay. First thing, what's the bus number?


Bus driver: The bus number is 6095, 6-0-9-5.

Detective: 6-0-9-5. And your route?

Bus driver: The route is 7-0-9.

Detective: 709, okay. What time did you start work that morning?

Bus driver: I start work on 6 o'clock.

Detective: 6 a.m. Where do you pick up the bus?

Bus driver: I pick up the bus on Paramus.

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Detective: (Said to Bus driver Park Avenue)

Detective: I see, you're running your route, how many times do you take your-
you're on a loop brake, how many times does it usually take you to...?

Bus driver: The first one I'm leaving on Garden State Plaza. There's a second
one, I'm leaving here [inaudible] [00:05:58] Plaza coming there and I'm leaving at 10:40 to go
into Garden State Plaza.

Detective: Okay. So this morning you're on your route, and you're coming down
Broad Street?

Bus driver: Broad Street.

Detective: Okay. You come up to Bay Avenue?

Bus driver: Bay Avenue, make a right.

Detective: And the you make a right turn. That's your standard route? That's –
you're supposed to go that way?

Bus driver: Yes.

Detective: Okay. There's a bus stop on the corner?

Bus driver: Yes, bus stop on the corner.

Detective: Was there anybody at the bus stop?

Bus driver: Anybody on the bus stop, anybody.

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Detective: Nobody?

Bus driver: Nobody. I just see one lady, and he wait for other bus, not for me.

Detective: Okay, so you're making – now you're making the right hand turn, take it from there. What happens?

Bus driver: Okay. When I'm making right turn everything clear because the light is green, the car waiting, I'm making right. When I'm making right, I don't see anything when I'm making right. Only [inaudible] [00:07:07] when I'm like um..

15...15miles when I make right going up, I hear some noise I hear something said grump. I said, "What happen?" But I feel the noise in the back left side the bus it was, when I park the bus forward ... I see somebody fell down I said Ought, but I don't see nothing. See, I see somebody running for the bus. If in the car behind it I park the bus and I see nothing in the front of the bus. I don't see nothing in the front of the bus...I don't see nothing only when I [inaudible] [00:07:50] finish, I'm making my right to go, but when I see the noise I park the bus all the way00:07:56I see these people, and it happened.

Detective: Okay. Now, you said when you went in the turn you felt something.

Bus driver: I felt something – no. When I'm finished making turn, I'm finished making my turn I felt something.

Detective: Like a bump?

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Bus driver: Yes. I say, "What happened" because I no see the end, nothing-
nothing Sometime they have cone nothing.

Lawyer: Did you tell the Detective whether or not – had you straighten the bus
out when you finished the turn?

[Cross talk]

Bus driver: I finished the turn.

Detective: Bus made the turn, bus is going straight?

Bus driver: Yeah. Running straight.

Detective: And that's when you felt the...bump

Bus driver: When I felt the noise I was stop the bus to look what
happened...because.

Detective: How many people were on the bus?

Bus driver: At the time we had like five people.

Detective: Five people.

Bus driver: Yeah, we had two people come in...

Detective: Right.

Bus driver: Umm

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Detective: Did they say anything? Did you hear any of the passengers make any noise? No,no. When the noise...

Lawyer: A warning before hand –were telling him afterwards. [repeat] tell afterward

Detective: No...Yeah. Did they, did people you know after they [over talk] Okay, did you hear people on the bus say anything?

Bus driver: No.

Lawyer: My other question is did anybody say to you before you heard the bump, “There’s somebody,” any warning, anything you heard?

Bus driver: No. If somebody’d warn me, I would have stopped the bus.

Lawyer: But that didn’t happen Of course, that didn’t happen.

Detective: You didn’t see nobody?

Bus driver: No no.

Detective: Okay. How long have you been a Bus driver?

Bus driver: Um, I’ve been driving a bus since 1996. I started driving a bus, a school bus. When I fail the school bus I drive a bus for bus 31 Newark. After 1997, I go to report and try to get training.

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Detective: Ah.

Bus driver: January 1998, I start to work full time.

Detective: How long you been working for Coach?

Bus driver: Since 1998, and this time I work for Coach.

Lawyer: He just said a lot of different Coach. [Over talk] This is specifically
Community Coach, right? [Over talk, in Paramus off 17]

Detective: And how long have you been with that company?

Bus driver: In 1998.

Detective: You started there in 1998?

Bus driver: 1998, I start.

Detective: As you said before this has never...

Bus driver: Never had no problem, nothing.

Lawyer: He's got a pretty clean history. [inaudible] we did a record check from
record...record and stuff from here.

Detective: Umm. I see you put on glasses are those reading glasses. Do you wear them
to drive? Do you wear them all the time?

Bus driver: All the time.

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Detective: Okay...Umm. Do you take any medication or anything?

Bus driver: Today, no...I don't take any medication.

Detective: Okay. Do you normally take medication?

Bus driver: Sometimes in the night I take something for the blood pressure.

Detective: Okay, Okay...Umm. I don't have anything else. That's pretty much... Your story is, your account of what happened is consistent with everybody else that I've spoken to. Okay?

Lawyer: They all say he head towards the back?

Detective: Um, yeah. Everybody says...

Lawyer: [over talk, Anybody see how this / happened, but did anybody see him? See how this happened specifically?

Detective: He's...everything is consistent with what he is saying

Lawyer: Yeah.

Detective: Alright?

Lawyer: He does have to be drug tested.

Detective: Yeah, that's all the standard...

Lawyer: I'll take that [out to Paramus]

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Bus driver: [My license]

Detective: No, you're fine. Okay? What we're going to do at this time is we're going to end this statement at 1:35. Now I'm going to turn him over to you.

Lawyer: He's free to go.

Detective: Yes.

* Lawyer: Will Vincent run this or will you...Detective? Usually they'll ask for the results of the drug test. They usually come back out in a week or so. ✓

Detective: Yeah.

* Lawyer: Vincent knows how to get a hold of me. ✓

Detective: Yeah, I'll have them...


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Lawyer: It's a whole company policy [I will take him to Paramus now] so they'll drug test him quickly and...

Detective: I have all this information. I just need a phone number for you.

Bus driver: (862)224-9483.

Lawyer: Did you give him his CDL back? Did you give him his license back?

Detective: Detective [Contreras] who's doing the scene right now, they have his license.

Lawyer: They have the CDL on scene, at location?

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Detective: Yes. The license and registration for the bus, that's all...that's at the scene.

Lawyer: Got it. Okay.

Detective: But I know that Jimmy will get that back to you...

Lawyer: Not a problem.

Detective: ...soon, because you'll have to be able to drive your car home.

Lawyer: Okay.

Detective: Okay.

Lawyer: I think we have some people [mumbling...to get to]

Detective: Yeah, you do have [Coach Video] [inaudible}.

Lawyer: Let's just wait here.

Detective: Just wait here for a few minutes [over talk, I see...just wait one second...one second]