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**PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU**  
**INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**  
**Confidential Taped Statement**  
**Sgt. Michael Barkley #8570|Sgt. Derrick Rodrigues #37149**

**Interview Date:** May 8, 2008  
**IAD #:** 2006-B-0016  
**Complainant:** Portland Police Bureau  
**Interviewed:** Multnomah Co. Deputy Sheriff Thomas Hollenbeck #38036

**BARKLEY:** This is Investigator Michael BARKLEY #8570 with the Internal Affairs Division, and Sgt. Derrick RODRIGUES #37149, who's assigned to the Personnel Division. The date and time are Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at 1510 hours. We are interviewing Multnomah County Deputy Sheriff Thomas HOLLENBECK #38306, at Multnomah County Attorney's Office, at 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Room 500, Portland, Oregon 97214. Also present is Miss Susan DUNAWAY, Multnomah County Attorney. Deputy HOLLENBECK is a witness regarding IAD Case No. 2006-B-0016, the in-custody death of Mr. James CHASSE, which occurred on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at approximately 1718 hours, at the 1300 block of NW Everett Street. Prior to the interview beginning, Deputy HOLLENBECK had reviewed related documents, specifically his Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Information Report, Portland Police Bureau Special Report, in which he gave an in-depth statement to detectives, and the Civil Deposition with Mr. Thomas STEENSON on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. Do you have any documents or a notebook regarding this incident?

**HOLLENBECK:** No.

**BARKLEY:** Okay. You just have to speak up so we make sure we get this on here.

**HOLLENBECK:** All right.

**BARKLEY:** The first question I have for you: have you been provided a copy and/or have you, prior to today, reviewed interview questions prepared by the Portland Police Bureau Internal Affairs Division?

**HOLLENBECK:** No.

**BARKLEY:** Okay, regarding the in-custody death of Mr. James CHASSE on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, at 1904 hours, would you provide the background of your law enforcement experience, including your employment on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006?

**HOLLENBECK:** Um, I've been with the county since August 23<sup>rd</sup> of 1999, uh, employed as a deputy - corrections deputy.

**BARKLEY:** So, you started with the Multnomah County as a deputy - when?

**HOLLENBECK:** August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**BARKLEY:** August 23<sup>rd</sup>...

**HOLLENBECK:** 1999.

**BARKLEY:** And did you have any prior experience before that within law enforcement?

**HOLLENBECK:** No.

**BARKLEY:** Okay. On Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, please explain your duties and responsibilities at the Multnomah County Detention Center.

**HOLLENBECK:** I was working as a Utility Deputy in the intake. Um, my duties were to search-- pat down inmates that came in, into custody.

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50 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And anything else besides that?  
51 **HOLLENBECK:** Uh, no.  
52 **BARKLEY:** So, you don't process them after that, after you'd searched 'em?  
53 **HOLLENBECK:** What do you mean by process?  
54 **BARKLEY:** Well, do you take them from any other points throughout? There's a process of  
55 booking people.  
56 **HOLLENBECK:** Well, yes, I mean, booking--booking them back into reception, just down in the  
57 basement--while they're down in the basement.  
58 **BARKLEY:** Okay, on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, please explain the circumstances  
59 involving Mr. CHASSE and your involvement.  
60 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, when he came in, I went out to the intake sally port to help bring him into  
61 the booking counter, and, uh, we, uh--I handed Deputy HUBERT and  
62 McELHANEY, we went out there, and the, uh--I handed the, uh, BURTON a  
63 spit sock, and then the other officers and deputies, we got him out of the car, and  
64 then, uh, he was hobbled so he couldn't walk, 'cause his feet were together. So  
65 we picked him up and carried him into the--into an isolation cell inside the  
66 booking counter - the reception. And then, uh, I held his feet going in, and once  
67 we got into the isolation cell, I continued to hold his feet, and somebody else cut  
68 off the--the restraint, and, um, he was unhandcuffed, and then, uh, everybody  
69 backed out of the cell.  
70 **BARKLEY:** Okay, let me ask you, prior to Mr. CHASSE arriving, were you aware that there  
71 was a telephone call made to Multnomah County Detention Center requesting  
72 assistance from Multnomah County deputies...  
73 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
74 **BARKLEY:** with Mr. CHASSE?  
75 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
76 **BARKLEY:** So, you were aware of that?  
77 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
78 **BARKLEY:** Okay, what information were you given, or were you aware of?  
79 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, the best I can remember, I think they just said they called ahead and said  
80 that we were gonna need to have, uh, help getting somebody out of the car.  
81 **BARKLEY:** Okay. So, nothing beyond that?  
82 **HOLLENBECK:** Not that I remember.  
83 **BARKLEY:** Okay. When Officer HUMPHREYS, Deputy BURTON, and Mr. CHASSE  
84 arrived in the sally port of MCDC, were yourself and the other deputies already  
85 in the sally port when they arrived, or did they arrive and you went out?  
86 **HOLLENBECK:** They arrived and we went out.  
87 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And was there any time lag between the time that they arrived - Officer  
88 HUMPHREYS, Deputy BURTON, and Mr. CHASSE in the sally port - was  
89 there any time lag between their arrival and when yourself and the other three  
90 deputies went into the sally port?  
91 **HOLLENBECK:** I don't remember.  
92 **BARKLEY:** Well, were you standing there? Did you see them drive in?  
93 **HOLLENBECK:** I don't remember.

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94 **BARKLEY:** Okay. What was your location--how did you become aware that they arrived, if  
95 you weren't in the sally port?  
96 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, I was up at the booking counter, but I don't remember the whole timeframe.  
97 **BARKLEY:** Okay. I believe that you had stated earlier in a deposition, that you were there  
98 when Mr. CHASSE was removed from the police vehicle and was able to stand  
99 upright - is that correct?  
100 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
101 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And what side of the vehicle were you standing on - the police vehicle?  
102 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, when they pulled him out, I was on the, uh--I was on the driver's side.  
103 **BARKLEY:** And Mr. CHASSE was removed on which side?  
104 **HOLLENBECK:** The passenger side.  
105 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And how was it that you were able to see that Mr. CHASSE was able to  
106 stand upright?  
107 **HOLLENBECK:** 'Cause I walked around the car.  
108 **BARKLEY:** Okay.  
109 **HOLLENBECK:** And he was standing up.  
110 **BARKLEY:** Do you recall, in your deposition, saying that you were able to see Mr.  
111 CHASSE's head over the top of the police vehicle?  
112 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
113 **BARKLEY:** Okay, that's a yes?  
114 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
115 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Considering that Mr. CHASSE was handcuffed and hobbled, with the  
116 hobbles' nylon strap going around his ankles and through the chain of the  
117 handcuffs, how would it be that Mr. CHASSE would have been able to stand  
118 upright?  
119 **HOLLENBECK:** It was all the way out, so the--[clears throat] I mean, the--it was fully extended,  
120 so...  
121 **BARKLEY:** So, there was a lot of distance?  
122 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
123 **BARKLEY:** And Mr. CHASSE was carried from the sally port into the booking facility  
124 because he was able to walk - is that correct?  
125 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
126 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Can you explain, for clarification, if he was able to stand up, because the  
127 nylon hobble strap had been stretched out its full length, why was he unable to  
128 walk?  
129 **HOLLENBECK:** Well, the deputies helped pull him out of the car and stood him up.  
130 **BARKLEY:** Okay. But why was he--why was Mr. CHASSE unable to walk from the police  
131 vehicle into the booking facility itself?  
132 **HOLLENBECK:** Because it was--the hobble was tight around his legs to where his ankles were  
133 together.  
134 **BARKLEY:** Okay. So what happened from the time - okay, so, there were four of you who  
135 carried Mr. CHASSE in - correct?  
136 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
137 **BARKLEY:** And do you remember who had the feet, and who had the arms?

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138 **HOLLENBECK:** Not off the top of my head.  
139 **BARKLEY:** Okay. What did you have?  
140 **HOLLENBECK:** I had his legs.  
141 **BARKLEY:** You had his legs? Did you observe, or are you aware of any officer or deputy  
142 that used physical force directed at Mr. CHASSE, either prior to Mr. CHASSE's  
143 arrival at MCDC or while at MCDC?  
144 **HOLLENBECK:** Other than carrying him in, no.  
145 **BARKLEY:** You saw no physical force being applied toward Mr. CHASSE?  
146 **HOLLENBECK:** Um-hmm, no.  
147 **BARKLEY:** Okay, and you--did you hear of any physical force being directed at Mr.  
148 CHASSE by any officers prior to his arrival there at MCDC?  
149 **HOLLENBECK:** Um...  
150 **BARKLEY:** In conversations. Once he was there, did you overhear any officer or deputy...  
151 **HOLLENBECK:** Officer HUMPREYS said they had used force to--but I don't remember any  
152 specifics.  
153 **BARKLEY:** Okay. You don't remember his description of how much force was used?  
154 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
155 **BARKLEY:** When you were deposed, you had - the date of your deposition was on January  
156 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 - do you recall telling Mr. STEENSON that Officer HUMPHREYS  
157 had made a statement that he had tackled CHASSE?  
158 **HOLLENBECK:** I don't remember.  
159 **BARKLEY:** Okay. While Officer HUMPRHEYS, and/or Deputy BURTON were at MCDC,  
160 did either of them advise you or any other deputies or nurses of the struggle that  
161 occurred at the 1300 block of NW Everett Street?  
162 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, I believe HUMPHREYS said that he had, uh, bitten one of the sergeants  
163 and attempted to bite him.  
164 **BARKLEY:** Anything else?  
165 **HOLLENBECK:** That's all I remember.  
166 **BARKLEY:** Uh, do you recall either Officer HUMPHREYS, and/or Deputy BURTON,  
167 advising any of the personnel there at MCDC, that Mr. CHASSE had stopped  
168 breathing while at the 1300 block of NW Everett Street?  
169 **HOLLENBECK:** I think so, but I don't remember off the top of my head.  
170 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And referring to your information report that you submitted on Sunday,  
171 September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, I need to clarify some statements that you made in there.  
172 When you arrived in the sally port, you wrote, quote "CHASSE was sitting in  
173 the back of their car with his handcuffs behind his back, and his ankles secured  
174 with a nylon hobble restraint." Did you observe Mr. CHASSE fall onto the rear  
175 floor of the police vehicle?  
176 **HOLLENBECK:** I didn't see him, but I heard.  
177 **BARKLEY:** How did you hear it?  
178 **HOLLENBECK:** I was standing by, and I heard him--heard him roll off.  
179 **BARKLEY:** You were standing outside the vehicle and you heard him roll off the seat?  
180 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.

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181 **BARKLEY:** Okay. And when you heard him roll off the seat, did you look inside the  
182 vehicle?  
183 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
184 **BARKLEY:** And was he on the floor?  
185 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
186 **BARKLEY:** Was there any deputies or officers inside the vehicle at the time he rolled off the  
187 seat?  
188 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
189 **BARKLEY:** So, he was in there by himself?  
190 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
191 **BARKLEY:** Did you notice whether or not he was seat-belted in?  
192 **HOLLENBECK:** No, I did not.  
193 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Also you wrote, quote "The PPB officer unhooked CHASSE's seatbelt,  
194 and McELHANEY...  
195 **HOLLENBECK:** McELHANEY.  
196 **BARKLEY:** "McELHANEY started helping CHASSE get his feet out of the right side of the  
197 car. McELHANEY and HUBERT and the MCSO deputy pulled CHASSE from  
198 the car, because he was not complying with their orders." Do you recall what  
199 the orders were that Mr. CHASSE wasn't...  
200 **HOLLENBECK:** I...  
201 **BARKLEY:** complying with?  
202 **HOLLENBECK:** I don't remember.  
203 **BARKLEY:** When Mr. CHASSE was pulled from the police vehicle, was he ever dropped  
204 and/or physically forced to the ground?  
205 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
206 **BARKLEY:** You wrote, quote "Once out of the car, McELHANEY, HUBERT, and the  
207 MCSO deputy and I carried CHASSE into the isolation cell, and placed him on  
208 the ground." Can you describe the manner in which the four of you carried Mr.  
209 CHASSE?  
210 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, I carried a leg, and the, you know, we each had either a leg or an arm, and  
211 we carried him in.  
212 **BARKLEY:** Okay, so there was a deputy or an officer on each leg, carrying each leg, and also  
213 each arm, now was that, do you recall, the arms, were they carrying him by the  
214 arms, or under the armpits?  
215 **HOLLENBECK:** Under an armpit; upper arm.  
216 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Was Mr. CHASSE ever dropped, or physically forced to the ground  
217 while he was being carried?  
218 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
219 **BARKLEY:** You wrote, quote "While carrying CHASSE in, he was yelling and kicking at  
220 us." End of quote. What was Mr. CHASSE yelling?  
221 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, it was just nothing that made sense.  
222 **BARKLEY:** At any time, did Mr. CHASSE ever complain about being in pain, or any injuries  
223 that he sustained?  
224 **HOLLENBECK:** No.

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225 **BARKLEY:** You wrote "Medical was called to look at Mr. CHASSE" - end of quote. Why  
226 was medical called to examine Mr. CHASSE?  
227 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, 'cause he had some blood on his face, and then, um, while we were un-  
228 handcuffing him he stopped moving.  
229 **BARKLEY:** Okay, and the blood on his face, by reading the reports, this would've been  
230 blood that soaked through the spit sock?  
231 **HOLLENBECK:** Yes.  
232 **BARKLEY:** So, did you ever see Mr. CHASSE's face to see the source of the blood?  
233 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
234 **BARKLEY:** Was it a fair amount of blood?  
235 **HOLLENBECK:** Not that I remember.  
236 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Now, when you said that Mr. CHASSE stopped moving, was it that he  
237 simply stopped moving, or was it that he stopped breathing?  
238 **HOLLENBECK:** I--I didn't notice.  
239 **BARKLEY:** You wrote, after CHASSE was removed from the cell, and carried to the police  
240 vehicle, quote "CHASSE rolled off the seat onto the floor, and the PPB officer  
241 picked him up and placed him on the seat." So, are you saying that Mr.  
242 CHASSE fell off the rear seat of the police vehicle when he arrived, and then  
243 when he was leaving?  
244 **HOLLENBECK:** No, it was just when he was leaving.  
245 **BARKLEY:** Just the one time?  
246 **HOLLENBECK:** The one time.  
247 **BARKLEY:** Okay. When did you notice whether or not Mr. CHASSE was in a sitting or  
248 lying position prior to rolling on the floor?  
249 **HOLLENBECK:** Did not.  
250 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Do you know what part of Mr. CHASSE's body struck the vehicle floor?  
251 **HOLLENBECK:** I do not.  
252 **BARKLEY:** Was it hard enough that it caused you to divert your attention to the vehicle?  
253 **HOLLENBECK:** It just sounded like he rolled off the seat.  
254 **BARKLEY:** Did it sound like it was--it was a fairly significant sound?  
255 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
256 **BARKLEY:** Can you describe Mr. CHASSE's demeanor and behavior, from the time he  
257 arrived at MCDC until he was transported from MCDC?  
258 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, he was just kinda incoherent; couldn't really understand what he was  
259 saying.  
260 **BARKLEY:** Was he combative, aggressive?  
261 **HOLLENBECK:** Um, just other than the kicking, I mean, and shaking while we were carrying  
262 him, he didn't--he wasn't saying anything specific.  
263 **BARKLEY:** Can you describe the demeanor and behavior of Officers HUMPHREYS, Deputy  
264 BURTON, and the other MCDC deputies, from the time Mr. CHASSE arrived  
265 until he left? Was there anything that indicated that their demeanor and behavior  
266 was unusual?  
267 **HOLLENBECK:** No. It was just very standard, routine.  
268 **BARKLEY:** So, no aggressive behavior...

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269 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
270 **BARKLEY:** by either of the officers or the deputies?  
271 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
272 **BARKLEY:** Okay. Well, that's all I have. Is there anything you wish to add, clarify, and/or  
273 produce regarding the in-custody death of Mr. CHASSE that we haven't  
274 covered?  
275 **HOLLENBECK:** No.  
276 **BARKLEY:** Miss Susan DUNAWAY, is there anything that you would care to address?  
277 **DUNNIWAY:** No.  
278 **BARKLEY:** Okay, our interview is concluded at 1529 hours.  
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282 2006-B-0016trs-HOLLENBECK  
283 Transcribed 5/12/08; 10:30 AM Marilyn Cavallero