

Interview of
LT. Mark Wayne Stewart 10/23/1964
300 Kenyon ST NW
Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 951-7527

Date and time of interview: 02/09/2018 @ 2000 hours

Place of Interview: Olympia Fire Department
300 Kenyon ST NW
Olympia, WA 98502

Stewart was working on the Medic van. Dispatch advised OPD requested medical restraints at 1209 Fern ST SW Olympia. Fire Department was already on scene ahead of medics due to being dispatched for a fire alarm.

Stewart advised that medical restraint use is a common occurrence. When the medic van arrived, they could not access the patient from the main entrance due to emergency vehicles blocking. The medic van accessed from 2nd entrance in the back. Emergency vehicles were also blocking this entrance, but the medic van was able to get by them by maneuvering slowing. This did cause a slight delay in their arrival. The medic van was dispatched at 0123 and arrived at 0131.

Michael Hughes was also on medic van with Stewart. When they arrived at scene, Stewart said their headlight lit up the scene and he observed rows of people filming with their phones. Stewart also observed a "heavy patient face down and handcuffed behind her back. Three officers were on top of her.

Stewart said positional affixation is concern in this type of scenario. Stewart said LT Jason Lawfler was speaking to the female. Law Enforcement requested a spit sock and it was put on her. The female started banging her head repeatedly on the pavement. Fire fighter placed a blanket under her head.

LT Hughes administered one injection of "Versed" to the left buttock of the female. The purpose of the injection was to sedate her and get her on a back board. This injection takes five to ten minutes to take effect.

As soon as Lt. Hughes gave the injection, he walked to the medic van to dispose of the needle. There was a change in the female's condition almost immediately. She became quiet and stopped fighting.

The three officers were still on top of her. Stewart saw name tag of one officer that said "Donald". Stewart did not know who the other two officers were.

Stewart told the officers that the female needs to come out of the handcuffs and they refused. Stewart said he told the officers a second time that she needed to be taken out of handcuffs and they again refused. Stewart said he told them to get her out of handcuffs a third time and was raising his voice. At this point, the handcuffs were removed. The female was rolled over and the spit sock was removed. The female was not breathing and appeared to be in respiratory arrest. She was immediately moved to the medic van where CPR was initiated. The scene was not safe due to the crowd.

An airway was established. She was vomiting. CPR was continued. The medic van was moved around the corner to avoid the crowd. The decision was made to "make a run for the hospital". The female had stable vital signs when they arrived at the emergency room.

Stewart said he believed that she was going to make it. He was surprised when he found out she died hours later.