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STATEMENT  
CASE NO. 81-11241

This is Detective Sandy Woodard of the Winter Haven Police Department. I am now at the Holiday Inn, room 537. Present with me is: MAE SINGH Spell your last name for me.

*MAE SINGH STATEMENT*

BS: S-I-N-G-H

SW: And your date of birth?

BS: February 25, 1955.

SW: Speak up a little for me, okay?

BS: Okay.

SW: And where do you live?

BS: In Richmond, Indiana.

SW: Give me your address and telephone number.

BS: 1022 Liberty Avenue.

SW: In Richmond, Indiana. And your telephone number?

BS: 935-3882.

SW: (INTERRUPTION - INAUDIBLE) ...I just recorded it and the address is Richmond, Illinois, I believe.

BS: We was sleeping in bed, I must have been in a deep sleep or something because I never heard no voices or nothing, and all at once I heard this loud noise. To me it sounded like someone did just slam door real hard and then I heard a big loud scream or voice or something but I couldn't make out what was said because the air conditioner was on. After that, that big loud noise, or scream or whatever it was, it was quiet for a few seconds and I sat up on the edge of the bed here and everything was quiet so I just laid back down. When I laid back down was when I started hearing noises. At the time I thought they was arguing or something, someone arguing over there. Then it started getting loud again, whoever it was started getting loud again, then my husband got out from the bed there and he called the front desk. When he called the front desk and they said there was a shooting and the police was there and I looked out the window and the police were here.

SW: Did you hear a gunshot?

BS: That must have been the commode lid that I heard; that must have been the shot, when I thought it was the commode lid. I didn't know what was going on so I thought it was a commode lid being slammed down, but that must have been the shot. When I heard it I just sat straight up in my bed.

SW: What time was this, do you know?

BS: I never looked at the time. I looked at the time after they started leaving this morning. I think it was about 4:30, our time.

SW: Did you hear what was being said next door?

BS: No, I couldn't understand no voices. All I could hear was the noise of the voice, you know, how loud it is.

SW: And that's actually what woke you up?

BS: Yeah, and that noise of the shot or commode or whatever I thought it was. That's what brought me out of my bed.

SW: Is there anything else?

BS: That's all I can remember.

SW: Okay, I need to ask your husband about the same thing so y'all want to trade places for a second. Okay, will you state your full name please?

KS: Kumari Singh.

SW: Okay, would you spell it?

KS: K-U-M-A-R S-I-N-G-H.

SW: Okay, and your date of birth?

KS: December 14, 1949.

SW: Okay, and where do you live?

KS: Richmond, Indiana.

SW: Same address?

KS: 1022 Liberty Avenue.

SW: Okay, what did you hear this morning?

KS: Well, I was in bed, the same time, we were sleeping, and I heard a loud noise. I don't know what it was, but both of us jumped up together. We didn't know what it was. It didn't even sound like a gunshot.



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SW: It did not sound like a...

KS: It did not, no it did not sound like a gunshot, just a loud noise. And I was trying to figure where the noise was and I just couldn't figure where the noise was. I don't know what it was, it might have been a gunshot, but it was loud. It ~~wake us up~~. We was sleeping and we never heard nothing until the noise. That was it. Then jumped out of bed, you know, and I heard some voices but I don't know what they was saying...we...

SW: Did you hear voices before the loud noise?

KS: Mope, Mope. He was sleeping. We heard nothing until the loud noise what wake us up, nothing at all. We didn't know what the loud noise was (inaudible) it might have been a small gun, it didn't sound real loud, but it was loud enough to wake us. The kids were sleeping too but they didn't wake up, just both of us jumped out of bed and we was trying to figure the noise but we didn't know what the noise was at all. We never suspected it to be a gunshot to tell you the truth and we heard voices afterward but I don't know if it was one voice or two voice. We didn't know but we heard voices, like arguing of some kind.

SW: That was after the loud noise, it sounded like they were arguing.

KS: After the loud noise, so we just went to bed. We figured it was just arguing next door, that's normal once in a while. So afterwards some voices wake us up outside. Look like it was argument and I figure police (inaudible) might get in a fight or something like, so I went to the phone called the front desk and told them to send the police up here and I told them (inaudible) and they said they already knew there was a shooting and it was sure a surprise to me, you know. We just knew somebody got shot, you know, (inaudible) accident or what it was.

SW: How long are y'all going to be in town?

KS: He don't know for sure.

SW: But you're not staying here or living here, I mean.

KS: We just moved here last...we just came here last Thursday and we rented this place here.

SW: Okay, are you going to find a job here?

KS: We don't know for sure. I'm looking for a place to settle though but we don't know for sure we are going to settle here or go different place.

SW: Well, if we need you for the court, that's why I'm asking you, how can we locate you? Through that Richmond address?

KS: That Richmond address is her mother's address.

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SW: Oh, your mother's address?

KS: That's right. The other address we lived at, we don't live in it no more, we sold the house.

SW: So you don't know where you're going to go from here?

KS: Not for sure, no.

SW: Okay, what kind of work do you do?

KS: Where I worked in Richmond, I worked as a (inaudible) we build school buses, big school buses, yellow ones. That's what I did back in Richmond. Over here I plan to find a little business of my own.

SW: I see. You don't know if it will be in Winter Haven.

KS: No. I don't know if it will be in Winter Haven or not.

SW: Let me give you my card and when you settle down you can let me know where you're going to be living.

KS: That will be fine.

SW: Okay, this will conclude the statement. The time is 10:05 a.m., the date is June 24, 1981.