

Saratoga Springs, Utah  
Natural Gas Explosion  
February 06, 2007

## **Appendix # 13**

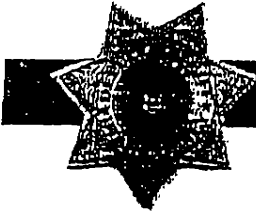
### **Statement of Kristine Ewert, Roper's Neighbor**

923 West Prairie Dog Way  
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

**And**

### **Statement of Captain Alisa Harper**

Saratoga Springs Fire Department  
995 West 1200 North  
Saratoga Springs, UT 84045  
(801)766-6505



*Copy*  
**UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Sheriff James O. Tracy

Enforcement Bureau  
Capt. Doug Wiltney

Corrections Bureau  
Capt. John Carlson

**VOLUNTARY STATEMENT**

Name: Kristna Ewert Date: 2/6/07 Case Number: [REDACTED]

Home Phone: [REDACTED] Cell Phone: [REDACTED] Work Phone: —

Address: [REDACTED] City: [REDACTED] State: UT Zip: 84045

DOB: [REDACTED] SS #: [REDACTED] Drivers License #: [REDACTED] Page 1 of 2

Notice: Pursuant to Section 76-8-504.5, Utah Code Annotated, 1953 as amended, you are notified that statements you are about to make may be presented to a magistrate or judge in lieu of your sworn testimony at a preliminary examination. Any false statement you make and that you do not believe to be true may subject you to criminal punishment as a Class A Misdemeanor.

I do give this statement of my own free will. I understand that I have the right to remain silent, that anything I say can be used against me in a court of law, that I have the right to talk to an attorney, and to have him present when I make this statement, that if I cannot afford an attorney one will be appointed for me if I so desire. I understand that I have the right to stop answering questions at any time.

Fully understanding the rights above I make the following statement.

Kristna Ewert  
(Signature)

JCS 60058  
(Witness)

I called April about 3pm today to see if she wanted to go for a walk she said was at Wal-Mart <sup>because</sup> a worker had come to her door & said the gas line had been cut by the phone company. she needed to leave immediately. I asked her when it happened she said she had only been at Wal-Mart for 10 minutes (plus drive time to the store).  
April came to our house about 4 or 4:15pm & we got ready to go for a walk. We buckled the kids in their strollers & started up the road. ~~the~~ The

\*REDACTED\*  
CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT  
TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

\*REDACTED\*  
CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT  
TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

## VOLUNTARY STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Case Number \_\_\_\_\_

Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

Quater workers were outside April's house. She walked around saying she wanted talk with the workers to find out when it would be safe to go in. I approached the Quater Vehicle. There were 4 workers - an older guy, 2 other males, and an African American male. The older guy (I believe) said it was safe to go in. April called back to me & said she needed to stop at the house & let a worker in. They needed to light something - she wasn't sure what she mentioned it might be the water heater. April opened the garage door.

We waited for a few minutes for the African American worker to change his boots out to cleaver ones. Both kids were on their strollers at the entrance to the garage door. April was standing at the back door.

The worker came & they went inside the house (leaving the back door ajar). They opened a door on the left side (interiorly) to the back door & then we didn't see where they went. I chatted with the kids for a few minutes. I don't know exactly how long, but it had to be less than 5 minutes. I am guessing it was more like two-three minutes, maybe 4.

Then, my attention was riveted. I don't know what alerted me first - could have been my son screaming & crying <sup>and car</sup> here <sup>was</sup> the <sup>rough</sup> <sup>boom</sup> or explosion. I noticed parts of wood falling down adjacent to where we were. I looked up towards the back door of the house & saw debris pushing towards us. I covered my son with my body. I then noticed that Olivia, April's daughter, had been flipped over. She was lying face down on the ~~garage~~ driveway concrete.

# Utah County Sheriff

James O. Tracy

ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

Capt. Doug Winey

Lt. Bennett, Lt. Pickup, Lt. Fene, Lt. Horn,  
Lt. Castlesberry, Lt. Snyder, Lt. Foshee, Lt. Durfee



CORRECTIONS BUREAU

Capt. John Carlson

Lt. Carter, Lt. Morgan, Lt. Monson, Lt. Beals

## VOLUNTARY STATEMENT FORM

CASE #: 07UC01273

Name: KRISTINA K EWERT Date: 2/6/07 Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm) \_\_\_\_\_ (wk)

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

I do give this statement of my own free will. I understand that I have the right to remain silent, that anything I say can be used against me in a court of law, that I have the right to talk to an attorney, and to have him present when I make this statement, that if I cannot afford an attorney one will be appointed for me if I so desire. I understand that I have the right to stop answering questions at any time.

Fully understanding the rights above, I make the following statement:

Kristina K Ewert \_\_\_\_\_ JCS SQ 058 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature) (Witness)

I went to her first. I had tried to turn the car over once.  
 On the second attempt, I did so. I saw she was bleeding from  
 her mouth. I took her unbuckled her so she could be  
 consided. We moved she, myself + another ~~person~~ <sup>plumber</sup> came  
 to get Ashton <sup>with me</sup>. We all moved away from the house.  
 We went to the edge of the driveway. By then, other ~~frames~~ <sup>walkers</sup>  
 came to help. The house was on fire. we moved further <sup>down the</sup> ~~away~~ <sup>street</sup>  
 the kids.

February 16, 2007

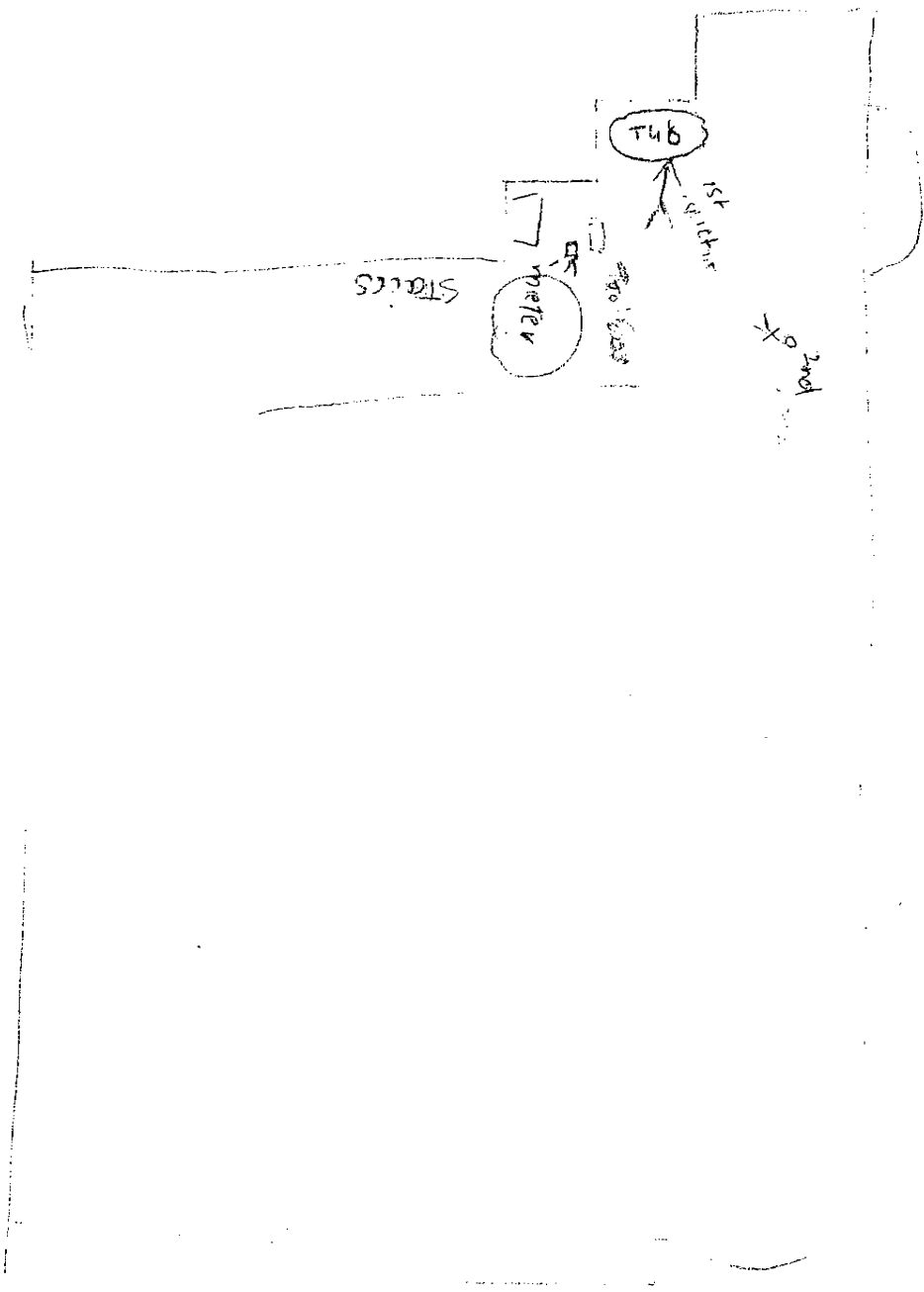
To whom it may concern,

I am writing this statement in regards to the incident that occurred on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. I was a member of the second search team that entered the basement. We started our search in the area where the stairs had collapsed into the basement. We removed part of the stairway, and searched under the remaining half of the stairway. After removing the stairway, this allowed us to cut and remove some of the flooring that had fallen into the basement. Upon removal of the flooring, the furnace and water heater were exposed. We then removed the furnace from the area, and I continued to remove some of the smaller debris by hand and this is when I found a small toolbox that was facing East to West lengthwise. I notified Chief Carlisle that I had found a toolbox, he told me to hand the toolbox up out of the basement. I carried the toolbox up the ladder on the north wall and handed it to a Lehi firefighter. At this point we removed the water heater from the area. I continued to dig thru and remove some of the smaller debris. I came across the gas meter and handed it to Chief Carlisle who handed the meter out to another firefighter. We continued to remove debris and flooring from the area. A track hoe was brought in to help lift the flooring that had fallen from the floor above. When the floor was lifted up we found the first victim. The victim was found approximately three to four feet away in relation to where the toolbox and meter were found. The sheriff's department entered the basement and took video and photos at this point. When the sheriff's were done taking pictures of the first victim, we continued our search for the second victim. The track hoe continued to lift the flooring, and we saw the second victim. The second victim was found approximately four feet away in relation to the first victim. The search was then terminated and the sheriff's department took over the investigation and we were asked to vacate the basement.

Please refer to the attached sketch in regards to where the toolbox and meter were found in relation to the victims.

Captain Alisa Harper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Captain Alisa Harper". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.



NORTH