

West Valley City Police

Witness Statement

Name: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] Date: 17Feb10 Case# 09i054602
Address: [REDACTED]
Contact Numbers: [REDACTED]

I have known Josh and Susan Powell since they moved to Utah. I belonged to the same LDS ward that they did and helped to unload the moving vans when they moved in. That was the first time I met them. From that time on I knew that Josh was a very unusual individual. He was quite "controlling" in some of his habits from the first time I met him. For instance he put down plastic on the floor as we moved them in so as to protect the carpets from dirt. We either had to walk on the plastic or take off our shoes before we could come into the house. The same was true when I visited his home on other occasions, minus the plastic of course. Whenever I engaged him in conversation it was normally a one way conversation. He would do most of the talking and did very little listening. He always seemed very interested in his opinion of what ever we spoke about with little regard for mine. I probably was not in their home or yard more than a half dozen times over the years and always to do with some type of church activity. Helping them with remodeling or working in their yard, priesthood visits, those kinds of things. We never did socialize in any way. I always found Susan to be very engaging, quite intelligent, and very gentle. Quite honestly I could not understand what she saw in Josh. The only other occasions I had to interact with either of them was at church. I always spoke to them when and they would return my comments during that time. My impression of Josh was always that he was a "my way or the highway" kind of guy. Yet I never had any impression of him as being overly aggressive or threatening in any way.

As I have observed his public behavior since Susan's disappearance I have commented to several people that while he is going to extremes perhaps, it is somewhat indicative of the man I have known these several years. He is just a very "strange" individual.

I did see Susan and the boys walking home from Stake conference that day. In fact I resisted the idea of stopping and asking them if they would like a ride. There were others walking in the same vicinity as them so I did not act on that impulse and merely drove on by. I am not a very observant person I suppose. I did not notice the style or coloring of the coat that she was wearing. I just remember that she had some type of snow boot on.

As I watched Susan over the last several months I was super impressed with her. In spite of Josh's inactivity in our church she remained very active and made certain that her boys were there where she felt they all belonged. Over the last many months it became obvious to me that she was very much concerned in bettering her self and was working hard for the welfare of her family. She had lost quite a bit of weight and obviously was concerned for her health. She had taken on a job to help support their family when Josh's business proved unsuccessful. From all I knew and observed about Susan I am convinced that she would never have let her boys go out in that weather that evening. There would

have been no way that Josh would have left the home thinking that the next day was Sunday. She certainly would have let him in on the fact that it was Monday, that they had work, and that the boys would be expected at day care. She would have never left her friends and family in the condition they are now in voluntarily. As I said, I know I a preaching to the choir, but for my own peace of mind I felt impelled to say these things.

My prayers are with Susan, her family, and with you and your department as you try to solve this case. I hold little hope for a happy ending but only pray for the truth to come out and for any individuals that may be responsible for foul play be brought to justice.

I wish I could be more helpful.

[REDACTED]