

1 GVP 63 Moeneek Cannady

2 D: (laughs) What's your name?

3 M: Moeneek.

4 D: Moeneek what?

5 M: Cannaday.

6 D: Cannaday. Okay Moeneek, can you speak up just a little louder?

7 M: (laughs)

8 D: And tell me a little bit about yourself?

9 M: Well, I have two children, one is 24, that's my daughter, and my son is 18. And I was married
10 to Stephan Cannaday.

11 D: And what is your ethnicity? Are you, you're what? African American?

12 M: Black, African American.

13 D: Okay, and how old are you?

14 M: 44.

15 D: Okay and your gender?

16 M: Female.

17 D: Okay, and do you live, where do you live?

18 M: I live in West Allis.

19 D: Okay, and are you a native Wisconsinite?

20 M: No.

21 D: Where are you from?

22 M: Milwaukee.

23 D: Okay, so oh you are from Wisconsin?

24 M: Yes.

25 D: Okay. So, tell me a little bit about the neighborhood that you live in now?

26 M: Well, it's kind, it's pleasant. Nice. There's not a lot of activity going on. You know, a lot of
27 homeowners and people that work. Upper scale. Upper scale people that work. And, you know,
28 the neighborhood I used to live in, it's a little bit busy, more busy.

29 D: Okay.

30 M: That's where me and my husband lived on 87th and Hampton.

31 D: Okay. So, tell me what happened recently with your husband?

32 M: Well he was killed. He was shot 6 times, left in the alley, naked. I know he was beat up a
33 little bit, but I know the night before that happened, I was with him at Brookfield Mall in
34 Brookfield, and we were walking in the mall and talking, holding hands, right before the mall
35 closed, and then he said, "Well I'll meet you at home." He was actually on his way to get his hair
36 cut. But then he called me and told me he was not going to get his haircut. He was going to stop
37 at a friend's house and that he'll be home. And that was actually the last time I actually saw him,
38 that night. April 11th, 2019.

39 D: What did you hear happened?

40 M: Well, I didn't talk to him anymore up until he told me he was at Potawatomi. That was
41 maybe, maybe three hours later. He told me he was hanging out with a friend at Potawatomi. So,
42 I ended up going down to Potawatomi, because I know the name of the person that he told me he
43 was with it just was an unusual name that I've never heard him speak about. So, when I got
44 down to Potawatomi, getting ready to park, I was going to call him and tell him "I was outside,
45 where is he at?" And before I could do that, he called my phone, and you know, and told me that
46 he was not, he may not be able to come at home at that point. And I started questioning him,
47 asking him why he wasn't able to come home. He never told me why, but I also never, it didn't
48 appear that he was in harm's way at that point.

49 D: Okay.

50 M: So, he just told me to go home. So, I went home, and I kind of paced around the house. I
51 called him continuously. You know he answers sometimes, sometimes he didn't, and when he
52 did answer, he didn't really appear to be in harm's way, but I did notice that there was something
53 unusual going on I just couldn't really pinpoint it. So, after that I didn't hear from him pretty
54 much anymore after that. That was about maybe one or two o'clock, and I tried to call his phone
55 back and he didn't answer. So, I rode around all night long all the way up until seven or eight
56 o'clock the next morning. Just riding in the car, and I was tired. Very, very tired. I was upset. I
57 just knew something wasn't right. I don't smoke cigarettes, so I bought me a pack of cigarettes
58 that night. And I had a drink, and I smoked the whole pack of cigarettes, just, just to have
59 something to calm me down. It felt kind of weird, but I did it. And it was payroll the next day for
60 my employees, because we owned our own business, and I did payroll. I was so exhausted the
61 next morning to the point where I had to have the employees come to our home to pick up their
62 checks because I was so worn out. So when I laid down, I finally think I laid down about nine

63 o'clock, and then when I laid down, then when I woke back up I was sitting on the couch and I
64 was looking out the window, and I seen the detective car pull up outside the house. And I didn't
65 know what they were coming for. I just said, "I wonder what's going on?" Whatever, because I
66 know he was actually on parole. He was getting off in two days. He was getting off parole in two
67 days. So, when they knocked on the door you know I'm kind of, I let them in. They ask me my
68 name, and I told them my name. Asked me, "Does Stephan live here?" and I said, "Yeah." So, I
69 invited them in, and I sat down. They were asking me, "Does he live here?" like, "Yeah." He
70 said, "Are you guys together? you divorced? separate?" And I said, "No, he lives here." They
71 said, "Okay." I guess they were kind of just making sure that they were able to talk to me at that
72 point. Trying to learn my identity at that point, and how I was related to him. And then after that
73 he had his, one of the detectives, had his officer show me a picture of my husband, like a
74 mugshot picture. And then when he showed me the picture and asked me if I knew him, I said,
75 "Yeah that's him." So, he started asking questions, "Okay, when the last time you'd seen him?" I
76 said, "Hold a minute, wait a minute." 'Cause at this point I, my, in my mind, "We ain't finna
77 play this game. What what's going on? Is my husband okay?" And then one of the detectives,
78 kind of blurted it out like, "He's dead." And at that point, I kind of just, kind of stood up and
79 kind of embraced myself to kind of grasp what he, what he actually told me. And I started pacing
80 back and forth the floor. And while I'm pacing back and forth, he was kind of asking me, "Well,
81 what did he have on when you last seen him?" But a lot of the questions they were asking me
82 after a while, I kind of put together why they were asking me that, because they said he was
83 found naked in the alley, so they really didn't know what he had on. So, they were asking me
84 that, but the thing, the worst feeling is just, you know, them knocking on the door and telling me
85 that, and pulling up outside. I'll never forget that day because I, I don't know. (pause) I just think

86 that when they go to people house's, they should have like a chaplain, something there, because
87 this might be routine to them, but it was real personal. It was real personal at that point, and they
88 do this every day.

89 D: I'm sorry, I left my box of tissues in the car.

90 M: They do this every day, and I just think it was wrong for them to just tell me that. As if that's
91 the normal thing. That's not. And they were just asking these questions, and after I couldn't
92 answer, really answer any more questions, they kind of like gave me their cards and stuff and
93 told me to call them and they left.

94 D: So, do you think their tactics were very impersonal?

95 M: Yeah because I just think that, you know, they do this on the regular. They go on crime
96 scenes and different things like that, but they don't know like the person that they have to deliver
97 this information to, how they going to take it. You know, how badly it's affected, it's not like,
98 you know, that was my life. That's all I really had, but it was a really bad experience.

99 D: What did you, did they give you any details as to what happened to your husband?

100 M: No, I don't think so at that point, and not until the next day, they came to pick me up and take
101 me downtown. They were asking me all these questions, and again I answered every question I
102 possibly could, because I told them every detail that I could remember, because I didn't leave out
103 anything cause I wanted to, whatever they needed to find out. They needed to get to the root of
104 what happened with my husband. They took my phone. They fingerprinted me. They took me to
105 the crime, I mean not the crime scene, but they took me to like in the area of the crime scene was
106 at, or where the gas station where I was waiting for my husband to meet me at. They took them
107 there, so they took me back to the crime scene and everything. And I tried to explain to them

108 exactly what I remembered that night. Not to thinking that I was a suspect at that point because
109 I'm his wife. It's what was routine and I get it. I understand, but it didn't bother me cause I know
110 I didn't, you know, have anything to do with it, but that's just what they do. It was hard, but it
111 was easy because there was kind of like, I was trying to help them so they job, so I just be, you
112 know, so that's what made it really easy (pause), for me to talk to them at that point.

113 D: Did they find out who killed your husband?

114 M: Yes, they did.

115 D: Do you, did you know them?

116 M: No, I did not.

117 D: How do you think this situation could have been avoided?

118 M: Well, first of all, if they wouldn't have done what they done, because they're the reason why
119 this happened, regardless of what my husband decided not to do. They made the d- the made the
120 choices to do what they did, and that's the reason why he's not here today, and they didn't have
121 to do that.

122 D: Wow. (pause) How do you think we can lower gun violence?

123 M: (long pause) I'm not really sure.

124 D: Okay.

125 M: I'm not sure.

126 D: Okay, what would you say to a wife or someone who just lost someone to gun violence?

127 M: (long pause) I mean there's no comforting words or message that you can tell somebody.
128 There's just really, you can't explain it. I don't know, I just, I don't understand. There's nothing
129 to understand that there, anything, but I know that he's never coming back. I have to try to deal
130 with that every day.

131 D: Wow. Is there anything that you'd like to say to our elected officials?

132 M: That they need to work, you know, together to try to bring some type of resolution to what's
133 going on in the city. They have to. They have to, because if it's not the people, even the people
134 that's doing it, maybe they, there might be something that, I don't know they can be involved in
135 the community to start lifting up the younger generations, because that's who they looking up to
136 and they looking up. I mean there are these people they're idol[iz]ing and stuff like that. They're
137 not, they're not a good influence on our younger generation at all. And that's why it's continued
138 to happen every day. So, it starts in the homes.

139 D: What would you like to see changed or done as a result of your husband's murder?

140 M: That, you know, this is not continued to happen to other family's young men, young women
141 in our community. Because we can't change what happened, but we can change how things are
142 being done so that it doesn't happen again. You know, educate our men, our women, our kids on
143 basically how to love and to respect each other. You don't have to like them but respect them
144 and love them. You know?

145 D: Do you forgive the men who murdered your husband?

146 M: Truly speaking, no I don't, but I know that in order for me to move onto my life I know that
147 what my husband would want me to do, even though he, that's not what my flesh would want,
148 but I know that in order for me to continue for me to be a blessing to somebody else's life, I

149 would have to forgive them. And my husband would want me to do that simply because he
150 would want me to have a good life when he's not, while he's not here. I see him all the time.

151 D: You see him all the time?

152 M: Mhmm, just my presence, his presence, all the time, and the person that he was he would
153 want me to be happy by all means. He always told me that.

154 D: Tell me how you see him.

155 M: Right now? I don't know, I always wonder that. Like, I be sitting here, just be like, crying
156 like, "I want to be where you at right now. What you doing? Like, I just want to be, even if I'm
157 just where you at right now." Even if it's me not being with my kids, I just want to be with him
158 just in the afterlife. But I know he'd want me to move on with life. He'd want me to be happy
159 and he'd want me to continue to do the right thing in life, to other people. Helping people and
160 stuff that's what he would want. That's the only thing that keeps me going. That's it.

161 D: Is there anything you'd like to add?

162 M: No.

163 D: Thank you.