

**Record of Tape  
Recorded Interview**



Person Interviewed David Charles Blakey (DB)

Place of Interview Riby Square Subpostoffice  
Grimsby

Date of Interview 13<sup>th</sup> May 2004

Time commenced 13.53

Duration of interview 32 minutes

Interviewing Officer(s) Paul Graham Whitaker (PW)

Other persons present

Time concluded 14.25

Tape reference no 059899

Helen Dickinson (HD)

Exhibit No:
Number of pages:
Signature of interviewing officer producing exhibit

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
00.00	PW	The time is 13.53, on the 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2004. My name is Paul Graham Whitaker, my colleague..
	HD	Helen Dickinson
	PW	And also present is
	SM	David Blakey
	PW	Right we're still in the office at Riby Square Subpostoffice in Grimsby. It's a continuation of the interview that stopped approximately five minutes ago. You got the time there Helen.
	HD	Yeah 13.50
	PW	13.50 we just stopped to change the tapes. David can you just confirm that whilst the tapes were off we've not asked you any questions in relation to the case
	DB	No not at all
	PW	Thank you very much. Right. As we carry on...on a fresh set of tapes I have to explain your legal rights again.
	DB	OK
	PGW	O.K. this is the form CS001 you signed side A at the start of the last set of tapes, I'll show you side B, There you go first of all I'll recation you that is to say that. You do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence. I'll give you your legal rights your legal rights which are. Firstly that you are not under arrest, secondly you are free to

**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
	DB PGW	<p>leave if you wish. Thirdly if you do remain you have the right to legal representation and advice including the right to speak with a solicitor either in person or on the telephone, the solicitor will give you advice regarding legal aid, and I can ascertain the availability of the duty solicitor or assist with directory enquiries if you wish. Fourthly there it says you are entitled to read the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 codes of practice if you wish, the codes set out your legal rights and the rules governing the conduct of this interview. OK if you can just time and date the top of the three lines there please. Right cheers, underneath there it says I confirm that I have been re-cautioned and reminded of my legal rights. I have also been reminded that I am free to leave if I wish OK.</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>If you can just signed underneath that then thank you. Similar to the other side of the page, first one says I wish to speak with a solicitor as soon as practical the second one says I still do not want to speak with a solicitor at this time. Can you just indicate which one you are signing against</p>
03.00	DB PW	<p>Yeah I'm signing against I still do not want to speak to a solicitor.</p> <p>And then underneath it says that if you do not want to speak to a solicitor at this time you can change your mind at anytime during the interview. . Do you understand?</p>
3.30	DB PGW	<p>Yes</p> <p>O.K. right jolly good.</p> <p>DB is shown form CS003 and indicates that he is happy to continue without a friend being present.</p>
10.00		<p>PW states that just as the last set of tapes finished he had shown DB last weeks cash account from the office ( Week 7 2004/2005) and DB had admitted that it was false. PW asks DB when was the last true account submitted DB states that he cannot remember specifically but it was some time ago. PW asks again a round about date for the last true account from the office. A discussion ensues at which a date is sought for the last true submitted account. During his perusal of the cash accounts DB states that he prepared and signed them all.</p> <p>DB responds to HD's question in relation to how much he inflated the figure in the first false cash account he submitted by stating that it was £5,000. that he thought was possibly an error in Girobank work but he did not pursue this as an error with Girobank as he had covered the figure up in his cash account.</p>

**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
11.10		In relation to the last true account, DB states that it was probably a year ago. Again he cannot specifically remember when and states that a lot has been playing on his mind , and for the last few months he has dreaded every Thursday until he could get something sorted out.
13.20		DB looks through a number of cash accounts
14.40		DB states that it is week two.
14.50	PW	So you've been false accounting since week 2
	DB	Yeah
	PW	Right I need to go through this with you...So I've got a cash account here it's dated 9 <sup>th</sup> of the 4 <sup>th</sup> 2003 week 2 of the financial year 2003 /2004. Its date stamped Riby Square Grimsby and it's signed by..
	DB	Yeah by me
	PW	...your signature On this document the cash on hand is declared at £51,494.56, was that the true figure at the time.
	DB	I believe possibly not
	PW	Well was it or not
	DB	(laughs)..... I really can't remember. I'm guestimating that's about the time it was so if that is the case I will have to say no that is not the figure.
	PW	Right so this is a false cash account
	DB	Yes
	PW	Right you..when you submitted this cash account did you know it to be false...obviously if you...
	DB	Yes
	PW	..you knew it to be false, and you know that that's a dishonest thing to do...
	DB	Yes
	PW	.....To submit a false cash account
	DB	Yes I do, although to be honest I didn't realise it was quite as serious at the time ...but I do yes
	PW	But you know it was wrong to do it
	DB	Yes I knew it was wrong to do it
	PW	Yes so that's week 2
	DB	Yes
	PW	So we've got week 7 that you've admitted is false, week 2 that you say is probably round about the start of it and you are prepared to say that that one is a false one

**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
	DB	Yes
	PW	If I can take one from.....lets have a look I'll just take week 28 because it's one that I have put my finger on. Is that your signature?
	DB	No it's my wife's that one
	PW	How often does she do the cash?
	DB	She doesn't
	PW	She doesn't
	DB	No she doesn't, she's probably signed that spare one and put it in the drawer, I think if you check the original, that went away its probably got mine on it.
	PW	I'll put that to one side and we'll try week 27
	DB	She might have taken it off the printer and signed and date stamped it but that's about it.
	PW	Right week 27 of the year 2003 / 2004 week ending 1 <sup>st</sup> of the 10 <sup>th</sup> 2003, cash account here office name Riby Square, is that your signature?
	DB	Yeah
	PW	So you prepared this cash account
	DB	Yeah
	PW	The cash on hand figure there is £87, 286.63. Is that an accurate figure of what was at the office at the end of that accounting period?
	DB	No..no
	PW	Right, so did you inflate that figure or did you inflate the figure to make it £87,000
	DB	Yes..Yes
	PW	So you submitted this account and you knew it was false,
	DB	Uh-uh
	PW	And you knew it was wrong to submit the account falsely
	DB	Yes
	PW	You knew you were committing a dishonest act
	DB	Yes yeah
18.20	PW	O.K Right so that's the false accounting bit out of the way, shall we say. PW states that throughout the year £60,000 has gone in general on a weekly basis. Over the year knowing the cash had to be repaid DB has not raised the issue with anyone, not the retail line, not other departments such as Girobank or NSB, not Chesterfield where the cash account goes, not with his members of staff, and that he has just kept it to himself. DB states that he has and that he has

**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
19.50	PW DB PW DB PW DB	altered the account every week to cover up the loss. Can you hear what I'm saying? (laughing) I can yes Can you hear how ridiculous it sounds Yes absolutely Because I still don't believe you I don't know if I believe myself but it's the truth Discussion in which PW states that if he is to believe that it is not DB, and at this time he does not, it must be another member of staff who has stolen the money in the last 12 months.
22.10	PW  DB PW	I think it's a case of you perhaps, might be the wrong term, but your twisted logic is you've coughed to the false accounting but...I think you have convinced yourself that you haven't stolen it. I don't know where the moneys gone, I don't know whether its something that you've kept secret from your wife or whether your in financial trouble.. No ...or whether....whatever..you've got a mistress on the side...I don't know what ever whatever it is it's something that your wife doesn't know about or it's something that you want to keep from your wife.
22.50		Discussion regarding financial position of DB at which he states that he had a redundancy payment of £30,000 when he left Kimberley Clark and they are not struggling financially. DB states that no other business ventures have turned sour and the Subpostoffice was to be the couple's retirement package.
24.26	DB  PW  DB PW DB PW DB PW	I honestly do not know where this money has gone. The only thing that I know for sure is that I haven't taken it, and my wife hasn't taken it. Well hoe do you know your wife hasn't taken it. Your wife didn't know you were covering up the accounts until this morning. No...No ....No way on this earth would my wife take it. My wife is... Well hoe can you say that Because I know my wife. And I bet your wife says that she knows you. Yeah but I know that there is a difference.....you would know if your wife had taken it wouldn't you. I would like to thinks so but I'm sure she would like to think.. know..she would





**Record of Tape Recorded Interview (continued)**

Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
	PW	For round about the last year
	DB	Yes
	PW	Yes I mean I gave you the
	DB	Yeah round about that time
	PW	...we looked through the individual cash accounts. Every cash account that's come out of the office basically for the last year has been a false account.
	DB	Yes
29.10		DB confirms that his wife does very little back room work. DB confirms that today is the first his wife know about any of this. DB states that he has done every cash account for the office and when he and his wife was in Cyprus in March of this year the office had a 2-week cash account.
31.20		DB agrees to complete a CS045 bank disclosure form which he agrees to complete off tape.
32.10		DB is shown and signs tape seal, 059899. He is given a notice explaining what will happen to the tapes.
32.30	PW	I have to inform you that you may have rendered yourself liable to prosecution, you do not have to say anything but it may harm your defence if you do not mention now something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence. Do you wish to clarify anything you have said or add anything before the end of the interview
33.13	DB	No the only thing to clarify is that I didn't take the money Interview concluded at 14.25