## **ProQuest**

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## Cop stopped youth just after shooting; Teen on trial in wounding of PHA officer

JULIE SHAW. Philadelphia Daily News. Philadelphia, Pa.: Jun 9, 2009. pg. 10

Full Text (415 words)

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A teen on trial in last year's shooting of a Philadelphia Housing Authority police officer was stopped by a cop shortly after gunfire erupted at the Germantown public-housing high-rise, according to court testimony yesterday.

Police Officer Robert Lee Jr. told a Common Pleas jury yesterday that he had gone to the high-rise, on Queen Lane near Pulaski Street, after hearing a radio call of an officer being shot at 10:17 p.m. on Feb. 17, 2008.

Lee said he saw a man who matched the radio information walking east on Bringhurst Street and stopped him.

Lee identified the man as Zahir Boddy-Johnson, 18, who faces charges of attempted murder, aggravated assault and carrying a firearm on a public street. Boddy-Johnson is accused of shooting and injuring PHA Officer Craig Kelley at the Queen Lane Apartments.

Boddy-Johnson told Lee that he was coming from the high-rise, where his aunt lived.

Asked if he knew that an officer had been shot, Boddy-Johnson replied: "No, I did not know a police officer had gotten shot . . . but I heard the gunshots," Lee quoted him as saying.

Lee then took Boddy-Johnson into custody for further questioning.

Kelley, 50, told the jury Friday that he was sitting in the apartments' front security booth when he heard a knock on the back door and opened it. That's when a man with a rifle shouted, "Don't move!" then shot him in the left side of his abdomen, he said.

Officer Edward Fidler of the Crime Scene Unit testified yesterday that the glass panes of the security booth in which Kelley sat were bullet-resistant, but not bulletproof.

Boddy-Johnson allegedly fired the rifle two more times, hitting a glass pane, after Kelley shut the door of the booth.

Assistant District Attorney Deborah Cooper Nixon told the jury that police Lt. Jack Feinman found a rifle that night under a minivan on Queen Lane near McKean Avenue.

The weapon was an SKS rifle, which is a high-velocity, "military-type" weapon, Officer Louis Grandizio testified. The bulletproof vest Kelley was wearing was not designed to stop a bullet fired from that type of weapon, he said.

Defense attorney Mike Parkinson has conceded that his client was at the scene and in possession of the gun, but argued to jurors that Boddy-Johnson never attempted to kill Kelley.

Boddy-Johnson allegedly confessed to the shooting in a statement to police, which is expected to be read in Judge Gwendolyn Bright's courtroom today. \*

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