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	:	
DR. CLYDE PEMBERTON,	:	
	:	
	Plaintiff,	
	:	
-against-	:	18 Civ. 7908 (LGS)
	:	
CITY OF NEW YORK, et al.,	:	
	:	<u>ORDER</u>
	Defendants.	
-----X		

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2023, the parties submitted the attached deposition designations for unavailable witnesses Kasseem Reddick and Gizelle Gant. The parties' objections and responses, as well as the Court's rulings on those objections, are noted in the margins. It is hereby

Dated: November 13, 2023
New York, New York


LORNA G. SCHOFIELD
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

G. GANT

1 Q. -- to the 911 operator rather?

2 A. No. I don't recall.

3 Q. So these women are hurling these racial slurs.

4 Was anyone responding?

5 A. I'm sure they were. I'm sure, but I don't
6 remember.

7 Q. Were there any other patrons at the establishment
8 that were still there at that point?

9 A. No. I don't remember seeing anyone
10 had to worry about because I know I probably
11 worried about those patrons and making sure
12 gotten out.

13 Q. Do you recall what event or events
14 that night?

15 A. I don't remember.

16 Q. What's the next thing that you recall from that
17 incident?

OVERRULED.

18 A. I do believe we got somebody on the phone, 911 or
19 whoever, a dispatcher to come, and I was like okay. Then
20 I'm going back into this whole situation. There's a chair
21 that's happened -- the older one is sitting in the chair
22 now I do believe, and I'm asking if she needs water and
23 trying to defuse the situation asking the other two does
24 she need water, let's just focus on her right now, what
25 does she need because she looks a mess. She's about to,

Defendants also object to 22:18-23:8 on relevance grounds. The specific alleged actions of the complainants toward this non-party witness are not relevant to the assessment of probable cause, are cumulative of other testimony from this witness and others, and potentially confusing to the jury given the lack of clarity as to what events the witness is describing

The testimony at 22:18-23 is directly relevant to the state of the women who were allegedly prevented from leaving MIST.

G. GANT

1 A. I don't recall.

2 Q. Okay. When you go outside you described the
3 scene at mayhem?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. What do you mean by that?

6 A. The police are there, we're trying -- I see
7 people trying to explain excitedly what's happening, what's
8 going on. That sort of -- if you're exiting it's sort of
9 happening a little to the left. To the right the EMTs are
10 there and some police and EMTs are laughing because the
11 brown haired woman is pushing, and calling them names, and
12 fighting them. And they're saying that she needs to get
13 into the ambulance and she's like I'm not doing anything
14 and running around, pushing them, doing all this other
15 stuff. And they're laughing and they think it's funny.

OVERRULED.

16 Q. She was pushing the police and E

17 A. Mm-hmm.

18 Q. Both the police and EMTs or one

19 A. I'm not quite sure.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. Somebody in uniform she was push

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. And everybody was laughing. The blonde haired
24 one, her back was against the wall and she was being very
25 quiet and just looking like she wanted to cry. Which is

Defendants object to 27:2-15 ;
Fed. R. Evid. 402, 403, and 802.
This description of events which
occurred after the commission of
the events is not relevant to the
assessment of probable cause,
contains speculation as to the
state of mind of unidentified
persons, and is potentially
confusing due to the vagueness of
the events described.

Plaintiff
opposes
Defendants'
objection,
which gives
no basis for
any
arguments
as to
relevance,
hearsay, or
prejudice.
The
testimony is
directly
relevant to
the state of
the
complaining
witnesses
when
Defendants
believed
they had
probable
cause, and
none of the
testimony is
being
offered for
the truth of
the matters
asserted.

G. GANT

1 everyone was -- everyone was heightened, so I'm not quite
2 sure what she said, how she said it. She could have been
3 just whatever. I'm not sure.

4 Q. I know you don't remember who you spoke to, but
5 do you recall what you said when you spoke to the person
6 who was the police officer?

7 A. Paraphrasing?

8 Q. Sure.

9 A. Okay. Sorry about that.

10 Q. That's okay. It's two years ago. I get it.

11 A. That we called them, we were trying to get them
12 here for a while, and these women were doing X, Y, and Z.
13 They were pushing, kicking, they were hurling abuses, and
14 this is -- and you guys are going to go and arrest whoever
15 This is not fair. And it just became something else.

Defendants object to 31:4-15; Fed. R. Evid. 402, 403, and 802. What this witness said to an unidentified officer is not relevant to the assessment of probable cause nor is her opinion as to the fairness of the arrests.

OVERRULED.

16 Q. So was that a conversation you had after
17 Mr. Debnam and Mr. Baptiste had been arrested?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And had Dr. Pemberton already been arrested when
20 you had that conversation?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you ever come to see that the blonde woman
23 was arrested?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Okay. What did you see in terms of that?

Plaintiff opposes Defendants' objection, which gives no basis for any arguments as to relevance, hearsay, or prejudice. The testimony is directly relevant to the information the Defendants had when they arrested Plaintiff, and thus the state of mind of the Defendants at the time Plaintiff was arrested, which is not hearsay. See, e.g., *Guerrero v. City of New York*, No. 14-CV-8035 (VSB), 2018 WL 4333985, at *9 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 11, 2018).

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Do you recall if they left a tip?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. While they were sitting there, did you overhear
5 any of their conversation, that you can remember?

6 A. Well, one of the ladies was t
7 because she was the one ordering the ro
8 coming to speak to me, I don't remember

9 it was or exactly what she was talking

10 But, it was, like, good energy

11 that something was going on because the

12 other drinks like they was buying round

13 round. So, they was having a good time

14 exactly what was going on.

15 Q. Let me ask you this, can you briefly describe any

16 of them sitting here today, what they looked like?

17 A. I think one was short and heavyset and two was

18 slim. I can't remember hair, but like I wouldn't be able

19 -- I don't think I would be able to exactly remember if I

20 seen them. It might come back to me like oh, yeah.

21 I was with them most of the night because they

22 was at the bar, but something that took place that wasn't

23 really known about originally is that they was drinking

24 before they came to the main bar. They was drinking in the

25 cafe originally first and we didn't find out until after

Defendants object to 10:15-11:9; Fed. R Evid. 402, 403, and 802 (implicates hearsay statements of others). The thrust of this testimony concerns information this witness purports to have learned about the complainants from unidentified persons at an unknown time. To the extent this is offered as evidence of the complainants' state it is clearly offered for the truth of the matter asserted. The admissible portions of this designation are largely duplicated at 11:12-12:2, which defendants propose as an alternative.

Objection sustained from 10:22 ("But something . . .) to 11:6. Otherwise overruled.

Plaintiff opposes the objection and disagrees with the proposed alternative.

The testimony is directly relevant to the state of the women who were allegedly prevented from leaving.

Any out of court statements in the statement are not offered for the truth of the matters asserted, but in the alternative, are not grounds to exclude the rest of the testimony.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 the incident happened.

2 And people was talking about what happened, that
3 I found out that before they even came to the main bar and
4 this is the reason why I believe they were intoxicated on
5 the level they was because they had a few rounds before
6 they even made it to the main bar.

7 And I know with me they had at least four or five
8 rounds because their bill was at least a hundred and
9 something dollars and I know she tipped me at least \$20.

10 Q. Do you remember which one paid the bill?

11 A. I believe it was the heavysset one.

Objection sustained re 11:12 -
18; Otherwise overruled.

12 Q. So, they've been described to me by other people
13 as a blonde one with blonder straight hair, curly haired
14 woman who someone told me looked like she might have been
15 Mexican and the third one like older, like, was the oldest
16 of the three. That's how they've been described to me.

17 I'm not representing that that's what they
18 actually look like, but based on those descriptions, does
19 that comport with your general recollection of them?

20 A. Yeah, I think one of them I thought was Spanish,
21 yes, but I wouldn't be able to give you -- like, it was a
22 long time ago. The only reason is because there was an
23 incident I actually remember, but I try and be tentative
24 with the customers especially if they are tipping trying to
25 remember if they come back, to give them the same good

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 was drinking a white wine and they went one round, two
 2 rounds, three rounds and then later on they was there
 3 talking, laughing for the whole night.

4 Q. And at some point there was, I'm calling it an
 5 incident?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Tell me what you remember of what happened?

8 A. Okay. So, I remember one of the young ladies I
 9 believe her name was -- her -- I don't know her real name,
 10 but one of the girls that worked there her name was Luna.

11 She came to me and asked me for a bottle of water
 12 and I asked her, "what's going on?" And she was like, "one
 13 of the female -- one of the customers they're under the
 14 influence in the bathroom and they need water." So I gave
 15 her the water.

16 Then one of the other girls came and was like,
 17 "they need a cab, do you know a New York cab number?" I'm
 18 from New Jersey so I didn't know, so I asked somebody else
 19 and then one of the owners, Ms. Long, Jackie Long, she came
 20 to the bar and told me to give her a bottle of water as
 21 well and told me that one of the patrons was in the
 22 bathroom and that they was under the influence.

Objection sustained from 14:18 to
 14:24 to "shape." Otherwise
 overruled.

23 They was discombobulated. They couldn't
 24 physically move, they was in bad shape. So, I was
 25 basically cleaning up the bar, wrapping up for the night

Plaintiff
opposes
the
objection.
The
objection
as to the
testimony
"tak[ing]
the form of
a
narrative"
is not a
proper
ground to
exclude
the
testimony.

Any out of
court
statements
in the
testimony
are not
offered for
the truth of
the
matters
asserted,
but in the
alternative,
are not
grounds to
exclude
the rest of
the
testimony.

Defendants
object to
14:8-15:18
as it
contains
hearsay and
takes the
form of a
narrative.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 A. They just -- there wasn't really a say anything
2 situation. It was basically Dr. Pemberton said they're not
3 suppose to leave because this lady needs medical treatment.

4 These ladies trying to take this lady out without
5 getting medical treatment, so basically everybody -- he's
6 the owner of the establishment, most places you assume that
7 once somebody drop like that 'cause on numerous occasions I
8 had paid for Ubers out of my own pocket or gotten people
9 water and made sure they were safe and good before they
10 left.

11 So, when he said it, we just assumed that
12 whatever he said was right. He's an owner, he's very
13 educated. He's a doctor, he said she needed medical
14 treatment, so that's what we was persuing to try and get
15 her the medical treatment she needed.

16 Q. The women who were trying to leave that they were
17 preventing -- that he was preventing from leaving, was that
18 the real sick woman or the other women?

Objections in the transcript should not be
included. Exclude 20:16-20, 20:23-21:5.

19 MS. SAYLOR: Objection.

20 MS. FUDIM: I'll rephrase the question.

21 Q. Who was it that you saw him physically try to
22 prevent from leaving?

23 MS. SAYLOR: Objection, you can answer.

24 A. Wait, say the question the again, that objection
25 just distracted me.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 Q. What -- I didn't follow all the hes.

2 So, you felt like whatever the police officer
3 said to you might be trouble, so you went back inside?

4 A. Yes. And this was basically now at this point
5 everybody was outside and the lady was in the ambulance.
6 She was causing some type of disturbance at that point with
7 the ambulance people.

8 Q. When you talked to the -- well, did you talk the
9 officer inside or outside?

10 A. I talked to the officer -- I remember talking an
11 officer outside.

12 Q. Was it the white shirt or a different one?

13 A. No. It wasn't the white shirt, it was one of the
14 other officers. He had a jacket on that night I believe he
15 was about to officer.

16 Q. And did he ask you any questions about, like,
17 what these ladies were drinking or if any of, like, had
18 taken anything that you saw or anything about that?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you see Dr. Pemberton have a conversation
21 with any of the officers?

22 A. Yes. He was speaking to the police. I seen him
23 trying to explain that he was the owner and stuff like
24 that.

25 When Dr. Pemberton was talking to them, they

Plaintiff
opposes
the
objection.
The
testimony is
not
speculation,
and rather
describes
the
declarant's
observations.

Defendants
object to
24:20-25:3
as to
speculation
as to the
intentions
of the
plaintiff
and police
officers.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 What's Joel's contact?

2 A. (929) 363-6602.

3 Q. And he was working that night?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. But, you don't know if he was bartending that
6 night?

7 A. No, he wasn't bartending -- I don't -- no, he's a
8 bartender now, he wasn't a bartender then. He was working
9 for maintenance at the time because we are the ones that
10 closed that's how I remember.

11 Q. Because the two of you closed.

12 Did you hear -- so, other people who were there
13 that night have told us, you know, come in and met with us
14 and some people have said that the women were hurling like
15 racial slurs --

16 A. They were.

17 Q. -- did you hear that?

18 A. Yeah, I know that for a fact, that's true.

19 That's one hundred percent true. It started with something
20 -- it wasn't something I was familiar with, it was
21 something with a G or something.

22 And when she said it, that was another thing
23 that, like, shook the room, "okay, we're going that way
24 with it." When you hear something racist, it's like, how
25 do you want to deal with it. Do you want to be angry and

31:19-21 is not hearsay as it is a literal description of a word the witness heard used and is offered as evidence of his observations, not the truth of the statement being described.

Plaintiff
objects to
31:19-21
as
hearsay.

OVERRULED.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 be hostile about it or do you just want to brush it away.

2 So, when it was said it was, like, oh. It wasn't
3 towards me, it was towards Dr. Pemberton, but we all felt
4 it. It was, like, okay.

5 Q. And you said the word was one you didn't even
6 know the word?

7 A. I knew it was racist, but I hadn't heard it in a
8 while. Like, you don't hear unless you're watching
9 something, like I try not to be around people that believe
10 or live like that.

11 So, when I heard it, I was like, "Oh," it was
12 like I hadn't heard this in a while. Like, wow, that's
13 where you're going with it. It wasn't the N word, it was
14 something else. It was something I don't remember what it.

15 Q. Which one of three women said it?

16 A. If I had to guess.

17 Q. I don't want you to guess, if you don't know, you
18 could say you don't kn.

19 A. I don't know, but I think it was the same one
20 that hit Doc because she was in his face, she set it off
21 basically.

22 Q. Well, what was the affect of that, what was Dr.
23 Pemberton's reaction to that?

24 A. His face got -- like, his fate was real serious.
25 He just looked like and everybody kind of looked around

32:7-14 is not hearsay as the witness is describing his observations and knowledge, not relaying an out of court statement for the truth of its contents.

Plaintiff objects to 32:7-14 as hearsay.

OVERRULED.

KASSEEM REEDICK

1 Q. Just to clarify, you never saw anyone blocking
2 the women in exiting through the bar door?

Exclude 38:1-4

3 MS. FUDIM: Objection to form.

4 A. Wait, say that again.

5 Q. Did you ever see anyone blocking the women from
6 exiting through the bar doors?

7 A. No. There's another exit as well. There's an
8 exit in the restaurant, two double doors, but it's like an
9 emergency exit. Like, if you was in the restaurant you
10 could just walk right, but you can't get in.

11 MS. SAYLOR: I have no further
12 questions.

13 MS. FUDIM: I just have one follow-up.

14 FURTHER EXAMINATION BY

15 MS. FUDIM:

16 Q. You were asked by Ms. Saylor if the bar door was
17 open and you said yes and I just want to clarify when you
18 say open, does that mean, like, physically, like, open or
19 unlock?

20 A. It was unlocked. Anybody could have left in and
21 out the bar at any time.

22 Q. But, you don't mean, like, physically open, like,
23 air is coming in and out?

24 A. No, it wasn't physically open like that, no.

25 MS. FUDIM: I have nothing else.