

1959

## Plaintiff's Exhibit 0022: Eberling Statement

Cleveland Police Department

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### Recommended Citation

Cleveland Police Department, "Plaintiff's Exhibit 0022: Eberling Statement" (1959). *Sheppard 2000 Trial Plaintiff's Exhibits*. 113.  
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PLAINTIFF'S  
EXHIBIT

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The following is the statement of RICHARD GEORGE EBERLING, W/M, 29 years of age, Single, who resides at 3961 Bradley Road, Westlake, Ohio, with reference to a Larceny from the home of Dr. Richard Sheppard, at 23346 Lake Road, Bay Village, Ohio.

Now RICHARD GEORGE EBERLING, you have been arrested and may be charged with the crime of Grand Larceny. The law gives you the right to make a statement which may be used for or against you at the time of your trial in court. Now that you understand this, do you care to make a statement telling the truth about the facts that brought about your arrest?

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

RICHARD GEORGE EBERLING, Yes.

I have been working off and on for a period of six or seven years, cleaning walls and windows and storm windows for Dr. Richard Sheppard and his wife. In the early Spring I removed one silver dish, and one Beleek Chine Vase and Pitcher from Dr. Richard's dinningroom, I believe it was in the Spring of 1957. No one was home and I just walked out with them. I continued to work on and off for them and then one day about March of 1958, Mrs. Sheppard called me and asked to have her bedrooms and bathrooms washed down. I went to the house with my employes, Ed Wilbert. I sarterd and finished washing the walls and closet in the master suite. When I cleared out this closet in the master suite, of\* this was Dr. Richard's personal closet, I ran across several boxes containing the personal belongings of Marilyn Reese Sheppard. I found one box containing two diamond rings which I removed and put them in my pocket. This box had writing on it which said "Marilyn Reese Sheppard personal property". It was an old cardboard box. I replaced the boxes back on the shelf as I had originally found them. Then I took the rings home with me and I took the smaller ring and took the stones out of it and I discarded the setting by throwing it into the trash can at home. Then I took the big stone out of the bigger ring and saved the setting with the remainder of the stones in tact. These stones about which I am talking are diamonds. I saved the stones and also the bigger setting because I did not have time to dismantle the other stones in this bigger ring. I put them in a bag and then put them in my dresser behind the drawer. They remained there until Sunday night, November 8, 1959, when Capt Wilbur of the Westlake Police brought me to my house and I voluntarily took them out and turned them over to the police.

Q. Had you ever seen these rings before you took them for Dr. Richard Sheppard's home?

A. Yes. I had seen the large diner ring lying on Marilyn Sheppard's dresser in Dr. and Marilyn Shoppard's home before Marilyn was murdered. I believe it was the fall before she was murdered

Q. What was the occasion of your visit to the home of Marilyn Sheppard?

A. I myself had started to work for Dr. Sam and Marilyn Sheppard after she had called me on the phone the Fall before she was murdered. I then went to work for them, washing their windows and storms and making the Fall change-over from screens to storms. While doing this work, from inside, I had occasion to notice these dinerring on the dressing table in their bedroom. I admired this ring at that time but I didn't take it.

Q. Did you do any other work for Dr. Sam and Marilyn?

A. Yes, In the early part of the summer, that would be in the last week of June 1954.

Q. What did you do for them at that time?

A. I washed the windows and made the Spring change-over, inserting the screens.

Q. Do you recall what date you performed this work?

A. It was the early part of the week of the Sunday preceeding her death.

Q. Did anything happen to you while you were there?

A. Yes, I cut my finger in an effort to take the storm window out of the window by the kitchen sink and in doing so I went about my work throughout the house and down into the basement and at various times dripped blood in various parts of the house.

Q. Was anyone present while you were there at the Sam Sheppard house on this occasion?

*Richard G. Eberling*

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Q. Where were you the morning Marilyn Sheppard was murdered?

A. The evening before, we had guests at our house. They left about 11:30 P.M. I then went upstairs to bed, shut the door and looked out the window, opened it and went to bed. We have tenants living at the house on the same floor ~~and~~ as my bedroom and they were up when I went to bed. I believe their names are Stanley and Joyce Vrabec who now reside in Lakewood on Clarence. The next morning I arose at 7:00 A.M. and went to 8 o'clock Mass with my mother at St. Peter's Church in North Ridgeville. Later that day in the evening I heard of Marilyn's death over the radio.

Q. Why didn't you take the bigger ring apart as you did the smaller ring that you stole from Dr. Richard Sheppard's home?

A. I had decided that the next time I was called to work at Dr. Richard's home, I would replace the ring and other stones back in their original box.

October 10, 1959

