

Basic Detail Report



Title Interview with Tyrell Jenkins

Date 2023 March 10

Primary Maker Samariya Smith

Medium born digital audio file

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Description (a) Audio file of interview with Tyrell Jenkins. He was interviewed by Samariya Smith on 10 March 2023 in Hartford, Connecticut. (b) Photograph of Tyrell Jenkins taken at his interview. He was interviewed as part of the Connecticut Historical Society's Community History Project discussing his experience during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Tyrell Jenkins is a Sergeant in the Hartford Police Department. He recalled not being able to drop his children off at daycare at the beginning of lockdown. The police department had to stop doing in-person visits to schools and events. They had to decide what could be done virtually and what had to be done outdoors. Responding to calls was more complicated because officers could not go into people's houses or get close to people. Jenkins felt that the service police provided to people deteriorated during the pandemic. He recalled having to sanitize the inside of patrol cars between shifts. The changes and health concerns added extra stress to officers' personal and professional lives. Due to officers being unable to work because of illness, there was mandated overtime for officers who were not sick. Sergeant Jenkins disagreed with vaccine mandates, but agreed with mask mandates because they are less invasive. He discussed the heightened sense of security at the police station caused by the United States Capitol insurrection on January 6, 2021. Sergeant Jenkins lost his sister to Covid. He noted the change in holiday and birthday celebrations throughout the pandemic. During covid he lost his connectivity with personal and professional peers. He found self-awareness. His greatest lesson is cherish the opportunities you have and take advantage of them.

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Dimensions Duration: 24 Minutes, 54 Seconds