

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