

John Allen Murphy
Metropolitan Police Officer, Washington, DC

Events: 1954 Shooting

The Administrative Work

John Allen Murphy discusses how he and his partner tried to find witnesses to the shooting.
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Then we went upstairs into the chamber and Jimmy was already in there when I got in there. And he's trying to talk to them as people are coming out of the halls or down from the galleries. "What did you see?" And, "Well, I didn't see nothing." "Anything you can tell us?" We were getting nowhere. And then there was something about, "One got away and he went to"—Well, homicide took over honey, the police department. But we had to go back to the station. It was our job to find out who was shot, and what hospital they were taken to, and what injury they had. That had to go in our written report, which Jimmy agreed to—together we worked, but it was Jimmy's turn to fill it out. When you're in the scout car, one man drives, one man does the report and vice versa. That was our way of doing things.