

# 'I thought it could be me'

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By Bret Christian

A man told the Supreme Court: "I thought it could be me" when asked whether he had any involvement in the death of Phillip Walsham in 1998.

Jason Paul Young (32), of Yokine, said he went to the police in 1999 and made a video statement.

Asked in court last week: "Did you have any involvement in the death of Phillip Walsham", Mr Young replied:

"I'm not sure. I thought it could be me, but ... because of the white car that night."

Mr Young said that in those days he drove a white VK Commodore and was in the vicinity of Cedric Street that night, where Mr Walsham was found fatally injured.

He had consumed a six-pack of beer and "smoked two or three cones of marijuana", he said.

"I thought: 'I'm all right'," he said.

After he heard Mr Walsham had died, he said: "I just had a few thoughts - well, visions sometimes," he said.

"It's pretty much all over the place."

Asked whether he had gone to Stirling Station on the night of February 27, he said: "I don't know. I couldn't say."

He said in 1998 he weighed 98kg and was 6ft 4in. (1.9m) tall.

He read about Phillip Walsham's death a week after he died, and later that year went overseas for six months.

He read that a white car was seen in the areas that night.

When he returned in 1999 he went to police and was interviewed on video.

He said he was taking medication for a mental condition and was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1999.