ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE MANAGEMENT OF POLICE INFORMANTS

Held in Melbourne, Victoria On Tuesday, 2 April 2019

Led by Commissioner: The Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC

Also Present

Counsel Assisting: Mr C. Winneke QC

Mr A. Woods

Ms M. Tittensor

Ms P.A. Neskovcin QC

Mr S. Mukerjea

Counsel for Victoria Police Mr S. Holt QC

Ms R. Enbom

Ms K. Argiropoulos Mr B. Murphy QC

Mr M. McLay

Counsel for State of Victoria Dr C. Button SC

Mr L. Brown

Counsel for Nicola Gobbo Mr P. Collinson QC

Mr R. Nathwani

Counsel for DPP/SPP Mr C. Caleo QC

Mr P. Doyle

Ms K. O'Gorman

Counsel for Police Handlers Mr G. Chettle

Ms L. Thies

COMMISSIONER: Yes Ms Neskovcin.

MS NESKOVCIN: Commissioner, there are two matters that we'd like to deal with before the witnesses resume. first concerns the public interest immunity claims on behalf of Victoria Police. Last Friday Mr Holt provided the Commission with a confidential affidavit of Acting Commissioner Mahoney in support of those public interest The claims are made in relation to a immunity claims. number of discrete paragraphs of Assistant Commissioner Paterson's witness statement. We as counsel assisting have had an opportunity to consider the confidential affidavit and we understand the basis on which the claim is put. Aspects of that claim and Mr Paterson's evidence are going to have implications for the taking of evidence of other witnesses who are to come. If the claim is maintained counsel assisting are prepared for the time being to deal with that evidence in closed session, however counsel assisting will continue to review the claim in light of other evidence that comes to light in the course of the inquiry.

One matter that is likely to impinge upon the maintenance of the claim is the duty of disclosure to persons who, convicted persons who are affected by Ms Gobbo's conduct and counsel assisting are presently of the view that there will need to be disclosure to a particular individual identified in the confidential affidavit of Acting Commander Mahoney and in those circumstances there will likely come a point in time where that claim will not be able to be maintained.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, Ms Neskovcin, I could say that's my preliminary view also.

MS NESKOVCIN: In those circumstances, Commissioner, Mr Holt might like to address the Commission on whether or not that's the position that Victoria Police has arrived at or whether they will, whether the matter's under review from their position also.

COMMISSIONER: Yes. Is it necessary to close the Commission hearing to hear these submissions?

MS NESKOVCIN: At the moment I have kept my submissions very - - -

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COMMISSIONER: Bland. 1 09:44:07

> MS NESKOVCIN: Yes, deliberately so. Mr Holt might wish to do the same.

I'm content to be just as bland and if I can't achieve that then I'll ask for the Commission to be closed, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER: Thanks Mr Holt.

MR HOLT: I'm grateful for those indications. entirely supportive of the proposition that an attempt be made at least to see whether the public interest immunity claim issues could be dealt with initially by way of closed hearing, recognising that that doesn't represent a concession by the Commission as to the ultimate resolution of that public interest immunity claim. What I've indicated to our learned friends this morning is that simply to ensure that that process of the arrangements that are in place for the taking of that evidence in private are We will simply need a little time to confirm appropriate. those arrangements because I suspect that this will be an issue that may arise later in the hearing in respect of other persons and issues also and I think it's an appropriate way to try and resolve exactly how that happens.

I've heard what our learned friend has to say about the issue of duty of disclosure and that arising, and we are aware of the document that underlies that proposition and it's a matter which the confidential affidavit goes into to some extent in respect of which further inquiries are also being made. Can I say, Commissioner, my expectation is that that ultimately that public interest immunity claim will probably need to be the subject of actual argument and a decision being made, but I can't finalise that position unless and until we go further through that process.

In terms of when the Commission would see that duty of disclosure arising, who would owe that duty of disclosure and by what means it would then be facilitated, is a matter I think that can most usefully be progressed by discussions, at least in the first instance as between counsel to see whether we can identify a process that might be obviously acceptable.

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COMMISSIONER: If we get to the point where the Commission's preliminary view becomes a firmer view then under the terms of the Letters Patent we would be obliged to inform the Director of that.

MR HOLT: Yes.

COMMISSIONER: So at that point it would have to be argued.

MR HOLT: Yes. And the Commissioner has, with respect, entirely accurately noted the necessary involvement of the Director in that process. As the Commissioner will also be aware there is a process which Victoria Police is undertaking presently with the Director and it may well be that this issue can be dealt with in part by way of that process or by accommodation of that process and obviously ensuring the Commission also complies with its obligations. I'm being coy for obvious reasons, I'm sorry, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER: No, no, I understand perfectly what you are saying.

MR HOLT: The short point is we think it is sensible from the Commission's perspective in terms of getting the evidence that it needs to see whether matters can be dealt with by way of closed hearing. We'll simply need a little time to confirm the appropriate arrangements for that which are acceptable from our perspective, and then we understand the underlying resolution of the PII issue which will need to be resolved quickly and we'll progress that.

COMMISSIONER: All right. In the meantime you want the confidential affidavit of Acting Commander Scott Mahoney placed in a sealed envelope.

MR HOLT: I think, Commissioner, you have already made those orders and we seek that they be maintained.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right then. Yes, Ms Neskovcin.

MS NESKOVCIN: Thank you, Commissioner. The second matter this morning is the application by the media parties to revoke a non-publication order the Commission made on 27 March 2019.

COMMISSIONER: Yes.

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                 MS NESKOVCIN:
                                 Commissioner, we consider it appropriate
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                 that that application be heard in closed session and seek
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                 an order to that effect.
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Yes, thank you.
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                 MS NESKOVCIN:
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                                 And we'll ask for appearances to be taken in
                 relation to the application.
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Yes, I'll take the appearances first.
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                 MS NESKOVCIN:
                                 From the outset, Commissioner, can I
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                 announce the appearance of counsel assisting Mr Mukerjea.
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Yes.
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                 MS NESKOVCIN:
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                                 In addition to counsel.
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Thank you Ms Neskovcin. Yes, now, who else
                 is appearing in respect of this application?
09:48:09 21
                                                                   I don't know
                 whether it will be necessary for all parties with leave to
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                 appear to take part in this but we'll see.
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                             Commissioner, my name is Otter, I seek to appear
                 MR OTTER:
                 in relation to this application.
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 You are for the applicants?
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                             I'm for the applicants.
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                 MR OTTER:
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 The media applicants. Yes, thank you.
                 There's some other appearances.
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                 MR OVER:
                            Commissioner, Mr Patrick Over appearing for
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                 Mr
                                    and the firm
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Thank you Mr Patrick Over.
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                                                               Yes.
                                                                      Room
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                 should be made for Mr Over to sit at the Bar table.
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                            Commissioner, we're not sure whether Victoria
                 MR HOLT:
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                 Police would have an interest in this.
                                                            It simply relates
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                 to redactions of statements but I think as I understand it
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                 only in terms of orders which the Commission has made.
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                 might simply remain and assist if we can.
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All right then, thank you Mr Holt.

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COMMISSIONER:

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09:49:23	1	Mr Chettle, I don't think you have any interest at all?
09:49:27	2	MD CHETTLE. I have no interest Commissioner
09:49:27	3	MR CHETTLE: I have no interest, Commissioner.
09:49:30	4	COMMICCIONED. I doubt whather the DDD has any interest in
09:49:30	5	COMMISSIONER: I doubt whether the DPP has any interest in
09:49:33	6	this.
09:49:34	7	MD DOVIE. As do I Commissiones
09:49:34	8	MR DOYLE: As do I, Commissioner.
09:49:36	9 10	COMMISSIONER: The State of Victoria has an interest?
09:49:36	11	COMMISSIONER. THE State of Victoria has an interest!
09:49:38	12	MR DOYLE: No.
09:49:38	13	TIK DOTEE. NO.
09:49:39	14	COMMISSIONER: No, all right.
09:49:41	15	Commissioner. No, arringme.
09:49:42	16	MS NESKOVCIN: Commissioner, in light of those appearances,
09:49:43	17	particularly Mr Over's appearance, it is appropriate that
09:49:49	18	the live stream be terminated immediately.
09:49:55		
	20	COMMISSIONER: Yes.
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	22	MS NESKOVCIN: It's not streaming now I'm told.
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	24	COMMISSIONER: Yes, I'm sorry, someone else wants to make
	25	an appearance.
	26	
09:49:58	27	MS WHITING: The State of Victoria does not seek to appear.
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09:50:04	29	COMMISSIONER: All right. I'll order that the live
09:50:08	30	streaming cease for the hearing of this application and I
09:50:10	31	order under s.24 of the <i>Inquiries Act</i> that access to the
09:50:15		inquiry is temporarily limited to - access to the
09:50:20		Commission, rather, to the Commission hearing is
09:50:25		temporarily limited to those parties who have indicated
09:50:31		they wish to appear at the hearing and their legal
09:50:35		representatives, legal representatives and staff assisting
09:50:38		the Royal Commission, and I think that's probably all I
09:50:49		need to say really.
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09:50:52		Non-publication order is in relation to the
09:50:55		transcript, I make a non-publication order in relation to
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on the hearing room door as well?

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remain in the hearing room please leave. And I direct that

- do I need to direct that a copy of this order be placed

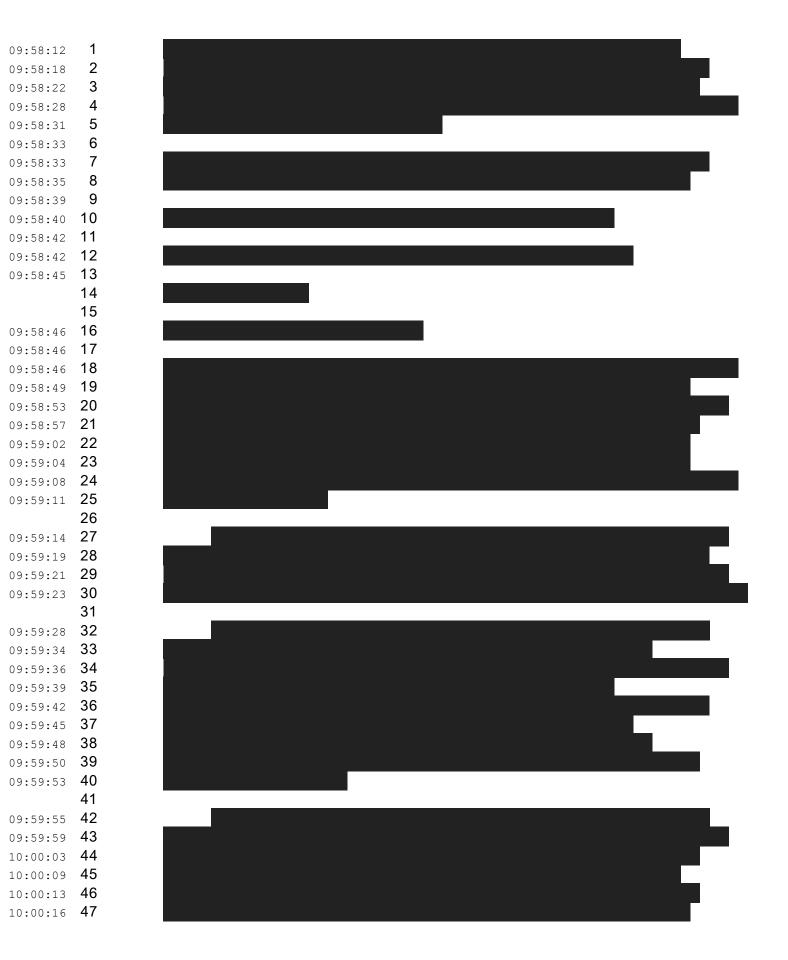
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                  MS NESKOVCIN: Yes, Commissioner.
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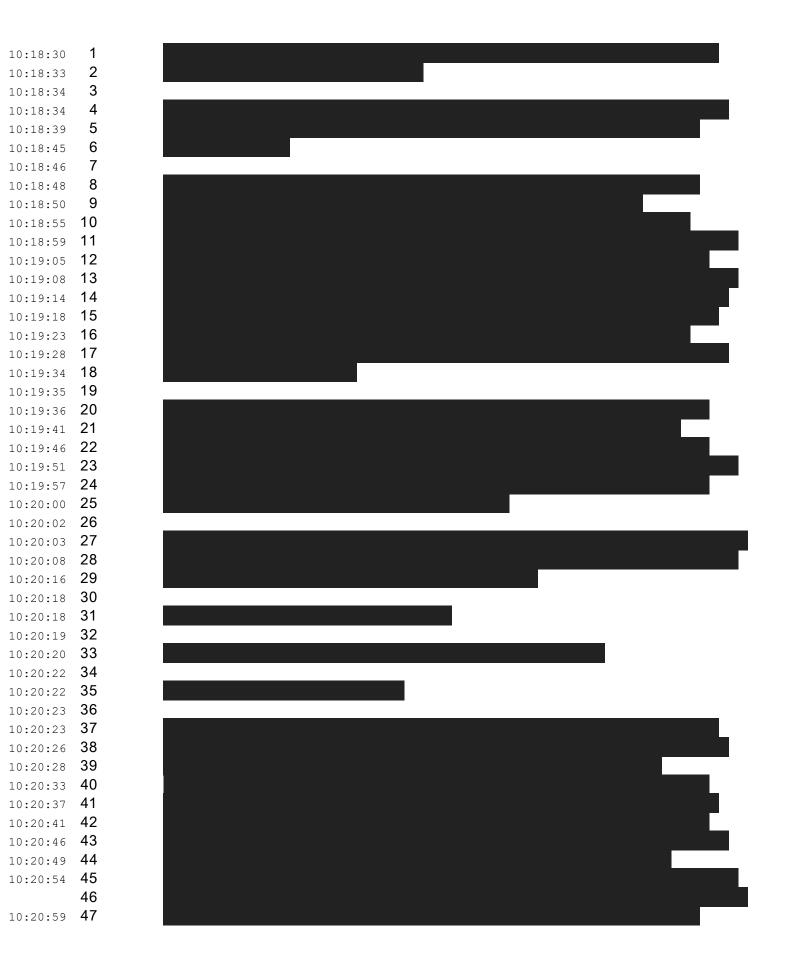




























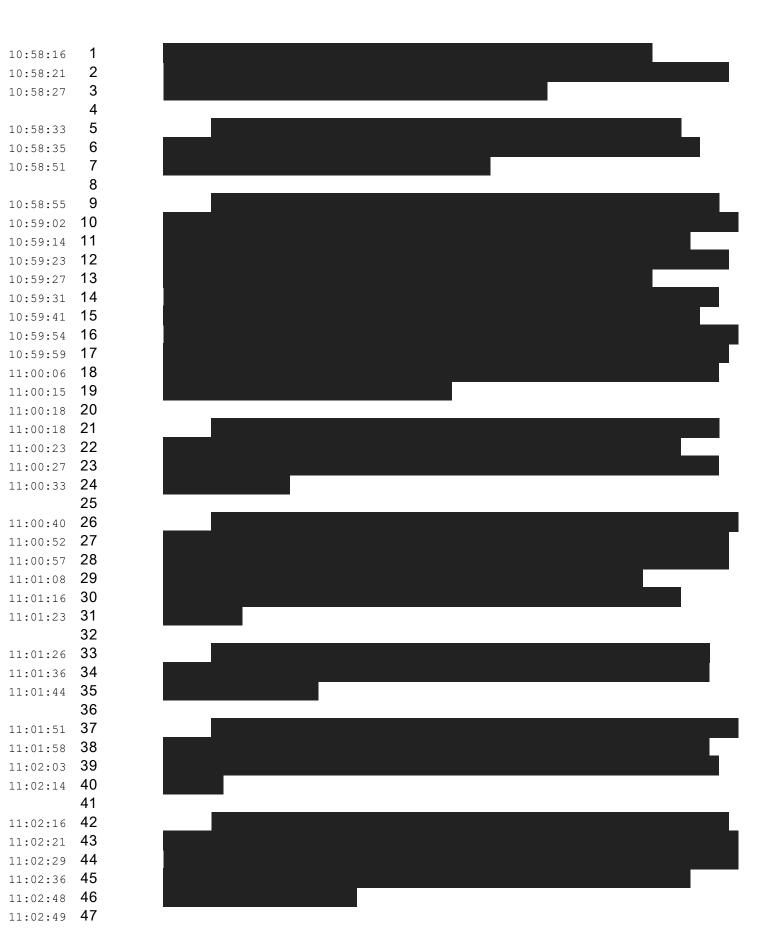
















(Short adjournment.)

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COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Winneke.

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Commissioner, we're ready to resume with MR WINNEKE:

Mr Pope.

COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

<JEFFREY POPE, recalled:</pre>

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COMMISSIONER: Yes Mr Winneke.

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MR WINNEKE: Thanks, Commissioner. Mr Pope, I was asking you last night, I think I'd got to about 19 May 1999, and it was on that day, in fact it was on that day that there was a continuation of the process of registering Ms Gobbo as an informer. I wonder if the application for registration can be put up. It's VPL.0005.0013.0952.

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If we can have a look at the first page of that.

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Part A is the Informer Registration Application form.

11:20:39 22 11:20:42 23 contains your details at the top in your handwriting I assume? - - - Yes.

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And Ms Gobbo's details below and that form was signed by That's the day after your first meeting you on 13 May 99. with Ms Gobbo on the 12th, the previous day at the Emerald Hotel: is that correct?---Yes.

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> At that stage it was your understanding that she would be registered for the purposes of providing information into fraud and money laundering, correct?---Yes.

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And if we move to the second page of the document we can see that part B is the part of the form that's filled out by your Sergeant, Mr Segrave, who gave evidence vesterday? - - - Yes.

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That occurred on the 19th. In between the 13th and the 19th there was a further meeting on the 17th, and I think that was at the Armadale meeting which went from about 20 past 12 through to 4.15, and I think we've established yesterday that you received, or at least you got the idea that she was going to provide or was prepared to provide

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some more detailed information to you?---Yes.

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Can I ask, do you know why the application wasn't made

.02/04/19 756 subsequent to that meeting, that is the 17th, why wasn't it made immediately after that?---I'm interpreting your question as why did I make the application on the 13th, is that - - -

Why was Part B not proceeded with immediately after that meeting?---I don't know.

Are you able to recall the process of registering was part B, that is the supervisor's tick off, if you like, done when a particular view had been reached about the reliability, veracity and so forth of the proposed informer?---Look, it's possible but from my recollection I've completed Part A and I don't recall having any part in any further part of that process.

I take it you had discussions with Sergeant Segrave about the matters that he has referred to in his comments and recommendations, special considerations, et cetera?---It's possible but I don't recall seeing this part of the form.

You don't?---No.

Ultimately you were the person who was handling her, if you like?---Yes.

If we can use that description. Mr Segrave, would he be described as a controller?---Yes.

He makes a number of comments about his view. I just want to ask you if you share the views, or did. "I recommend the registration of this informer. It's believed that the informer will be an ongoing source of information regarding money laundering and fraud activities as both credible and reputable". I assume?---I think that's what it means.

Was it your understanding from the information that you'd received on the 12th, the 17th and the 19th that the expectation was that she would be an ongoing source of information?---I think we'd formed the view that she would be a source for this particular inquiry.

If that's the case, that her information would be relevant only to this particular inquiry, could you explain why it's recorded that she would be an ongoing source of information?---I think that was with the context of ongoing for this particular inquiry.

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That's your understanding?---That's my understanding.

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Have you had any discussions with Mr Segrave in recent times?---No, I haven't.

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When was the last time you spoke to Mr Segrave prior to this hearing?---Probably when I left Victoria Police in 2013.

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Is that right? Okay, all right. The next line is that the informant has no known previous history of - can you read that? "Supplying information to law enforcement agencies". Was that your understanding at that time?---Yes. I think the only knowledge, as I can now recall based on my notes, is the only knowledge we had was that she was talking to the Drug Squad.

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Right?---Who introduced her to us.

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Yes?---But aside from that, that's my understanding.

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I mean so far as that notation was concerned, certainly by the 19th you would have been aware that she'd been providing information to the Drug Squad?---Yes, as an unregistered informer.

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As an unregistered informer. Did you ever take the view

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> that - did you ever hold the view that she'd had a previous handler?---Not at that stage I don't think.

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Look, you spoke to a Mr Millet on 15 February of this year. Do you recall speaking to him?---Vaguely, yes.

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You told him in conversation that in the late 1990s he, you, were at the Asset Recovery Squad where he worked with Jim Coghlan who may have some records in relation to Gobbo. What you then stated was "he was contacted by her", one assumes Gobbo, "and she stated that her 'previous handler' was incompetent". Do you recall telling Mr Millet that on 15 February 2019, this year?---I accept that that's an

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accurate record of the conversation but I don't actually

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You don't recall saying it?---No.

recall saying it.

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Would it be fair to say that if that's what you told

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Mr Millet on 15 February of this year it was your 1 11:27:53 recollection at that stage - - - ?---Yes. 11:27:57 2 3 11:27:59 - - - that she'd had a previous handler who was 11:27:59 4 5 incompetent?---Yes. 11:28:02 6 11:28:05 7 11:28:08 11:28:13 8 9 11:28:18 11:28:21 10 11:28:26 11 12 11:28:30 13 11:28:34 11:28:34 14 15 11:28:39 11:28:47 **16** 17 11:28:52 18 11:29:00 19 11:29:04 11:29:07 20 21 11:29:12 11:29:19 22 23 11:29:19 11:29:25 24 25 11:29:30 11:29:34 **26** 27 11:29:37 28 11:29:43 29 11:29:46 30 11:29:51 31 11:29:56 32 11:30:02 33 11:30:06 11:30:10 34 35 11:30:13 11:30:17 36 37 11:30:24 11:30:28 38 39 11:30:31 40 11:30:34 11:30:36 41 11:30:36 42 11:30:42 43 11:30:46 44 45 11:30:48 11:30:50 46 11:30:50 47

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The point that you make, though, in relation to that attendance and that search, you recall later being contacted by Ms Gobbo who stated. "You have no idea what you've stumbled across"?---I have a recollection of that now, yes.

Could you pinpoint in time when that attendance was and when the conversation occurred, that is between you and Ms Gobbo?---I can't pinpoint it exactly but I think it was after I had finished dealing with her as a human source.

I assume that would be after October of 99 or after early 2000, which - - - ?---I think so. I can't be certain.

Have you searched your diaries to see if you could find any reference to any information about that which might give you a reference in time?---Not for that purpose, no.

You haven't?---No.

I take it you have your diaries, that diaries are in existence? -- Yes.

And these are the diaries which are held by Victoria Police?---That's right.

You've gone through your diaries with a view to providing evidence about the involvement of Ms Gobbo as a human source and your role in handling. Have you not gone further to look through those diaries to pinpoint that other information at this stage?---Not as yet.

Okay, all right. You also have a recollection, and in your earlier discussions that you had a meeting with Strawhorn, that is Wayne Strawhorn and a Drug Squad officer called Steve Paton from the Drug Squad at the Emerald Hotel. you certainly recall initially having that meeting at the Drug Squad - I'm sorry, at the Emerald Hotel with members of the Drug Squad. Now your understanding is I take it that there was a meeting in which you in effect handed over Ms Gobbo to the Drug Squad, that is to officers Strawhorn, Paton and others, after you'd finished dealing with her; is that correct?---No, this is where my recollection is inaccurate.

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Right?---And this is where I seem to be conflating two separate issues into one.

Yes?---So my - initially, without referring to any of my notes, my recollection that I had, effectively the one and only recollection that I had of dealing with Ms Gobbo as some form of a human source, was a meeting at the Emerald Hotel with members of the Drug Squad. Without referring to my notes I could not remember exactly what that meeting was about.

Yes?---And whether the Drug Squad were introducing her to us at the Asset Recovery Squad or whether it was the Since I've reflected on my notes I now understand that it was the Drug Squad introducing her to us for the purposes of the fraud and money laundering investigation.

You recall that back in about 2011 you swore an affidavit in relation to your association with Ms Gobbo? --- Yes.

I take it you've seen that in recent times?---Yes.

I wonder if we could put up - or perhaps not for the Let me just ask you this. Did you swear on that occasion that, "I believe that I met with" - at that stage she was called witness F - "on about six occasions. the passage of time the following is my best recollection. On every occasion that I would meet with her I would advise my supervisor and colleagues. I believe I had a colleague attend meetings with me or remain in the vicinity close by to observe the meetings. I only ever met witness F in public places during the day and during work hours. only exception to this, as I recall, was when I attended a meeting with Detective Senior Sergeant Wayne Strawhorn and a few other members of the Drug Squad and Ms Gobbo. meeting occurred later in the afternoon at the Emerald Hotel, South Melbourne". You recall that's what you put in your affidavit back in, I think it was about November 2011?---Yes.

"I left that meeting with witness F (Ms Gobbo) continuing to talk to members from the Drug Squad about drug related I left that meeting alone. As I recall, that meeting was effectively a hand-over from my perspective as witness F wanted to give information about high level drug

trafficking with potential corruption links that was well beyond my capability and remit as a detective at the Asset Recovery Squad". You go on and say, "I would have made notations in my official diary of all the meetings. don't know where those official diaries are stored if they still exist. I believe also that if I had gathered any intelligence from the meeting I would submitted an information report". Now, to be fair to you, at that stage you swore that affidavit without the benefit of looking at your notes; is that correct?---Correct.

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And nonetheless in 2011, obviously I suppose still a decade after the events, that was your recollection at that stage, that there'd been a hand-over back to the Drug Squad, correct?---That was my recollection without referring to my



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And so that call, you think when she called you saying, in effect, that "you don't know what you've stumbled across" -- - ?---Yes.

- - - it may well be during that telephone call that you get the impression that she was intending to or was at that stage providing information to the Drug Squad about high level drug trafficking?---Yeah, I can't recall what her intention was she was conveying but I didn't engage with her any further on that.

The impression that you got from your meeting Yes, okay. at the Drug Squad - now assuming you're correct in the view that you have now that there was only one meeting and it occurred at the commencement, that she had, it appeared to you, an established connection/relationship with members of the Drug Squad?---I think - yes, that's my belief.

And was she - casting your mind back to that meeting, do you recall - you and Segrave go to the meeting, right?---Yes.

And when you get to the hotel was she already there with Strawhorn and others?---I really can't recall.

But what you do recall, certainly what you did recall is that you left alone?---That was my recollection over a decade later, which was incorrect.

But your recollection was that when you left she remained with members of the Drug Squad?---That was my recollection, yes.

Do you still think that that's the case?---I still think that's the case.



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All right. In any event after you and Segrave left the initial meeting, she remained?---That's right.

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Drinking alcohol, drinking with members of the Drug Squad?---I think we had a couple of alcoholic drinks.

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And your understanding was that she was there and she was drinking alcoholic beverages with the Drug Squad?---Look, I can't say for sure but it's possible.

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To be clear, do you say from looking at your notes now that there was only ever one meeting that you had with her at the Emerald Hotel?---Yes. Sorry, if I can just qualify, with the Drug Squad.

With the Drug Squad?---Yes. What I can't discount is some of the other meetings that Mr Segrave and I had with her in South Melbourne. I can't recall whether they were at the Emerald Hotel or at a café in South Melbourne.

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It's clear that you didn't meet with her on every occasion with your Sergeant?---No, that's right.

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There were occasions when you met with her alone?---There were two occasions when Mr Segrave wasn't with me as I understand it.

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The meeting at Armadale was with Mr Segrave, that's 17

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May? --- Yes.

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Was that at a hotel in Armadale?---I can't recall.

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I notice that on that occasion I think there was - that was the meeting from 12.20 to 4.15?---Right.

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I think there was \$55 taken out of expenses for that meeting?---I don't recall that. I don't think - - -

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If the notes - if your records reveal that there was \$55, would that indicate again that there might have been benches, alcoholic beverages consumed?---If that's in my diary then that money would have been expended and reimbursed but I don't recall that being the case.

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All right. If we can put up VPL.0005.0037.0010. Can you just look at the, focus on the first quarter of the page.

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You'll see that 12 May, "Intro to the informer by DS Strawhorn. General issues canvassed, nil information obtained". Diary log dot reference, \$50?---Yes.

Then 17 May - on this occasion it appears that she's got an informer number, although the registration at that stage hasn't been approved; is that correct?---That's my understanding, yes.

As we understand it when there's an application made then a registered informer number is given even prior to the approval; is that right?---I think it can be, yes.

Then we see in the expense column \$55 there?---I accept that obviously the \$55 has been paid. I have no recollection of it. I'm not sure that's noted in my diary. It might be in someone else's.

Do you know whose handwriting that is?---That's all Mr Segrave's writing.

All of it is?---Yes.

I tender that document.

What date is that? Do we have a date? COMMISSIONER:

If we can scroll down. MR WINNEKE: I think there are a number of entries and it finishes on 23 September 99. obviously a log which has been created between the first date on that, which is 28 April.

#EXHIBIT RC 58 - Informer management file activity log from 28 April 1999 to 23/09/99.

That can be taken down, thanks very much. Can I just ask you a couple of questions about the registration. registration process continued on the 19th. I wonder if we could have Exhibit 34 back up. If we go to the first page - I'm sorry, second page. Highlight the "Comments" section. At that stage you were certainly aware that Ms Gobbo was a barrister?---Yes.

And that there was certainly the expectation that she would provide valuable information to police?---For this investigation, yes.

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For this investigation. You understood that this investigation had followed on an arrest of a number of offenders by members of the Drug Squad?---I think, as I recall yesterday, we didn't really have much access to that information, to that context.

I understand that but one assumes that your initial meetings with the Drug Squad members and you and Segrave were given sufficient information to get an idea about what the job was about, correct?---We would have been given some briefing and some context, yes, but I can't recall how much detail we were given.

I understand that. You said yesterday that the expectation was that this sort of operation rolled on from the laying of charges against offenders?---That was most logical, yes.

To get an idea about what your role was going to be you would need to be given sufficient information to get an understanding about the relevant matters, the relevant facts?---Well, yes, but sometimes these things can be quite tangential.

Obviously it must have been of interest to you to know where the informer was going to be getting her information from?---Yes, I think that became known early on.

It must have been known because it would be important for you to find out how she was getting information?---Yes.

You'd want to know, for example, whether she was a participant in fraudulent activity?---Yes.

And you would have asked her questions about that?---We would have asked questions to establish her degree of credibility.

In order to establish where she's getting the information from you'd ask her, wouldn't you?---Yes.

One assumes that for her to have the information she must have had some knowledge of the matters that she was telling vou about?---Yes.

And it would have been apparent to you that she was getting that knowledge because she was involved in one way or another in litigation involving these people?---Well my

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11:49:18 46 11:49:21 47 recollection was because she had previously worked at the premises where the allegations related.

Are you talking about a solicitor's premises?---Yes.

Did you - I assume you would have asked her, for example, what connection she at that time with any of the people involved in this investigation?---My very vague recollection of this was this was all about her ex-employer.

Would you have asked her questions about, for example, whether she was acting for any of the people who were around this investigation?---I don't recall those conversations and I don't recall the names of people coming up until we started to further investigate this matter.

One would imagine, if you were conscientiously examining the information with an inquiring mind, you'd want to find out where the information was coming from?---Yes.

Would you have asked her questions to satisfy yourself that any information you got was reliable information?---Yes.

One assumes that you would be asking her, "Who told you the information", who provided the information?---Yeah, I'm assuming we would have gone through all those sorts of discussions.

All right. The fact that she was a legal practitioner, I suggest, was clearly significant to her use as an informer?---Well it was the link in the avenue into her ex-employer where the allegations were focused.

Did you understand that she was continuing to attend upon clients who were in custody who might have been a part of the broader investigation?---I don't recall having that understanding at the time.

Would you have asked questions of her to find out exactly what involvement she had in the general operation carried out by the Drug Squad?---I can't recall. All I can recall was her talking about her ex-employer.

Yes?---And that was the focus of our inquiry.

You also understood that she was providing information

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about a Mr Reid?---That comes up in the information reports during the course of this, yes.

One assumes that on hearing about Mr Reid you would have asked her about him and what she knew about him?---Quite possibly.

You were aware that Mr Reid was a person who had been charged with a criminal offence?---I can't recall that.

You were aware that, because of discussions you had with her, that he was having to front at the court and the likely prospect of going to gaol?---Yes, I can see that in the information reports.

I take it you would have understood that Mr Reid had been charged with criminal offences?---He was facing a term of imprisonment, yes.

Were you aware that the solicitor about whom Ms Gobbo was providing information had been acting for Mr Reid?---Look, I can't recall that directly. I think I had a belief that he was a business associate but I can't recall if I had a clear understanding about whether there was an acting arrangement.

Did you find out what Mr Reid was charged with, why he was charged, why he was facing the prospect of going to gaol?---I can't recall but most likely, yes.

You understood that there was a suggestion that Mr Reid had apparently used the solicitor to launder money through his real estate agency, you understood that?---Yes.

And that there was a suggestion that the employer or the former employer was funding Reid's defence?---I don't recall that.

In any event whatever's in the information reports you would say would appear accurate?---Yes.

You understood that a legal practitioner had obligations to clients?---Yes.

I take it as a general proposition you understood that a lawyer has obligations not just to clients but also to the court?---Yes.

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11:55:15 1 2 That might be dealing with the clients?---Yes. 11:55:16 11:55:19 You understand that now?---Yes. 11:55:19 4 5 11:55:21 And I assume you would have understood that back 11:55:21 6 11:55:24 7 then?---Probably not as clearly as I understand now, but I 11:55:27 8 would have had an understanding. 9 11:55:28 You would have had a general understanding?---Yes. 11:55:28 10 11:55:30 11 11:55:30 12 And that applies not to any information that the lawyer 11:55:33 13 received from their clients?---I would have, yes. 11:55:36 14 And not just current clients but former clients?---Yes. 11:55:36 **15** 11:55:39 **16** 11:55:44 17 So all of that means that you were aware that it was important, the fact that she was a legal practitioner and 11:55:47 18 she was providing information, is it either about people 11:55:50 19 11:55:58 **20** for whom she was acting or her former firm was acting gave rise to the possibility that these obligations might have 11:56:03 **21** 11:56:05 22 come into play?---I think the possibility was there, yes. 11:56:09 23 11:56:13 24 Is it something that you discussed with Mr Segrave?---I 11:56:20 25 think we - I can't recall any specific discussions but there were a number of discussions throughout this 11:56:24 **26** 11:56:26 27 investigation. 11:56:26 **28** 11:56:26 **29** Clearly it's not noted in any comments I understand that. and recommendations, is it?---No. 11:56:34 **30** 11:56:35 31 11:56:36 32 Is it the case that you had access to the solicitor that we 11:56:39 33 talked about yesterday at this time, the time of 11:56:43 34 registration? --- Yes. 11:56:44 **35** Do you say you did or didn't speak to that solicitor or any 11:56:46 **36** 11:56:51 37 solicitor about the possible ramifications of registering a legal practitioner?---I think my diary indicates that I 11:56:57 38 11:57:00 39 spoke to him before we registered her. 11:57:02 40 11:57:02 41 Yes?---But I can't recall the exact terms of that 11:57:05 42 conversation.

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This is the solicitor who was the former

Do you think it - - -

COMMISSIONER:

employer?

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MR WINNEKE: No, no. Perhaps I'll be clearer. I can't recall his name. I'm talking about the solicitor who was employed by the Asset Recovery Squad, Mr Jeans.

COMMISSIONER: Mr Jeans?---That's right.

MR WINNEKE: You spoke generally, that's you and Segrave, spoke to him generally about this particular job. As to whether or not you spoke to him about legal ramifications of registering a legal practitioner, do you know?---I can't recall.

Is it likely you didn't?---Given the sensitivities of this job I'd be surprised if we didn't have discussions about this issue.

About the fact that you were registering a legal practitioner. So you'd be surprised if you didn't raise it with Mr Jeans?---And Mr Curran.

So you believe that you raised it with Jeans and Curran, correct?---As I said, I can't recall. I think I ought to have or should have.

Yes?---And I'd be surprised at myself if I didn't.

All right. Do you think you would have raised it or it would have been raised with Acting Superintendent Sheridan?---I don't know.

All right?---I didn't have any further part, as I can recall, to play in the registration process apart from completing the form.

If we move to Part C of the application. We move down to Part C. We've got Sheridan, Acting Superintendent Major Fraud Group. If we can just keep going down. Again, fraud, money laundering. Is that your handwriting there?---No, it's not.

Okay, keep going down. That's signed off on 27 May 99 at the central registry and there's a name where it's said it's added by Thomas, do you know who that is?---I think it might have been a Superintendent who may have had responsibility for the actual registering.

But you don't know anything about that?---No.

And you wouldn't have been involved in that part of it?---No.

If we can just come down from the top. Did you know then the process whereby the Acting Superintendent would have come to have signed that document? If we can scroll down to the top of - that page, please. Yes. Do you know what the process is or did you know then was with respect to the local register details?---All I can recall was the form needed to be filled out and supporting documentation provided and then it went through the chain of command.

Some of the supporting documentation included LEAP checks on Ms Gobbo's antecedents; is that right?---Yes.

If we keep going down the bottom. Further. We see there that on 13 May 99 one assumes that you've done the LEAP check, Senior Constable Pope, and the charges were possess amphetamine, possess cannabis, et cetera, use and possess amphetamine and cannabis. You clearly established that on 13 May, that she had those priors?---Yes.

Would you have asked her questions about that?---I can't recall if we asked her questions or if she volunteered her version of events.

There's no notation of any version of events anywhere that we can see, is there?---No.

Was there a practise of communicating with any other legal - sorry, any other police officers who might have had an involvement in a person who's going to be registered as an informer to find out a little bit more about the background and history?---You could. That would have been an option.

You could do it in a way that didn't indicate what the purpose of it was, I assume. As a member of police you could ring up and say, "Look, I've just got a couple of questions about this matter" and you wouldn't need to reveal the fact that you were proposing to register the person as an informer, or would that not matter?---You probably wouldn't want to disclose that you were about to register them as an informer, but you could make some broad inquiries.

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POPE XXN

And if you contacted the informant and asked those sort of general questions, the degree of cooperation between members of the police would be such that that officer would give you an understanding generally of what it would be about without pressing you as the reasons why I assume?---Generally, yes.

Generally. And that wouldn't be an usual thing to do?---No.

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Indeed, it might well be a prudent thing to do, particularly if registering a person who's a registered legal practitioner in somewhat unusual circumstances?---Probably.

All right, okay. Would it have been - would you have or Segrave have spoken to the Drug Squad members to find out from them what you could about the informer and the veracity or their views about the informer, is that something that you would have done?---I think that's where we took our direction from because it was obviously more recent.

I take it from what you're saying is that you got nothing from the Drug Squad which suggested that she wouldn't be a useful and reliable informant?---Look, I don't recall anything clearly but I think I've seen one piece of paper in recent weeks which just says "trust issues".

Yes, trust issues. When you say you've seen that piece of paper, in your examination of documents leading to you making a statement; is that right?---Yes.

Where did you see that document?---I can't recall. I think it's a note by someone in the Drug Squad.

Was that a detective by the name of Lim?---I can't recall if it was him or Strawhorn or Kruger.

Do you say that you've seen that document as you've perused documents in preparation for the statement, but did you know that at the time, that there were trust issues?---I can't recall.

Had you been told by members of the Drug Squad that you should be careful about this person, there are trust issues, you might have been more wary yourself?---It

depends on what the trust issues were. 12:05:08 1 12:05:10 2 Yes?---Whether it was directed at her and her behaviour or 3 12:05:11 12:05:16 4 her intentions and motivations or the quality of her 5 information. 12:05:20 12:05:20 6 Clearly those would be relevant matters that you'd consider 7 12:05:27 and you'd want to have that information at the time?---I 12:05:30 8 don't recall anything at the time clearly that prevented us 9 12:05:34 from progressing as we did. 12:05:37 10 12:05:39 11 12:05:44 12 Just finally, by way of the final process with respect to the application, if we could put up VPL.0005.0037.0009. 12:05:49 13 That appears to be Part D of the application for 12:06:03 14 12:06:09 15 registration, the document that was tendered as RC34, it 12:06:14 **16** contained only parts A to C. This appears to be the last part of it?---Yes. 12:06:19 17 12:06:20 18 And that nominates you as the handler, a co-handler being 12:06:20 19 Kira Olney and the nominated controller as 12:06:27 **20** Mr Segrave? --- Yes. 12:06:33 **21** 12:06:33 22 12:06:33 23 And that's signed off by Mr Sheridan on 26 May 99?---Yes. 12:06:40 24 12:06:40 25 I tender that perhaps as RC34B. 12:06:46 **26** 12:06:46 27 COMMISSIONER: All right then. 12:06:47 28 12:06:47 29 MR WINNEKE: Or it could be - - -12:06:50 30 12:06:52 31 #EXHIBIT RC34B - Informer Registration Application Part D. 12:07:01 32 12:07:02 33 Can I ask whether you believe that you would have made it 12:07:08 34 known to Ms Gobbo was she was being registered as an 12:07:12 35 informer?---I can't recall whether we did or didn't. 12:07:17 36 12:07:19 37 Are you able to recall whether there was a practice at the time of informing persons if they were to be registered or 12:07:22 38 12:07:28 39 not?---I don't know whether that was a common practice or 12:07:33 40 not.

At that stage you hadn't registered too many informers?---No, I hadn't.

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Do you know whether there was any guideline or instruction given about that or not?---No, not that I can recall.

.02/04/19 773

Do you believe that you would have had a conversation with Ms Gobbo along these lines, "Ms Gobbo, I understand that you're a legal practitioner. We do not want to know any information that's confidential or information that may well be in breach of legal professional privilege". you have had that sort of conversation with her or not?---I can't recall having that sort of conversation with her.

Is it the likelihood that there wasn't that sort of a conversation?---I don't think it would have been structured in such a way.

Do you know whether there was any process No, all right. whereby in effect the role was identified or the ambit of her role was outlined by way of making it clear what she could and could not do as an informer?---I can see in one of the information reports we had a discussion with her about what she was prepared to do.

Yes?---And, as I have said, my recollection purely is that this was focused on her ex-employer.

On 20 May there was a discussion that you had with Mr Strawhorn and it's set out in an information report, I think it's RC37 but I don't suggest it be put up at this In the information report it says that you spoke to Detective Senior Sergeant Wayne Strawhorn at the Drug Squad - "he informed me that there were two people who were both registered as informers of his" - and they would be probably in a position to assist you in your investigation and you asked him to arrange a meeting with both of them as soon as possible and you also asked him about his knowledge of any documents which the NCA may have regarding either the person who was the subject of your investigation or Peter Reid. Are you able to recall how you came to the view that the NCA may have had information about either of those people?---I can't recall how I formed that view.

Do you recall having a discussion with Ms Gobbo about whether or not she had been providing information to the NCA?---I don't recall that discussion.

Indeed, on 26 May 99 you spoke to a Detective Sergeant Hynam from the NCA and you had a discussion regarding Peter Reid, do you recall that?---I can see the information report relating to that.

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.02/04/19 774 **POPE XXN**

Detective Sergeant Hynam also stated they had been introduced to an informer by Detective Senior Constable Kruger, Detective Senior Constable Lim at the Drug Squad and the informer had told them the exact same information which is outlined in previous information reports for this job and the NCA were going to execute a number of warrants under their Act to obtain banking documents and there were apparently a number of IRs and briefing papers regarding the NCA's inquiries. At that stage it was, for reasons unknown to Detective Sergeant Hynam, the NCA investigations had been put on ice, if you like, or put on hold, correct?---It seems that way, yes.

You understood that your informer, or you took the view that your informer was the same informer who was providing information to the NCA?---It looks like I reached that conclusion.

Is that something that you asked Ms Gobbo about?---Most likely. I don't recall but most likely.

Okay, all right. I take it, given your answer, you wouldn't be able to say whether or not she told you or what she told you about that?---No, I can't recall.

Can I ask you about an information report of 27 May 99.

COMMISSIONER: RC39 I think.

RC39. MR WINNEKE: I wonder if that could be put up. Do you see that?---Yes.

27 May you received an email from Ms Gobbo related to law notes about constitutionalism and attached to the email was a request to get together soon for a meeting. And you say you returned the email with an acknowledgement of receiving it and informing her that you'd be in contact within a few days to arrange a meeting. I take it this was - were you studying law at this stage?---That's right.

Were you doing constitutional law?---It was my first year of my part-time law degree.

A fairly dry subject and no doubt you were keen for some assistance, I suppose?---I think it obviously came up in conversation as we were trying to develop some form of rapport and I'd suggest she probably made the offer of

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assistance. 12:15:35 1 12:15:35 **2** 3 You were aware that she was going to send you the notes I 12:15:36 12:15:38 **4** take it?---Well, I can't recall. I obviously gave her my email address, so. 5 12:15:42 12:15:43 6 Is that something that you would usually do 12:15:43 **7** Yes, okay. with an informer?---Well, I hadn't had too many informers 12:15:47 8 before and I hadn't had any previously who were solicitors. 9 12:15:52 12:15:56 10 In any event you got the notes and you made 12:15:57 11 No, all right. 12:16:00 12 a note of it?---That's right. 12:16:01 13 I think subsequently you got some more notes. 12:16:07 14 I think if we go to RC41. You got another email from her and there 12:16:11 **15** 12:16:19 **16** were more law notes attached for your personal use and 12:16:25 17 there were no other messages and you didn't respond. 12:16:32 18 you recall what those notes were?---No, I don't. 12:16:34 **19** 12:16:34 **20** Were they any good, the constitutional notes, did they provide you with any assistance?---I can't recall. 12:16:37 **21** one of my favourite subjects, I must say, but I can't 12:16:41 22 12:16:45 23 recall whether the notes were any good or not. 12:16:47 24 All right. You had a number of discussions with Detective 12:16:48 25 Sergeant Hynam, I think, of the NCA?---Yes. 12:17:07 **26** 12:17:09 27 12:17:27 28 Your diary notes that you left a message - I'm sorry, that you received the law notes on 31 May 99, you left a message 12:17:33 29 on 2 June for Ms Gobbo; is that correct?---I accept what my 12:17:43 30 12:17:58 31 diary says. 12:17:59 32 12:18:00 33 All right. I think you've recorded that in your statement. 12:18:02 34 Do you recall what that would have been about?---No, I 12:18:05 35 don't. 12:18:05 36 You had a discussion with Ms Gobbo on 3 June 99?---Yes. 12:18:13 37 12:18:24 38 12:18:25 39 Was that in person or on the telephone?---I'd have to have 12:18:30 40 a look at my notes. 12:18:31 41 12:18:31 42 All right?---I would suggest it would be on the telephone. 12:18:36 43

.02/04/19

Yes?---If it just says "spoke to" it generally refers to a

That's the - - -?---Telephone conversation.

telephone conversation.

It's RC42.

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12:21:18 35 12:21:22 36 12:21:27 37

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12:23:05 47

There was a discussion about her need to peruse 30 discs to locate the one with the information regarding the former employer on it, it would take some time and probably be ready in the next two weeks?---Yes.

Did you understand how she was going to access those discs?---No, I can't recall.

Would you have asked her?---Yes, I'm sure we would have had a discussion about it.

All right. And there was a discussion - the effect of the discussion was it would take some time and she'd probably be able to do it in the next two weeks. Can I ask you why it was necessary to arrange a meeting with her the following day?---I can't recall.

Right?---I don't think that meeting proceeded.

If we go to RC43?---It did.

It did proceed. You met her with Detective Sergeant Segrave? - - - Right.

You discussed her providing the computer disc which she has which contains information regarding the former employer. "She stated that she would be in a position to locate the She would give us a call the next disc over the weekend. week to make a time to get together and obtain it." she had nothing further to add?---M'mm.

Is there - can you think of any reason why you would need to meet her in circumstances where you'd been provided with information the previous day that it would take her a number of days to get that information?---I can't recall how that's come about.

Do you know where that meeting took place?---I can't recall.

Just excuse me. I wonder if this document could be put up. VPL.0005.0007.0200-R. I believe it's redacted. Could you just have a look that and read that for a moment?

COMMISSIONER: Is that a new exhibit?

POPE XXN

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It hasn't been exhibited, Commissioner.
                 MR WINNEKE:
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Thank you.
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                              You'll recall that in a previous discussion
        5
                 MR WINNEKE:
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                 you'd had with Mr Strawhorn he said that he could introduce
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                 you to two of his informers?---Yes.
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                 And that was on 20 May that discussion had taken
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                 place? - - - Yes.
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                 On 27 May, following upon that offer, you had a meeting
                 with Segrave and one of the people who Mr Strawhorn had
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                 suggested that you meet with, correct?---Yes.
12:23:48 14
                 that way, yes.
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                 There was a discussion about whether or not he could
                 provide any information; is that correct?---Yes.
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                 And the information that he provided at the very least
                 related to Peter Reid?---I think some of it, yes.
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                 And concerned alleged unlawful conduct on the part of
12:24:40 24
                 Mr Reid?---Yes.
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                 Did you at that stage know that Ms Gobbo had previously -
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                 I'm sorry, that the firm that Ms Gobbo had previously
                 worked for acted for Mr Reid?---I don't recall having that
12:24:58 28
12:25:04 29
                 understanding.
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                        Whether or not you had that understanding then you
                 simply don't know because you can't recall now?---I just
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                 can't recall.
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                 I tender that, Commissioner.
12:25:20 36
                 #EXHIBIT RC59 - Information report dated 29/05/99.
12:25:21 37
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12:25:59 39
                 I wonder if you could put up, please, VPL.0005.0007.0207-R.
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12:26:17 41
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 It's a new document, Mr Winneke?
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12:26:18 43
                 MR WINNEKE:
                               It's a new document, Commissioner.
12:26:20 44
                 COMMISSIONER:
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                                 Thank you Mr Winneke.
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12:26:24 47
                 MR WINNEKE:
                               Again, harking back to the conversation that
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you'd had with Mr Strawhorn on 20 May, the offer to 12:26:27 1 12:26:33 **2** introduce you to two of his informers, does that indicate 12:26:40 3 that on 3 June 99 you and Segrave met with Strawhorn and 12:26:49 **4** another person in South Melbourne?---Yes.

> That person told you about his dealings with Mr Reid?---Yes.

And the former employer, which included laundering money through a company?---Yes.

And then there was an arrangement to meet that informer some time the following week?---That's right.

I tender that document, Commissioner.

#EXHIBIT RC60 - Information report dated 14/06/99.

MR WINNEKE: On 9 June there was a telephone conversation that you had with Ms Gobbo and there was an arrangement to meet in a number of days. RC44, if that could be put up? - - - Yes.

Then there was a meeting on 11 June - I withdraw that. Friday 11 June you received a call from Ms Gobbo - this is RC45, if that could be put up. You received a telephone call from her. She stated that her commitments for the morning had gone longer than expected and that she would like to postpone until Monday 14 June, and you informed her that you could meet her for lunch on 14 June. She said to you that she'd been invited to lunch by Peter Reid on Saturday and that she would tell you about that meeting when you met on the Monday, correct?---Yes.

Then the next information report relates to 14 June, RC46, if that could be put up. Indeed, that meeting did go ahead on the 14th. Was that a luncheon meeting?---I can't recall.

It was a meeting where other police officers were present but not immediately at the table with you and Ms Gobbo, would that be reasonable?---That's my interpretation, yes.

And she provided you with a computer disc and she stated that she didn't have lunch with Reid on Saturday but she'd been invited to have dinner with him later in the week

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before he was to be sentenced in the County Court, right?---Yes.

And she said that the judge who was due to sentence Reid has expressed concern about the negotiated sentence which Ms Gobbo's former employer and the OPP have set and may be sentencing Reid to a term of imprisonment. You informed her that after you'd studied the documents you'd contact her some time next week, correct?---Yes.

It was clear enough to you that at the very least the solicitor was negotiating on behalf of Mr Reid with the OPP because there was a reference to that?---It seems that way, yes.

Did you have any discussions with Ms Gobbo about whether she was involved in any of the proceedings, either concerning Reid or peripheral to Reid?---No, not that I recall, no.

But you did understand that she was certainly meeting with Mr Reid?---Yes, I think my understanding was she had an association with Mr Reid.

Do you know whether or not she had visited Mr Reid in custody in 1997 and 98?---No, I don't recall knowing that.

And then she visited him in custody on 23 June 99, did you know about that?---I don't recall knowing about that.

Would you have asked her about the contact that she'd had with Mr Reid and the context of the contact that she'd had?---It's possible but I can't recall.

If we can go to Exhibit 47. You received a telephone call the following day from Ms Gobbo and she told you that Reid was being sentenced on the next day, 16 June, and he's having an all night party that night and he's going straight to court and she'd been invited. She also raised in the same conversation a question of whether or not there could be consent obtained to a variation of a restraining order on a property in owned by her client, right?---Yes.

And did you ask her what the issue was with respect to that restraining order?---I can't recall the conversation.

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In effect, what she was doing was asking you if you could intervene on behalf of a client of hers?---She was asking if I could ascertain if the informant in the matter would seek, would consent to a variation of a restraining order.

In relation to a client of hers?---Yes.

Concerning a property in ?---Yes.

This is an area where the Asset Recovery Squad has an involvement, that is restraining orders?---Yes.

The Asset Recovery Squad has the capacity to go to I think a division of the OPP and say, "Look, we need a restraining order on this property", for whatever reason, "it might be tainted or proceeds of crime"?---Yes.

And to ask that the Office of Public Prosecutions appear in effect for you to make that application?---That's right.

With a view to that property or that asset being restrained so as it can't be dealt with pending any further order?---Correct.

That's your understanding?---Yes.

You understood that she had a client and that client owned a property which was the subject of such an order?---Yes.

You said to her that you would speak to the informant in relation to the matter?---Yes.

And get back to her. Did you speak to the informant?---My understanding is I did, yes.

Why did you speak to the informer?---The informant?

I withdraw that. Why did you speak to the informant?---I assume I, on the back of this phone call I assume that I spoke to them about their view on whether there would be any option of any variations.

Right. Ordinarily the process would be that the lawyer would speak directly to the informant or directly to the OPP with a view to discussing any changes that might be made or any relaxation of the order, that'd be the appropriate way of going about it?---That would be a way to

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12:37:31 **26** 12:37:37 27 It would not be appropriate to do a sort of a back door approach, that is an informer, who happens to be a lawyer, going to the handler and then going through that approach to the informant, that wouldn't be the appropriate way of going about it I assume you'd accept?---I accept I think she was testing the relationship.

There really would have been no need for you at all to go to the informant because you would have said to yourself, "It's just not something I would entertain doing"?---I could see I had two options. It was either to speak to the informant or to say to her, "Here's the informant's number, you speak to the informant".

That might have been the appropriate way of going about it?---It could have been. She probably didn't have any knowledge of the informant or who the informant was or any - or have previously known the informant, so she's, I think, clearly tried to come to me because I'm the person in the Asset Recovery Squad that she has some form of contact with.

The reality is she would have known, assuming she's representing a person, she'd know who the informant is, one assumes?---One assumes.

Or if she didn't she could find out?---Yes.

If she's got the restraining order, there'd be names on it, she could contact either Mr Raimondo at the OPP or the informant? --- Yes.

What she was, I suggest, seeking to do was use her relationship with you to see if she could get a favour, it would seem?---Yes, that's what I'm saying, I think she was testing the relationship.

And indeed you did go to this person to see if you could pass it on, pass on the request I would have thought?---I did have a discussion with them.

Do you recall the discussion?---No, I don't.

Do you know whether that property was in some way connected with the proceedings that had been initiated by

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12:38:15 44 12:38:17 45

12:38:25 46 12:38:28 47 the Drug Squad and which you were otherwise looking into?---I don't think so. I don't think so.

You don't think so?---No. I don't recall clearly enough but I don't think that was the case.

Do you understand that there had been reference to a in previous information reports that you'd - - - ?---Yes, yes. About a transfer of title.

Yes?---About a transfer of a title of a property in to satisfy a debt of some sort is my recollection.

RC59, there was a discussion in relation to a block of land which one of the informers owns outright in which the documentation relates. "It appears on the face of it that there are no criminal offences apparent"?---I don't recall that property ever being the subject of a restraining order, or there's no note to that effect, I'm sorry.

You would say, "Look, I don't know whether it was the same property or not"?---Look, I can't recall. I don't think it's the same property.

In any event, you called her the following day and you told her that you had spoken to the informant regarding the block of land and that "we were not in a position to consent to a variation and that if she wanted to apply for a variation then we would be opposing that application. She said that she will pursue the issue through the appropriate person", being Phil Raimondo at the OPP?---That's correct.

And she told you on that day about the sentence that Mr Reid had received?---Yes.

Were there any further dealings that you can recall having with her in the period immediately after that or not?---After looking at my notes my recollection is I met with her very briefly on 1 October.

You had a number of discussions with her, according Right. to your official diary, this is paragraph 21 of your statement, on 30 June, 2 August, 6 September and 23 September 1999. Your official diary records that you had telephone conversations with Ms Gobbo on those occasions;

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is that right?---Yes. 12:41:48 1 12:41:48 2 Do you know what those conversations related to?---I can't 12:41:51 3 12:41:58 **4** My assumption would be to this inquiry. 5 12:42:08 COMMISSIONER: Sorry, your assumption would be to this 12:42:08 6 12:42:11 7 inquiry?---I'm sorry, to the investigation that we were 12:42:14 8 managing. 9 12:42:15 I wonder if you could have a look 12:42:15 10 MR WINNEKE: All right. at this document. Could you explain what that document 12:42:24 11 12:42:43 12 is?---It's what we used to call an investigation log. 12:42:51 13 That's a log of actions, comments, et cetera, concerning an 12:42:52 14 investigation? --- M'mm. 12:43:01 **15** 12:43:03 **16** 12:43:03 17 And it's an Asset Recovery Squad investigation log. got a job number on the right-hand side, although it 12:43:08 18 doesn't seem to be that there's any job number on that 12:43:12 19 document; is that right?---Not that I can see, no. 12:43:15 **20** 12:43:21 **21** And it records comments in the centre of the three columns 12:43:22 22 12:43:32 23 about what activity you were engaged in, what 12:43:36 **24** investigation, communications, et cetera, et cetera?---Yes. 12:43:38 **25** Is that filled out on an action by action basis, so for 12:43:38 **26** 12:43:47 27 example if on 28 April something occurs do you then fill out that document on that day or is it done later on, do 12:43:50 **28** you know?---It's really done when you get the opportunity 12:43:55 29 to do it. 12:43:57 30 12:43:58 **31** 12:43:58 32 Which is part of the job of paperwork that you've got to 12:44:01 33 create when you're investigating; is that right?---Yes, 12:44:04 **34** when you're doing these sorts of investigations you're 12:44:07 **35** managing your day book, your diary, the investigation log and information reports. 12:44:10 36 12:44:10 37 We have everything, all the notes save for the 12:44:11 38 All right. 12:44:16 39 document we discussed yesterday which you couldn't 12:44:19 40 find?---Yes. 12:44:19 41 12:44:23 42 It does appear that there are no entries in that

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I wonder if RC59 - if the activity log can be put up - no,

It's that document there.

exhibited. If we go to the second page of that and just

It's been

investigation log subsequent to 23 June?---Yes.

it's not RC59.

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12:45:30 3 COMMISSIONER: Has this already been tendered?

12:45:34 5 MR WINNEKE: It has been tendered. RC58

COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

MR WINNEKE: We can perhaps highlight that. I was asking you about contact after 15 June. It seems that you've made a note that on 16 June you left a message for Ms Gobbo. Then you spoke to her on 30 June on the phone?---Yes.

There's no reference to 2 August but on 6 September there's a record that you received a phone call from Ms Gobbo and there was a general conversation but of nil value?---Yes.

23 September 99 you spoke to Ms Gobbo via the telephone and there's no reference to anything received, whether it was of any value or not?---Yes.

If there was any value in the discussion it would have been, one assumes, recorded in the investigation log or your notes?---Or the information report.

Or the information reports. Now if there's no information reports it would follow, I suppose, that there was nothing of any consequence in those communications?---Yes.

These conversations appear to have been at the tail end of this investigation and nothing further of any value seems to have arisen certainly subsequent to 15 June and there are no information reports - I'm sorry, yes, 16 June, and -aside from 1 October 99?---That's right.

Is that correct?---Yes.

On 1 October 99 there was a final meeting, is that right? RC49, if we can put that up. "After a number of preliminary phone calls I met with Ms Gobbo on Friday 1 October. She didn't have any new information. She was mainly interested in how the investigation was progressing. She stated that her former employer moved into the new office. She's in regular contact with him and being briefed by him on a regular basis." Then there was a discussion about the investigation progressing slowly and you were awaiting the outcome of the Lambert trial in the

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County Court. Do you recall what that was about, the 12:48:18 1 12:48:21 **2** Lambert trial?---No, I don't.

> In any event that's the last information report?---That's right.

> Do you recall having any meetings at all with Ms Gobbo as an informer after that meeting?---No.

The situation with respect to your diary is that - perhaps Do you recall with that last meeting before I go there. whether you wanted to see if there was any more information that she had or was it a meeting that she initiated, do you recall that? What you say is, "After a number of preliminary phone calls I met" - - - ?---I think the preliminary phone calls were referring to the ones you've already highlighted.

Do you recall whether you were initiating those phone calls or she was?---Could have been - - -

What was the situation?---It could have been either way. Ι think - well I think I can safely assume from the documentation that the investigation was fizzling out by this stage.

Yes?---And we were either looking to see if there was anything else or if we were going to finish it up.

Certainly by that stage - I take it you'd engaged in other investigations, had you, to determine whether or not it was conceivable that charges could be laid?---For this matter?

Yes?---We'd certainly been considering all the information as it had been coming in and conducting relevant inquiries and investigations.

Ultimately the former employer was not interviewed?---No.

He certainly wasn't charged?---No.

You didn't get enough information to establish or to enable you to bring him in and ask him questions?---Correct.

Ultimately there was an action on the part of Mr Segrave to change her status from active to inactive and that is she

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be deregistered. Was that made known to you?---I can't 12:51:33 **1** 12:51:37 **2** recall.

> Were you aware that her status was changed, in effect she was decommissioned as an informer?---Look, I can't recall with any clarity at all.

Right?---I can make an assumption that the job was fizzling out and we were looking to wrap it up.

Yes?---So that's part of that process.

In terms of wrapping it up, was there a formal process that's engaged in to wrap it up? How do you do that?---You generally would finalise the file.

Yes?---So you might put a report on the file as to how it was - as to how this investigation was concluded. always, but generally.

You handed your diary to Detective Senior Sergeant Curran for an audit regarding Ms Gobbo?---Yes.

Why did you do that?---Upon his request would be my I think that was part of a relatively recollection. standard practice.

Were you part of the process or were you involved in the process of winding the operation up in the sense of the auditing process if you like?---I wouldn't have been involved in the auditing process, no.

So, what, you simply hand over your diary and that's it, is it?---That's right. That's my recollection.

All right?---I think it would be cross-referenced with information reports, expenditure and other things that may have occurred.

You believe that in May of 2000 you referred the matter to the legal Ombudsman?---I think ultimately that's how we ended up finalising this investigation.

Yes?---Was that there were no charges laid, no prospect of charges, but I think my diary indicates after some meetings with Mr Curran we decided to provide a report to the legal Ombudsman.

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What did you tell Mr Curran?---I can't recall.

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Did you tell Mr Curran anything about Ms Gobbo as to whether or not she was a useful source or a reliable source?---Well I had a number of meetings with Mr Curran throughout the investigation.

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In the wash up did you form a view as to whether or not she was a useful or reliable source?---I can't recall conversations specifically about her with him.

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I'm just asking you about your impression?---Oh, sorry, my impression?

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Yes?---Look, you know, my recollection was the information that she provided didn't obviously result in any criminal charges.

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Yes?---She was reliable in terms of attending meetings and providing, trying to provide information where she had access to that.

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Yes?---But my recollection was she was also someone difficult to keep focused.

12:55:18 25 12:55:20 **26**

> In what respect?---She would talk an awful lot about a whole range of things.

12:55:20 27 12:55:23 **28**

> Is there a process or was there a process whereby those views could be expressed or set down in some sort of file?---Not that I recall.

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Recorded somewhere so as other people in the future might

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be able to have recourse to them?---Not that I can recall for informers, no.

12:55:43 **36** 12:55:44 37 12:55:46 38

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Where was the information - I mean aside from the documents that we've seen, the logs, the notes and the diaries and so forth, the information reports, at that stage was there any central intelligence system whereby this sort of information could be recorded and accessed at a later time?---Well my understanding is the information reports went into an intelligence database but I don't know, I don't think that was a centralised intelligence database but I can't be certain.

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Ultimately your view at the end of it was, I think you were saying, she had a whole lot of information and she told you a lot of things?---M'mm.

Some of which would enable you to pursue lines of inquiries but others, what, were really scuttlebutt or of no particular value at all?---Yeah, I think, you know, my recollection is lots of discussion about criminals, high profile crimes, police, policing, football, politics, a whole range of different topics were covered.

What about police and policing, do you have any recollection about those sorts of things that she mentioned?---I think it was just one of those - you know, "Who do you know? Who have you had dealings with?", and those sorts of things.

Do you have any particular recollections of any police officers who she knew who she'd had dealings with? - - - No.

I assume she had mentioned to you particular names of particular police officers with whom she'd had dealings?---Yeah, I'm sure there was discussions about a whole range of people but I can't recall any specifics.

Were these discussions occurring in the context All right. of meetings that you had with Segrave?---Yes.

And her?---Yes.

Meetings that you had with her on your own?---I only had only the one with her on my own.

Only one or two?---Oh sorry, the second-last meeting I met with her on my own with two other members nearby.

Yes?---So technically, yes, I was discussing with her on my own and then the last one on 1 October.

Were there any recordings made at all to your recollection?---No, not that I can recall.

Was she - when she mentioned names of police officers did she mention any names of Drug Squad police officers with whom she was associating?---I mean clearly I knew she was associated with or had some association with Mr Strawhorn.

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12:58:37 1 2 Yes?---And a couple of others but, look, there may well 12:58:37 have been, I can't remember. 12:58:41 12:58:42 4 5 You can't recall any other particular names of police 12:58:42 officers whom she mentioned?---No, I can't. 12:58:45 7 12:58:47 12:58:48 8 All right. In your statement you say that you recall - and 9 you've given evidence already about the event which 12:58:58 12:59:01 10 occurred subsequent in 2000 where you attended the execution of a search warrant at a particular house?---Yes. 12:59:06 11 12:59:09 12 12:59:09 13 Had you been asked to attend on that occasion?---Yes. 12:59:11 14 By Mr Strawhorn?---Yes. I don't recall if that was 12:59:11 **15** 12:59:20 **16** specifically a request directly to me or if it was a request just into the Squad and I happened to be one of the 12:59:23 17 12:59:26 18 people available to attend. 12:59:26 19 12:59:27 **20** The conversation that you had with her - did she ring you about that, where you mentioned that she said words to the 12:59:32 **21** effect "you've got no idea what you've stumbled 12:59:35 22 12:59:40 23 across"?---I certainly don't recall meeting her about that 12:59:42 24 so my assumption is that it was a phone call. 12:59:46 25 Did you ask her how she knew that you had been involved in 12:59:50 **26** 12:59:53 27 this?---No, I can't recall. 13:00:01 28 Well you certainly hadn't told her?---No. 13:00:03 29 She was aware 13:00:06 30 that I had been at the premises. 13:00:07 31 13:00:07 32 And she hadn't been there when you were there?---No. 13:00:10 33 13:00:11 34 So clearly it could only have come from information 13:00:14 35 provided to her by someone who was at the address I 13:00:19 36 assume?---I guess so, yes. 13:00:20 37 Are you able to recall aside from Mr Strawhorn who else was 13:00:21 38 13:00:24 39 at the address?---By the time we got there I think there 13:00:28 40 was only two or three Drug Squad members left. 13:00:32 41

Yes?---I think one of them was Mr Paton, I can't remember.

Steve Paton, Wayne Strawhorn, the other one you can't recall?---I can't recall.

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The likelihood is that - I assume it occurred to you that

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one or other of those officers, or the third officer whose name you can't recall, had conveyed the information to you, to Ms Gobbo, that you'd been there?---It seems that way.

Did you ask her when she said "you've got no idea what you've stumbled across", did you ask her what she meant?---Look, I don't recall really the specifics of the investigation. It was just an odd - sorry, the specifics of the conversation - it was just an odd conversation and there are references to, you know, much bigger things around this job and potential corruption and I said - my recollection is I said, "We're focusing on the assets and that's what we're focusing on. Other matters need to be directed elsewhere".

Did you pass that information on to anyone else to your recollection?---I don't have any specific recollection of exactly what I did with it.

One assumes if she's talking about corruption she's talking about police corruption?---Yes.

I mean you thought the job looked strange, it was a neat and tidy place?---Yes.

It didn't look normal to you?---Yes.

Do you believe you passed it on to ESD, for example?---I can't recall if I did. I can't recall. I think I would have had a conversation with the members at the Drug Squad about it.

Which members do you think you might have discussed it with?---Probably with Mr Strawhorn. Just to alert him to the fact that this could be a much bigger job.

Was she suggesting, for example, that if something wasn't quite right with it that perhaps Mr Strawhorn might have been doing something wrong, was that the gist of the conversation?---I don't recall forming that view at the time.

That was certainly conceivable I suppose, wasn't it?---It was a possibility.

Did you know at that stage that there were any suspicions or rumours circulating around Mr Strawhorn?---No.

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We now know that Mr Strawhorn was involved in criminal activities, certainly subsequently, but there was nothing that you knew about it at that stage?---No. I had no reason to suspect anything at all about him or any of his members.

Did you make a note, do you believe, of the conversation with Ms Gobbo?---No, I don't think I did.

I note the time.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, it's after 1 o'clock. We'll adjourn now until 2 o'clock, thank you.

<(THE WITNESS WITHDREW)

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

.02/04/19 792

UPON RESUMING AT 2.01 PM:

COMMISSIONER: Yes Mr Winneke.

<JEFFREY POPE, recalled:</pre>

MR WINNEKE: Mr Pope, the last time that you say that you met Ms Gobbo was an accidental meeting, is that correct? An accidental meeting, incidental or - - - ?---This is the last time - yes, that's right. It was an accidental meeting in the Melbourne court precinct.

And you believed that it was some time in 99, maybe 2000 or later than that do you think?---It certainly wasn't later than 2000 because at the end of 2000 I relocated to Canberra so it was I think either late 1999 or 2000. recall running a number of committals and trials during that period.

Right. You studied - did you study law at Latrobe starting in 99 you say?---Yes.

Did you do it by correspondence?---Once I moved to Canberra I had to, my recollection is I deferred a couple of semesters, I think I might have done one subject by correspondence through another university, and then I resumed my law degree when I returned to Melbourne in 2003.

So you're quite confident that it was prior to going to Canberra that this meeting occurred?---Yes.

And you had a coffee with her in the Metropolitan Hotel?---Yes.

And she stated she was travelling to Hawaii on a business class flight?---My recollection was she was going overseas to the US, I think Hawaii, I think she was travelling business class.

And she stated that she was lonely and she would take anyone with her and you stated that you weren't comfortable with that and then you left and that was the last time that vou saw her. That's a version of the meeting you gave when you were spoken to by Paul Millet on 15 February of this year, is that correct?---Yes, that was a summation of that, of that contact with her, yes.

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There's a more fulsome description of that meeting in your affidavit that we've referred to previously and you say that you met her, and this is at paragraph I think 5 of your affidavit. Perhaps this could be put up, VPL.0002.0002.0067. Go to the second page, p.2, paragraph That was your recollection in 2011 and you believe the conversation occurred near the Metropolitan Hotel in William Street. It was very different to previous meetings and very different to any conversation that you'd had with any other prospective informants. She talked about the fact that she was becoming successful, getting lots of high profile cases, earning lots of money but it wasn't making She was about to book or booked a holiday to the US, was travelling alone, she said she would pay for all the expenses of another person to have the right companion to go with her and she wasn't looking forward to a holiday on her own. You recall there was discussion Do you recall how old you were then?---I about your age. turned 30 in February of 2000.

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So that may well have been discussed and she was curious whether the purpose of life becomes more meaningful after you turn 30 years and at the end of the conversation she asked whether the relationship was ever likely to develop into something more personal and you said no, you were happily married and that was the end of the conversation? --- That's correct.

The situation is, isn't it, that in about November 2011 she made an allegation - late October 2011 she made an allegation that for a number of months she'd had a sexual relationship with you on and off, you understand that?---Yes.

When that allegation arose what was your position within Victoria Police Force?---Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Intelligence and Covert Support area.

Did you have any involvement at that point in matters concerning Ms Gobbo?---Well I was managing the Covert Services Division and within the Covert Services Division there were business units such as the Source Development Unit who had responsibilities with Ms Gobbo.

You had come back to Victoria Police from the Australian Crime Commission, is that right?---That's right, in 2001 and 2 I was at the Australian Bureau of Criminal

1 Intelligence in Canberra, then in January 2003 that became 14:08:10 14:08:14 2 the Australian Crime Commission.

> Yes?---I briefly came back to Victoria Police when my I don't have the exact dates with me secondment concluded. but I was back with Victoria Police I think for approximately six months in - sorry, that's in 2004, I'm sorry.

> Yes?---So back to Melbourne 2003, stayed with the Australian Crime Commission for 2003, then I think in early 2004 my secondment finished, I came back to Victoria Police as a Sergeant and then I resigned from Victoria Police in I think November 2004.

Right?---And then went back to the Australian Crime Commission as a General Manager of Intelligence.

When did you come back to Victoria Police?---It was I think the last week of September, 2009.

Was it your understanding when you came back you may well be dealing with matters concerning Ms Gobbo in your role?---Yes.

Without going into details at this stage, there were significant issues at that stage insofar as the Victoria Police's management of Ms Gobbo in one way or another? -- Yes.

The allegation arose from a conversation that had been recorded between Ms Gobbo and two police officers, Detective Senior Sergeant Buick and Detective Sergeant Labusque?---I understand that, yes.

You swore an affidavit because that allegation was brought to your attention as I understand it, is that right?---Yes, it was.

And the affidavit that I've been referring to on a couple of occasions this morning and just recently, was that affidavit in response to that allegation?---Yes, it was.

And in that affidavit you effectively denied that allegation?---Fully, yes.

Fully, all right. I wonder if we could just put that

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affidavit up, it's VPL.0002.0002 - that's the affidavit?---Yes, it is.

> At that stage you hadn't seen the specific allegations that had been made, is that right?---Correct.

> All right. What you say, again briefly, is that when you came back to Victoria Police, knowing that you would be dealing with matters broadly concerning Ms Gobbo, you made declarations to Victoria Police members about your previous involvement with Ms Gobbo?---Yes, where I thought that was appropriate, yes.

Obviously you say those declarations didn't involve any suggestion of an inappropriate or a sexual relationship with Ms Gobbo because you say that didn't occur?---That's correct.

Who were the police officers, do you recall who you made those declarations to?---I remember having discussions with Simon Overland, Ken Jones, Tony Biggin, Finn McCrae, I think Paul Sheridan, I think there was a range of people that I made aware of my previous dealings with Ms Gobbo.

Do you believe that they were recorded, those declarations?---I'm not sure.

Ultimately you said in your affidavit that the allegations made by Ms Gobbo were completely false?---That's correct.

And you welcomed an investigation?---That's correct.

I tender that affidavit.

#EXHIBIT RC61 - Affidavit.

Could I also tender, Commissioner - perhaps if we could put up VPL.0002.0002.0072. Have you seen that document?---For the first time a couple of weeks ago.

That's a transcript of the conversation that I was referring to?---Yes, I understand.

You've read that, you say, for the first time a couple of weeks ago?---Yes.

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Could I also tender notes of conversations, and I'm not too sure whether there's a VPL number. Perhaps whilst we're dealing with that, for the sake of completeness, could we put up on the screen the diary, redacted diary of Mr Pope, VPL.0005.0007.0164. That I take it is your handwriting in that diary, is that correct?---Yes.

And it goes through to I think p.186. If we can just scroll - again, that's p.117 of your diary?---Yes.

I tender that diary from 164 through to 186.

#EXHIBIT RC62 - Transcript of conversation.

#EXHIBIT RC63 - Diary pp.164-186.

Perhaps I can tender that after it's found and we can move on with the next witness. I have no further - look one final thing. There's been evidence that in or about July of 1995 a Mr Arthur, who was a police officer in the DSGA group in about that time, handed over to you Ms Gobbo as an informer at a time when he and his group were moving from the offices in Russell Street down to the Victoria Police Centre in Flinders Street and handed to you Ms Gobbo because you were remaining in the, either going to Carlton or remaining in the DSG in any event. What do you say to that?---No, my recollection, and I think we went through this point yesterday, is that I was in uniform at that stage and I was working at Richmond police station. absolutely no recollection of what Mr Arthur is referring to.

Yes, all right. Yes, thanks very much.

COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Mr Collinson.

<CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR COLLINSON:</pre>

If the Commissioner pleases just a few questions about the affidavit that Mr Pope swore in 2011.

COMMISSIONER: Yes. Do you want to get that up on the screen?

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14:16:36 1 2 MR COLLINSON: Can I first ask to be brought up on the 14:16:37 screen RC62, which is VPL.0002.0002.007. 14:16:40 3 4 14:16:53 COMMISSIONER: Yes. 5 14:16:53 14:16:56 6

> I'll read it out again, it's VPL.0002 - - -MR COLLINSON:

COMMISSIONER: Exhibit 62 if that's a help.

MR COLLINSON: Yes it's RC62. I'll start the number again VPL.0002.0002.0072. It's not the document presently shown, it's the interview note - - -

COMMISSIONER: It's up now.

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Now your evidence, Mr Pope, is MR COLLINSON: Yes, I see. you didn't see this note when you were preparing your affidavit back in 2011?---Correct.

Did you ask to see it?---No.

But you've read it recently?---I think a couple of weeks ago was the first time I saw it.

You'll see that Ms Gobbo is recorded in the first paragraph, about eight lines down, she says, "I'll tell you something that PII doesn't know just as a skerrick of information that you'll laugh at. Do you know who the Assistant Commissioner was who I only found after the event who was overseeing my handling when I was being looked after Petra? Was Jeff Pope for a while, wasn't it?" further down Ms Gobbo makes the observation about point five of the page, "Would think it was appropriate if I had a sexual relationship with you that you looked after that How's that for (inaudible) for you. committee. look at Boris's face. I wish I take a photo of that". Then further at about point seven of the page after saying "I'm telling the truth" she says, "On and off for a few months", speaking of this relationship. And then she says at the end of that paragraph, "Then I saw him being you on TV and I went, I said to my sister, oh my God". And then over the page, going to the next page, at about point two of the page, "I just think it is hilarious, isn't that inappropriate? Can you imagine the complaint I could make about that? I bet you he hasn't declared it". Now, do you agree that Ms Gobbo seems to be raising her observations

about this affair she says occurred with you as merely incidental to the matters she's speaking to the police officers about?---Could be.

And - - - ?---I notice it's part of a 31 minute conversation.

Who was it that raised with you an issue arising from this evidence given by Ms Gobbo?---My recollection is it was raised at the steering committee meeting for I think the Driver Task Force at that stage which was on the following Monday.

And the end result of the issue being raised I think is that you were required to leave the steering committee?---I offered to step down from the steering committee whilst an investigation was on foot.

Yes, and then after the investigation was concluded, wasn't the internal recommendation that you should have no further role on the steering committee?---I can't recall.

If the operator could bring up, please, this document, VPL.0002.0002.0063. Now, is this a document you've seen recently, Mr Pope?---No, I haven't.

You'll see, if one goes to the next page, that it includes a communication from a Mr Shaun Le Grand, Assistant Victorian Government Solicitor, do you see his reference at the foot of that email?---Yes.

Do you recall his name?---I've met Shaun once or twice for other matters.

Do you know that he gave advice in relation to this issue raised by Ms Gobbo?---No, I've never seen any part of the investigation file on this matter.

I see. If I could direct your attention please to the last paragraph on that second page, do you see it begins, "In the circumstances"?---Yes.

And continuing, "We recommend that the issue of potential or possible conflict be managed. To that end it would be sufficient if member C", and that's a reference to you I believe, "Has no further role in the steering committee and any further decision making involving the source. It seems

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that has already occurred". Now, you said earlier you didn't recommend or you didn't recollect, sorry, being required to leave the steering committee after this issue was raised by Ms Gobbo?---I don't recall anyone asking me I offered upfront as soon to leave the steering committee. as the allegation was made that I would step aside from the steering committee whilst an investigation was on foot.

Was it your idea to do an affidavit in relation to this matter or were you asked to do that affidavit?---Again, my recollection is that I offered to do the affidavit.

Now, I want to be clear for your benefit, Mr Pope, I don't mean to suggest that there was any kind of express finding that Ms Gobbo's recollection was to be preferred to yours on this question and that's shown by the first two paragraphs on this page where some of the reasoning of Mr Le Grand is set out. But while I've got the document I might seek to tender that document if the Commissioner pleases.

Commissioner, no difficulty with that, it will MR HOLT: need to be reviewed. Everyone will see there's a yellow That is a claim for legal professional box on it. privilege that needs to be assessed. I'm happy for it to be tendered but if it could not go up on the website until we've had a chance to discuss that with our learned friends I'd be grateful.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right we'll tender it on that basis for the time being. Should it be marked for identification really?

Yes, if it could be marked for identification, MR HOLT: I'd be grateful. We'll resolve that issue.

#EXHIBIT RC2 - (Marked for identification.)

Could I ask Mr Pope's affidavit be brought MR COLLINSON: up, it's VPL.0002.0002.0067. If the operator could go to the second page and blow up paragraph 5. Can I ask you a couple of questions about this paragraph, Mr Pope. you say you met Ms Gobbo, as you describe in the precincts of the Melbourne Magistrates' Court, how long was it since you had last seen her or spoken to her?---As I recall it

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had been a little while.

By that do you mean upwards of a year?---Look it's very difficult to recollect, it would certainly be a number of months, if not many months, but I can't say if it would be longer than 12 months.

If someone like Ms Gobbo has not seen you for quite a long time, don't you think it would be very odd that she would directly raise with you at a meeting, well a meeting at the Metropolitan Hotel, that she wondered whether the relationship was likely to develop into something more personal?---I certainly found it odd, yes.

You've given evidence about a number of your other interactions with Ms Gobbo and I think it's fair to say, isn't it, that for most of these interactions primarily in 1999 and 2000 you don't really have any recollection about the detail of them?---No, not really.

And yet for this particular meeting, Mr Pope, there's quite a lot of detail in the recollection, isn't there?---Well this discussion stuck out in my mind.

You don't mention anything about a business class airfare in this particular recollection in paragraph 5, do vou? - - - No.

And yet I think when you were - I haven't seen the document but when you were providing your initial response to queries from Task Force Landow you spoke of a business class airfare in that conversation, didn't you?---I think I did, yes.

So that's a recollection that's come to you more recently thinking about it some more, is it?---That's a vague recollection that I've got, yes.

When do you say this meeting at the Metropolitan Hotel would have occurred? I realise you can't be that specific but can you remember which year, for example?---Well I think it was 2000 because I recall the conversation about my age and as I said I turned 30 in February 2000. can only go by somewhere around about my birthday and prior to her overseas travel, whenever that was.

And you had - I take it you didn't keep any kind of note of

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that conversation?---No, I didn't.

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And you were recollecting it some 11 years later when you did this affidavit on 2 November 2011?---I was recalling all of my interactions with her 11 years later in this affidavit.

And you were able to recollect the kind of detail we see in paragraph 5, were you, that Ms Gobbo said at this time she was becoming very successful and was getting lots of high profile cases?---Yes, it's a conversation that stood out.

But you see Ms Gobbo had only gone to the Bar in November 1998, so at this stage of her career in 2000, even going to the very end of 2000, she hadn't worked on any high profile cases, what do you say to that?---I can only reflect what my recollection of the conversation was.

And rather than earning lots of money she was doing lots of Legal Aid work, I suggest?---I can only reflect my recollection of the conversation.

Now, if the operator could go, please, to paragraph 8. Do you see that you say there, sorry, paragraph 9. Mr Pope, that when you began in your return role, so to speak, as Assistant Commissioner Intelligence and Covert Support you declared the nature of your relationship with Ms Gobbo as detailed above to, among others, Superintendent Biggin? --- Yes.

So you told Superintendent Biggin, did you, about the details of your meeting with Ms Gobbo at the Metropolitan Hotel?---I think that's slightly clumsy language on my I was declaring to Superintendent Biggin the dealings that I'd had with Ms Gobbo predominantly either as a - I couldn't recall at that stage whether I'd registered her or not, but predominantly as an informer.

So you didn't say anything at all to Superintendent Biggin about the meeting at the Metropolitan Hotel?---I can't recall specifically if I did or not.

When you say you made disclosure to Superintendent Biggin, do you mean it was oral?---Yes.

So if you didn't mention the meeting at the Metropolitan

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Hotel what is it that you did disclose?---I think broadly I disclosed to a number of people, um, that I'd had dealings with Ms Gobbo in 1999 to 2000 as a registered or an unregistered informer where we had met on about half a dozen occasions on a matter relating to potential fraud and money laundering and in addition to that, you know, there'd been phone calls and that was probably the broad overview of the declaration.

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So the disclosures you made were nothing like as specific as the information in paragraphs 4 through to 5 of this affidavit?---Well the disclosures that I made that I refer to in this affidavit preceded the allegation of a sexual relationship in 2011.

So likewise if one goes over to paragraph 10 where you talk about a conversation with Sir Ken Jones, the Deputy Commissioner, where you say "as detailed above"?---Yes.

You mean it in the same way, no mention was made of this Metropolitan Hotel meeting?---I didn't mention the Metropolitan Hotel meeting to anyone at that point because it was of really very little significance because no allegation of a relationship had been raised in my first two years as Assistant Commissioner.

Wherever it says "as detailed above" in these paragraphs, including paragraphs 11 and 13, we can exclude from that, can we, the Metropolitan Hotel meeting?---Yes, though I can't specifically remember if I made much mention of that, but I certainly - what I'm generally referring to is my dealings with her as an informer.

Wouldn't it have been relevant to - in paragraph 10 do you see in the last sentence you say, "We both agreed that there was no issue or conflict of interest"?---Yes.

Now, in order for you to make full disclosure to Sir Ken Jones, wouldn't it have been relevant to disclose that Nicola Gobbo made a sexual advance to you at this meeting at the Metropolitan Hotel?---Well now with the knowledge of her allegation that I had a sexual relationship with her, then that certainly brings it into much greater significance but I think at the time I pretty well just brushed it off as a fairly insignificant issue.

On your version of events you were going to assume a role

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in a committee that - well what function did it have, this committee in respect of Ms Gobbo?---The committee was over sighting an investigation in which she was a likely or possible witness.

And wouldn't it have been relevant to have disclosed that she made that kind of advance on an earlier occasion?---I disclosed what I thought what was relevant which was my previous dealings with her as an informer.

Did you have a drink with Ms Gobbo at the Metropolitan Hotel on that occasion?---No, my recollection is it was during the day and it was a cup of coffee.

You have got that level of specificity to your recollection, do you?---I remember sitting - it was whilst I was in the court precinct, so it was during business hours.

When you swore this affidavit you didn't want to give up your position, did you, on the steering committee?---I voluntarily stood down from the steering committee.

Yes, I'm asking a different question. When you swore the affidavit I suggest to you you did not at that point want to give up your position on the steering committee?---That wasn't the focus or the purpose of the affidavit. purpose of my affidavit was to clearly refute the allegation.

But didn't it go through a process of consideration internally within Victoria Police as to whether you should step down from that role or not?---All I understood was that an investigation was underway and I welcomed that investigation.

But you knew what the purpose of the investigation was, wasn't it, which was to see whether or not you should continue in your role on the steering committee?---I think that was one element of the investigation.

Did you leave employment with Victoria Police shortly after these events?---No, not shortly after, probably, um, 20 months after.

I see?---Nearly two years.

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> Did Ms Gobbo convey what she conveyed to you, as you describe in paragraph 25 of your statement, by telephone or in a meeting?---I can't really recall. I really can't I think it might have been by telephone but I can't recall.

Why didn't you mention that discussion with Ms Gobbo when you were doing this affidavit back in 2011?---It's a recollection that I've had since I've been reflecting on these matters in preparation for this inquiry.

But you didn't recollect it when you did this affidavit?---No, I didn't.

Can the operator please go to paragraph 4 of the affidavit. You say in that paragraph that you met with Ms Gobbo on about six occasions and, "On every occasion that I would meet with her I would advise my supervisor and colleagues"? --- Yes.

Did you advise your supervisor and colleagues about the meeting you had with her at the Metropolitan Hotel?---I can't recall.

I think you didn't, did you? You'd remember that, wouldn't you?---I can't recall if I went back to the office and said I just had a coffee with her.

Isn't the proper procedure for this kind of matter to include it in an information report?---Not necessarily, no.

That's the course you took with the events whereby Ms Gobbo sent you some law study notes?---Yes, when she was a registered informer.

So you didn't think it was your duty to put it down in an information report, this particular discussion you had with her?---I think I classify this more as just a social contact.

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Did you ever do the fraud investigator's report - I'm sorry, course at Latrobe University?---No, I didn't.

You didn't do subjects in that course?---No, I didn't.

COMMISSIONER: You didn't lecture in that course, you didn't give any lectures or tutorials or anything of that nature?---No, I didn't.

MR COLLINSON: Did you ever encounter Ms Gobbo out at Latrobe University?---No, I didn't.

Now, can I ask the operator to go to another document now, It's VPL.0005.0007.0194. You were taken to this document earlier today, Mr Pope. It's one of the information reports. Am I right to say - yes, this is reflecting information conveyed to you by Ms Gobbo, isn't it, this report?---Yes.

Now, in the second paragraph it says, "On this occasion the informer was more prepared to talk about specific incidents"?---Yes.

What I want to suggest to you is that - well, that implies, doesn't it, that on the earlier occasion or occasions prior to this event on 17 May Ms Gobbo was not prepared to talk about specific incidents in the way she does here?---I think the first meeting there was no real information provided and we were just undertaking the introduction and the handover and then trying to establish the rapport.

Yes, but what I want to suggest to you is that the language "more prepared to talk about specific incidents" suggests that Ms Gobbo was reluctant to do so on the earlier occasions, do you agree or disagree with that?---I think it took a little while - I agree that that's an inference that's appropriate.

So that accords, does that accord approximately with your recollection, that Ms Gobbo was a little reluctant in the early stages of your interaction with her to inform about the person the subject of this investigation?---I'm not sure I'd say reluctant. I think it just took a meeting or two to establish the rapport and the trust.

Yes. And it's fair to say, isn't it, that you sought to set her mind at ease in that regard and encourage her to inform on that person?---I don't specifically recall the way in which the conversations went but I don't think I needed to really encourage her greatly.

It might be said that Ms Gobbo wanted to speak generally. She might be said to be a communicative person?---Yes.

But I think you've agreed, haven't you, initially she was reluctant to give specific information about the person the subject of this investigation?---I think it took a meeting or two to warm up to myself and Mr Segrave.

And what did you say to warm Ms Gobbo up?---I've no recollection.

I mean are there police protocols or procedures to encourage informers to be forthcoming?---No, not that I can recall.

I won't press that question. Did Ms Gobbo ever say anything to you about feeling any pressure to be an informer from the police?---Not that I can recall.

Did she ever raise issues about the conduct of Mr Strawhorn of the Drug Squad in that regard, that he was placing some pressure on her?---Not that I can recall.

Do you have any recollection about a letter being sent at one stage by Ms Gobbo's then employer to the Drug Squad complaining about pressure being placed upon Ms Gobbo?---No, I don't have any recollection of that.

In your diary notes there's a number of references to meeting Ms Gobbo, sometimes with Mr Segrave, possibly sometimes not, at South Melbourne. I suggest to you that that's always a reference to the Emerald Hotel, isn't it?---I can't recall where all those meetings occurred, I've got a vague recollection that some meetings were in a hotel and some meetings were in a café but I can't recall.

But do you mean - you don't mean, do you, that you have a specific recollection that the café you've got in mind was a café in South Melbourne?---I really can't - the only clear recollection I have is a very, is that one meeting in the late afternoon with the Drug Squad at the Emerald Hotel. The other meetings I don't really have a very clear

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The reason the meeting occurred at the Emerald Hotel I suggest is that that's where Victoria Police regularly went to for drinking amongst colleagues?---Well that may well be the case but I think that was, that was the suggestion of the Drug Squad as to where we should meet them that afternoon.

Do you accept it's at least probable that references to South Melbourne in your notes are likely referring to the Emerald Hotel?---They could be.

No further questions.

Thanks Mr Collinson. COMMISSIONER:

Commissioner, can I raise a timing issue in relation to the next witness? The Commission will recall that witness has a pseudonym of Kruger and you will recall the reasons for that that are to light. I'm told by our learned friend counsel assisting that his evidence will take about an hour and a half. I'm conscious we are at quarter to 3. He has particular travel arrangements and particular other arrangements which the Commission will be aware of which mean that it really can only work if his evidence goes through in one hit. And so to that end we could respectfully see whether it might be possible, depending how long our learned friend Mr Chettle might be, to interpose him to permit him to complete that evidence this afternoon.

I don't think we're going to be much COMMISSIONER: Right. As I understood it this witness longer with this witness. may be recalled for discussions about a later period that certainly relates to up to 2000, so I don't know whether you'd have any questions at all.

MR CHETTLE: I certainly do, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER: You do. You'll be a while, will you?

MR CHETTLE: Yes. I would anticipate at a guess between half an hour and an hour.

COMMISSIONER: That's going to be the rest of the day really by the time Mr Thangaraj has re-examined.

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14:46:37 1 2 MR THANGARAJ: Commissioner, just on that issue. 3 4 COMMISSIONER: Yes. 5 6 MR THANGARAJ: From what my friend said I suspect he's 14:46:38 7 going to attempt to ask questions about 2000 onwards. 14:46:38 14:46:44 8 COMMISSIONER: I've just asked him that and he said this is 9 14:46:44 14:46:45 10 pre-2000. 14:46:46 11 14:46:47 12 MR CHETTLE: No, Commissioner. The topic's been raised this afternoon by everybody but me, but there is material 14:46:49 13 in relation to 2009 onwards that I want to ask this witness 14:46:53 14 I understand he will be coming back but it is 14:46:56 **15** 14:47:00 16 important for my clients to get some framework in relation to issues that I'll be raising with the Commission. 14:47:05 **17** 14:47:07 18 19 MR THANGARAJ: That's why I wanted to raise it, Commissioner, because I'll be objecting to that for a 14:47:08 20 Whenever the Commission's ready for me 14:47:11 21 number of reasons. to deal with that issue I will, but that might affect the 14:47:11 22 14:47:13 23 timing question. 14:47:13 24 It does. It does. It seems if we are to 14:47:13 25 COMMISSIONER: have any hope of finishing Mr Kruger's evidence we would 14:47:17 26 have to interpose him now. 14:47:20 27 14:47:22 28 14:47:23 29 I'm happy for that to occur but it means MR CHETTLE: Mr Pope's got to come back. Commissioner, we've had 14:47:26 30 14:47:28 31 questions asked - -14:47:28 32 14:47:28 33 I gather that's less - inconvenient as that COMMISSIONER: 14:47:31 34 is I gather it's less inconvenient than if Mr Kruger has to 14:47:36 35 come back. 14:47:37 36 14:47:37 37 MR THANGARAJ: We've assumed that Mr Pope is coming back. 38 39 COMMISSIONER: Yes, he is coming back. 40 14:47:39 41 MR THANGARAJ: And we're proposing to prepare a statement 14:47:43 42 in relation to the next period for the Commission's next 14:47:44 43 hearing sittings and we anticipated, because he has not 14:47:47 44 prepared that material, we have not read that material.

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With respect it is not appropriate Mr Chettle goes into

I don't have any questions at this

those areas today.

stage to ask him.

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MR THANGARAJ: So it could be that he could be finished for today and we come back at the next sittings and my friend can ask those questions at that time when it would be more appropriate with respect.

COMMISSIONER: Mr Winneke, how soon could - and Mr Holt, this probably effects your submissions more than anyone, how soon could Victoria Police provide the further information that's needed to properly examine Mr Pope about the next period?

MR WINNEKE: How soon can Victoria Police provide it?

COMMISSIONER: Yes, that material.

MR WINNEKE: We've been asking for material from Victoria Police for some time.

COMMISSIONER: That's what I'm asking because we have to have that material before there's any point in getting him back.

MR WINNEKE: I understand Mr Chettle's problem is he wants to ask some questions in effect to set the scene for his purposes. I don't know how long that's going to take.

COMMISSIONER: He says an hour or so.

MR WINNEKE: That would seem to me to be going further than questions would need to set the scene, but if Mr Chettle needs an hour and a half for that purpose it would seem to me to be perhaps going too far. It depends on what he is seeking to do. Ultimately Mr Pope has prepared a statement in relation to this earlier period, yes that latter period's been touched on largely - - -

COMMISSIONER: Mr Chettle can limit himself to half an hour. Can you do that, Mr Chettle?

MR CHETTLE: I said half an hour to an hour, Commissioner, I think I can. I certainly never said an hour and a half.

COMMISSIONER: If you could be as brief as possible bearing in mind what's been said and that Mr Pope will be coming

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back later in the Commission hearing and we are trying to 14:49:30 1 2 get Mr Kruger dealt with. 14:49:33

> MR CHETTLE: I understand, Commissioner, but I've been sitting here for two days waiting to ask Mr Pope some questions and now I find I'm getting shut down which I submit is somewhat unfair.

COMMISSIONER: But you're not going to be shut down forever.

MR CHETTLE: I would like this witness's unvarnished evidence in relation to his recollection about some general I'm not going to be going into detail that everyone needs to prepare.

COMMISSIONER: The court reporters have indicated they're prepared and willing to sit until 5 o'clock but it's unreasonable for them to sit beyond that time. So I'll let you start your cross-examination and could you try and be as brief as possible.

I will, Commissioner, I will. MR CHETTLE:

<CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR CHETTLE:</pre>

Mr Pope, when you went back to the Police Force you said it was in September 2009?---Yes.

What position did you go back to?---Assistant Commissioner of Intelligence and Covert Support.

So you were overseeing the SDU at that stage?---Yes.

And at that stage Gobbo had ceased to be an informer to the SDU, is that right?---That's my understanding.

And at that stage her involvement with Victoria Police was to do with effectively Paul Dale.

MR THANGARAJ: Commissioner, I'm sorry, but the problem has been exposed by my friend's submission to the Commission about unvarnished evidence. That's the problem. already seen difficulties with recollections without access to documents. With respect, as a matter of fairness to him and reliable evidence for this Commission he needs to see all the relevant material, turn his mind to the issue - - -

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COMMISSIONER: He's an experienced police officer, I'm sure he knows how to answer questions in cross-examination. He can say he doesn't recall, he can say "I need to look at my notes", he can say, "My best recollection is this but I really would need to" - he knows how to answer questions. Yes Mr Chettle.

MR CHETTLE: Thank you. Petra and Driver were to do with Dale, weren't they?---Yes, that's my recollection.

Did you know that she was providing information to Victoria Police after you joined?---I can't specifically recall.

You couldn't recall. In your affidavit that you've been taken to you make reference to a conversation with Mr Biggin?---Yes.

Was that the first of the disclosures you made of your prior dealings with Gobbo?---Would have been certainly, if not the first, one of the most early ones I would have thought.

Why would you tell Mr Biggin?---He was a Superintendent in my division.

But Gobbo's no longer being run by him, is she?---My recollection was he was the Superintendent for the Covert Services Division.

You tell him you made a disclosure of the fact that she had been an informant of yours back in the 90s?---Words to that effect, yes.

There's a difference between telling him of the allegations she made about having a sexual affair with you and telling him about your prior informant dealings with her, isn't there?---Yes, but as I said earlier, at the time of making the declaration of her being an informer I wasn't aware of any alleged relationship.

I suggest the first time you made any declaration to Mr Biggin in relation to your prior involvement with Gobbo at all was after she made the allegation about you being involved in a sexual affair with her?---I don't think that's the case.

And that you told him that she'd made the allegation and it 14:53:28 1 14:53:31 **2** was false, that was the first time you made any disclosure at all to him?---No, I don't think that's the case. 14:53:34

> That's his recollection, he's got it wrong, has he?---It doesn't accord with your recollection.

Doesn't accord with yours, all right. Clearly if her allegation was right in relation to you having been involved with her sexually, you would have been in a dreadful conflict of position, wouldn't you?---If a sexual relationship had ever occurred?

If it had, that's the question?---I would never ever have come back to Victoria Police.

Answer my question though, you would be in a position of conflict, gross conflict if her allegations were true, wouldn't you?---Would have been a conflict, yes.

Did you sit at any time on a committee or part of the Victoria Police that determined what compensation or reward would be paid to Ms Gobbo?---No, I didn't.

Did you ever have any need to obtain records in relation to her service for the purposes of an assessment for a reward? - - - No.

Were you aware that there was an inquiry in relation to, put it this way, a rewards committee in place to look at her?---I don't recall that.

So you would have had no reason to access her file and her documents of what occurred prior to you coming to, back to the Police Force in 2009?---I can't recall whether I may Whether I was being briefed around what had have or not. occurred with her whilst I'd been away from Victoria Police, but I don't have any specific recollection of accessing a file or not.

Did you have anything to do with setting up the Comrie report, the inquiry by Mr Comrie?---I spoke to Deputy Commissioner Ashton and Chief Commissioner Lay about the Comrie report.

No, that was before it was commissioned?---Yes.

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So you were part of effectively the decision to instigate that report?---Yes.

And I take it your diaries, when they come through, will have the details of that. I'm not going to push you on the details now, but in general that will be in your diary, in your notes?---I'm not sure what records there will be around that.

You also presided over a committee, a steering committee, that produced the covert services review of 2012, did you not?---Yes.

That effectively occurred in conjunction with the Comrie report, did it not?---I think the timings coincided.

The timings coincided. No doubt you spoke to members of the SDU before you instigated the Comrie report and the covert services review?---I can't recall if it was me personally or whether it was the Superintendent or the Inspector.

You would expect someone to?---I think someone did.

On 13 August of 2012 did you go to the HSMU safe and remove the files that were stored therein in relation to Nicola Gobbo. 3838 as she was then?---I never had access to the Human Source Management Unit or the safe.

There will be evidence that a Senior Sergeant was asked to source material from HSMU in relation to a reward application for Ms Gobbo, that he went to the safe and there found an envelope with the marking, "All HSMU files re 3838 have been taken into possession by AC Pope". you know anything about that?---No, I don't.

If that be the case, you're involved with Gobbo's files not terribly long after she makes the allegation -

COMMISSIONER: Mr Chettle, he's denied it, so you're making Let's move on. a comment.

MR CHETTLE: You're saying it didn't happen, you didn't take those documents?---I had no access to the safe or to the Human Source Management Unit.

Or did you direct someone to get them for you?---I'd need

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14:56:27 **15** 14:56:31 **16** 14:56:31 17

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14:58:16 40

14:58:19 41 14:58:21 42

14:58:21 43 14:58:23 44 14:58:26 45

14:58:28 46 14:58:29 47

1 to refer to my notes but my broad recollection is that all 14:58:32 2 files and documents relating to 3838 were to be stored in a 14:58:39 3 secure safe in Superintendent Sheridan's office, which was 14:58:47 14:58:51 **4** also secure.

> I won't push you for details at this stage. On the Comrie report, was a decision made to conduct that review on the papers, as it were, without any reference to witnesses?---The Comrie report was conducted, the Comrie review was conducted in a way that Mr Comrie wanted to undertake that review is my recollection.

He wasn't given any direction by you or anybody else to your knowledge as to the way that review would be conducted?---Not that I can recall.

The committee that produced the covert services review document, are you aware of the document I mean?---Broadly.

I'm not going to take you to any detail but the committee was chaired by yourself?---Yes.

And there were other members of that committee?---Yes.

Do you remember who they were?---No, I don't.

Do you recall if Superintendent Biggin was on that committee?---Most likely.

Sheridan?---Most likely.

And Mr Paterson?---Yes, most likely.

Do you remember that committee meeting and discussing the issues that were ultimately dealt with in that review?---I'm sure it did but I can't remember.

You're sure they did have meetings?---I think so.

The effect of that meeting was to recommend the immediate closure of that, of that review was to recommend the immediate closure of SDU, wasn't it?---I can't recall.

You can't recall. I mean you shut the unit down, didn't Weren't you responsible for the decision to shut the unit down?---It was an organisational decision.

14:59:31 **16** 14:59:50 17 14:59:54 18

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14:59:58 19 14:59:58 **20**

15:00:02 **21**

15:00:04 22 15:00:05 23

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15:00:11 26 15:00:12 **27**

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15:00:30 **35** 15:00:35 **36**

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15:01:04 47

Nothing to do with you?---I was part of the decision-making 15:01:04 1 15:01:08 **2** process. 15:01:08 3

> You recommended it in your report, didn't you?---I put forward that recommendation to the Deputy and the Chief Commissioner.

That was a report that was discussed by all members of the committee before the report was published?---I can't recall the sequence of events there.

It wouldn't be a unilateral decision by you, would it?---It wasn't my own decision.

Mr Paterson involved in it?---I can't remember.

Mr Sheridan - you would expect if they were on the committee they would have been, wouldn't you?---I certainly expect there was a good understanding about what was occurring.

So the answer is yes, you would expect they would have known what was happening?---I would think so.

It would be a complete shock to you if they knew nothing about it?---That's not my recollection.

You're the man that told Mr Sheridan that the unit was being closed, weren't you? I apologise. I said Sheridan, withdraw that. You were the one who told Mr Biggin that the unit was being closed?---I can't remember.

You told him ten minutes before the matter was going to take effect, didn't you, on the day. Don't remember?---I can't remember that.

He asked you why and you said corruption issues, didn't you?---I can't remember that.

There was certainly no suggestion of corruption, was there?---I can't recall this conversation.

Let me ask you a question, there was no suggestion of corruption amongst the SDU members?---Not in the Comrie report, no.

Or by you. To your knowledge?---There were other issues

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15:01:29 **15** 15:01:31 **16**

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15:01:47 **24** 15:01:47 **25**

15:01:51 **26** 15:01:53 27

15:01:53 **28** 15:01:57 29

15:02:04 **30** 15:02:08 31

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15:02:25 39 15:02:25 40

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15:02:29 **42** 15:02:29 43

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15:02:42 46 15:02:43 47

with the Source Development Unit that had occurred. 15:02:48 1 15:02:51 **2** 3 The question I just asked, was there any issue of 15:02:51 15:02:55 4 corruption as far as you were concerned?---Not at that 5 point. 15:02:59 15:03:00 6 And so it would, to say it would be a misstatement of the 15:03:00 7 reason for the closure of the unit, wouldn't it, if that's 15:03:03 8 what you said?---I can't recall saying that. 9 15:03:07 15:03:09 10 I know, but if you did say it it would be wrong. 15:03:09 11 15:03:13 12 15:03:14 13 MR THANGARAJ: I object. 15:03:14 14 MR CHETTLE: You're not denying saying it, are you?---I do 15:03:15 **15** 15:03:19 **16** not recall saying, using those words. 15:03:20 17 15:03:21 18 COMMISSIONER: He can't say anything more than that. think you've pushed that far enough, thanks Mr Chettle. 15:03:24 19 15:03:27 20 Thank you, Commissioner. 15:03:28 **21** MR CHETTLE: Can the witness be handed the list of pseudonyms, please. 15:03:31 22 15:03:36 23 15:03:36 24 COMMISSIONER: Yes. Is there an exhibit copy? Thank you. Are you familiar with the list of pseudonyms, that names 15:03:50 25 aren't to be mentioned in these proceedings, the real names 15:03:54 26 15:03:59 27 and the pseudonyms next to them have been given 15:04:01 28 instead?---Okay, thank you. 29 If you could use the pseudonyms instead of real names 15:04:02 30 15:04:06 31 please? - - - Yes. 15:04:07 32 15:04:08 33 MR CHETTLE: The real names are on the left, the pseudonyms 15:04:10 34 on the right, do you follow?---Yes. 15:04:12 35 You had meetings from time to time with Senior Sergeant 15:04:12 36 15:04:16 37 Jones, did you not?---Yes. Conversations. 15:04:21 38 15:04:21 39 Conversations, that's probably a better word. 15:04:24 40 conversations from time to time with Senior Sergeant 15:04:35 41 Currie? Fourth from the bottom?---Possibly.

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You don't know

You know the men I'm talking about?

him?---I'm trying to recall.

Stick with Jones.

15:04:38 **42** 15:04:39 **43**

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15:04:48 47

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Commissioner, could I have a copy of this so
                 MR THANGARAJ:
15:04:48
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                 I know who we are talking about?
15:04:50
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Certainly. Are we able to provide
        5
                 Mr Thangaraj?
15:04:55
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                 MR CHETTLE: I've just handed him a copy. Just deal with
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15:04:58
                 Jones, do you know who I'm talking about, Mr Jones?---Yes.
15:05:01
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                 He effectively was the senior operator, if I can call it
15:05:04 10
                 that, of the SDU at the relevant time, was he not?---Yes.
15:05:07 11
15:05:11 12
15:05:12 13
                 Did you ever disclose to him your prior involvement with
                 Gobbo?---I can't recall.
15:05:18 14
15:05:21 15
15:05:23 16
                 Did you ever have any discussion with him about closing
                 down the unit?---Um, I'm - I can't recall.
15:05:26 17
15:05:35 18
                 Again, I don't want to push you for detail until you get
15:05:35 19
                 your diaries, but what meetings and discussions you had
15:05:38 20
                 would be in your diaries?---Possibly.
15:05:42 21
15:05:44 22
15:05:44 23
                             Do you recall when you left the Police Force,
                 Possibly.
                 what date it was?---I can't recall the exact date, no.
15:05:56 24
15:06:01 25
                 What year it was?
15:06:01 26
15:06:03 27
15:06:03 28
                 COMMISSIONER: You mean the last time?
15:06:04 29
                 MR CHETTLE: When you left finally, yes?---I think it was
15:06:05 30
15:06:07 31
                 early July 2013.
15:06:11 32
                 Were you on a contract at that stage, a contracted
15:06:12 33
15:06:15 34
                 member?---I was on a contract.
15:06:17 35
                 Had that contract finished?---No, it hadn't.
15:06:17 36
15:06:20 37
                 Finally, if I can just go back to your affidavit.
15:06:28 38
15:06:45 39
                                 Is this the 2011 affidavit?
15:06:46 40
                 COMMISSIONER:
15:06:48 41
                 MR CHETTLE: Yes, Commissioner.
15:06:49 42
15:06:51 43
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 That's RC61.
15:06:51 44
15:06:54 45
15:06:57 46
                               The discussion that you have you'd say with
                 MR CHETTLE:
15:07:00 47
                 Mr Biggin is in paragraph 9 of that document?---Yes.
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15:07:05 1
15:07:11 2 Do I take it from that paragraph that that conversation,
15:07:15 3 according to you occurred at a weekly management
15:07:20 4 meeting?---My recollection was the context of the
15:07:28 5 discussions occurred with, around weekly management
15:07:33 6 meetings, either at the meeting or in the margins of the
15:07:36 7 meeting, and that I had - - -

Do you remember talking to Biggin about it?---I've got a vague recollection of talking to them about it.

A vague recollection. Even though your statement says, "When I began my substantive role I declared the nature of my relationship to Biggin", do you see that?---Yes.

MR THANGARAJ: This is a 2011 statement.

COMMISSIONER: Yes.

MR CHETTLE: That is a declaration that you made some - obviously shortly after September 2009, according to you?---That's right.

Do you remember now where it was and who was present when you said it?---No, I don't.

Would it be contained in any minutes of any such meeting?---No - well I'm not certain but I don't think so.

In relation to any of your discussion - when did you have the conversation with Sir Ken Jones or the declaration to him?---Around the time I was invited to join the Petra steering committee.

When was that, do you know?---No, I can't remember.

But that would be subsequent to your conversation with Biggin?---I think it probably was.

And does it follow that even subsequent to those two declarations you had the conversation with Finn McCrae that's referred to in paragraph 11?---I think that's correct.

Did you advise Mr Ashton or Mr Comrie of your prior involvement with Gobbo when commissioning the Comrie report?---Certainly had disclosed this with Mr Ashton,

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15:08:42 **32** 15:08:48 **33**

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15:08:55 **38** 15:08:58 **39** 15:09:02 **40**

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3 When?---I think on a number of occasions. 15:09:45

> Is there any reference to that disclosure to Mr Ashton in your affidavit?---Not in this affidavit, no.

COMMISSIONER: Did the nature of that disclosure include the Hawaii trip, the conversation about the Hawaii trip?---It will probably depend on the timing of the disclosure to Mr Ashton as to -

If it were pre 2011?---That's right, if it was pre 2011 then probably not.

Thank you.

Thank you Commissioner, I'll ask no more MR CHETTLE: questions at this stage.

COMMISSIONER: So the witness can be excused. Thank you.

I just have one question. MR THANGARAJ:

COMMISSIONER: You told me you weren't going to ask any questions.

<CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR THANGARAJ:</pre>

Can you tell us why it is that you finally left the police?---Um, look there was a range of reasons as to why I left Victoria Police. I went to NCA International Business School in March 2012 for a month which was a significant career changing moment for me and I knew when I left NCA business school that I wanted to pursue different challenges in the second half of my career. I was also working, I was not just the Assistant Commissioner for Intelligence and Covert Support but I was also the Chief Information Officer for the last two years in Victoria Police, I was effectively doing two jobs and working quite extraordinary hours. That was having a detrimental effect on a neurological disorder that I've been trying to manage for 20 years and I had a few serious falls at the time. And I promised myself and my wife that it was time, it was time for me to seek different opportunities and different challenges that were less taxing in terms of hours because I was working quite extraordinary hours. So I applied, I

started to look at external positions, I applied for a position with the Australian Electoral Commission I think in about February 2013. I think I was interviewed in March 2013 and that was a statutory appointment so that had to go through a range of processes, including Cabinet approval and Executive Council approval and then I was appointed to that position in early July 2013. When I left my last week of Victoria Police it was a very casual affair at my request, because I was diagnosed with bladder cancer in my last week at Victoria Police, and then I made the transition across to the Australian Electoral Commission.

Nothing further.

COMMISSIONER: Mr Winneke.

<RE-EXAMINED BY MR WINNEKE:</pre>

Were you approached to come back to Just one matter. Victoria Police in 2009?---No, I wasn't approached. a position that was advertised and I applied for it.

To whom did you apply?---It was just a normal process. the selection committee was Simon Overland, Keiran Walsh, Ken Jones and an external lady who I think was a CEO of a council somewhere here in Melbourne.

Did you know then that the position that you were coming back to was going to involve the management of Ms Gobbo?---I had a very high expectation that that was going to be the case.

Did you make a declaration to that committee?---I don't recall making a declaration at the committee but I recall having discussions after that process.

With whom?---My recollection is I had a discussion with the Chief Commissioner that I had previously had dealings with her.

Yes, thanks very much.

COMMISSIONER: Who was the Chief Commissioner at the time?---Mr Overland.

So as I understand it Mr Pope is free to go now but will be needed again later in the work of this Commission?

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15:13:02 **11** 15:13:06 12 15:13:06 13

15:13:08 14

15:13:08 **15** 15:13:10 **16**

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15:13:20 **23** 15:13:27 **24**

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15:13:45 **29** 15:13:50 30

15:13:52 **31** 15:13:53 32 15:13:54 33

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15:14:10 **41**

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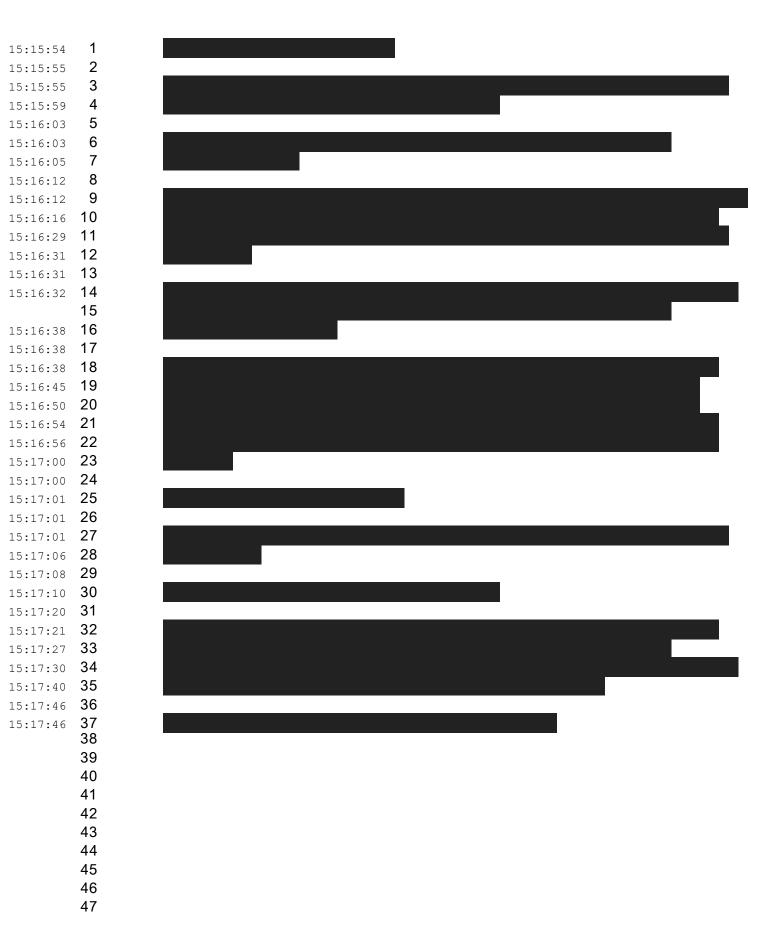
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15:14:27
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                 MR WINNEKE:
                              That's correct, Commissioner.
15:14:28
15:14:29
                                 We don't yet know when that will be?
15:14:29
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                 COMMISSIONER:
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                 MR WINNEKE:
                               Not yet, no. But I would imagine that it
15:14:32
        7
                 would be certainly not in the next couple of weeks.
15:14:37
15:14:39 8
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Yes, all right then. Thanks Mr Pope.
15:14:39
                 You're free to go on that understanding?---Thank you.
15:14:41 10
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15:14:45 12
                 <(THE WITNESS WITHDREW)
15:14:46 13
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 All right then, we now have Mr Kruger.
15:14:46 14
15:14:51 15
15:14:52 16
                 MR HOLT:
                           My understanding, Commissioner, is that the
15:14:53 17
                 proposal is that the live stream will be turned off while
                 he is sworn under his actual name and then the live stream
15:14:59 18
15:15:06 19
                 will be turned on not showing his face.
15:15:09 20
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                All right then.
                                                   I direct that the live
15:15:10 21
                 stream is turned off as the witness is sworn and not turned
15:15:13 22
       23
                 on again until I so direct. A copy of my order should be
15:15:22 24
                 posted on the door of hearing room.
15:15:22 25
                 MR CHETTLE:
                               Commissioner, can you excuse us from further
15:15:23 26
15:15:31 27
                 attendance, we have no interest in this witness?
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       29
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Thank you Mr Chettle.
        30
15:15:33 31
                 MR CHETTLE:
                               Thank you.
15:15:33 32
15:15:34 33
                           Can I confirm the live stream is now off,
15:15:37 34
                 Commissioner, while the witness is coming into court?
       35
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 It's now off.
        36
        37
                 (IN CAMERA PROCEEDINGS FOLLOW)
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47



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UPON RESUMING IN OPEN COURT:
15:17:49
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                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 And the courtroom is open to the public.
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15:18:00 4
                 Yes, Ms Tittensor.
         5
15:18:02
                 MS TITTENSOR:
                                 Thank you, Commissioner.
                                                             Mr Kruger, you
15:18:03
        6
                 entered the - I'm jumping the gun.
       7
15:18:05
         8
15:18:12
                 COMMISSIONER: Yes Mr Holt.
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15:18:12
15:18:13 10
                            Mr Kruger, for present purposes do you see a copy
15:18:14 11
15:18:16 12
                 of your statement in front of you?---Yes.
15:18:18 13
                 You understand that you're going to be referred to both in
15:18:18 14
                 the statement and in the course of your evidence by the
15:18:21 15
15:18:23 16
                 name Kruger?---Yes.
15:18:24 17
15:18:25 18
                 The statement thought that you have there is dated 28 March
                 2019?---That's correct.
15:18:27 19
15:18:29 20
                 And do you confirm that the content of your statement is
15:18:29 21
                 true and correct?---Yes.
15:18:32 22
15:18:33 23
15:18:33 24
                 Thank you, I tender the statement, Commissioner.
15:18:35 25
15:18:37 26
15:18:37 27
                 #EXHIBIT RC64 - Statement of Kruger.
15:18:45 28
15:18:45 29
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Yes Ms Tittensor.
15:18:47 30
        31
                 <CROSS-EXAMINED BY MS TITTENSOR:</pre>
        32
                 Mr Kruger, you entered the Academy in October of 88, is
15:18:48 33
15:18:53 34
                 that right?---That's correct.
15:18:53 35
                 And you thereafter had a number of placements before in
15:18:54 36
                 1997 you applied for and obtained a position as a Detective
15:19:00 37
                 Senior Constable at the Drug Squad?---Yes.
15:19:04 38
15:19:05 39
15:19:06 40
                 The following year, so by that stage although you had a
15:19:09 41
                 position of Detective Senior Constable you hadn't done
15:19:12 42
                 Detective training yet?---No.
15:19:13 43
                 Is that the case?---That's correct.
15:19:13 44
15:19:14 45
15:19:14 46
                 So you did some effectively on the job training?---Yes.
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15:19:18 47

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And then you went and did Detective Training School the
15:19:18
        1
        2
                 following year?---Yes.
15:19:21
        3
15:19:22
15:19:22 4
                 How long does that course go for?---At that time it was
        5
                 three months continual.
15:19:27
15:19:29
        6
                 Is that full time?---Yes.
        7
15:19:29
15:19:30
        8
                 And do you know over what months of 1998 you did
        9
15:19:30
                               No, I don't. It may have commenced in April
15:19:38 10
                 that?---No.
                 of 98, I'm not - -
15:19:45 11
15:19:48 12
15:19:48 13
                 In any case you were at the Drug Squad until some time in
                 2000 before you obtained a Detective position at a local
15:19:52 14
                 Criminal Investigation Unit?---Yes.
15:19:56 15
15:19:58 16
15:19:58 17
                 And thereafter you obtained other promotions within
15:20:01 18
                 Victoria Police?---Yes, that's correct.
15:20:02 19
15:20:04 20
                 Part of the training you've indicated in your statement
                 that you've undertaken is human source management
15:20:06 21
                 training? --- Yes.
15:20:10 22
15:20:11 23
                                     ---Yes.
15:20:12 24
15:20:13 25
                                       they go?---Last I knew they went to,
                 Do you know
15:20:14 26
15:20:21 27
15:20:22 28
15:20:23 29
                 When did you do that training?--
                                                              maybe 2010.
                                                                            Can
15:20:32 30
                 I refer to my statement?
15:20:33 31
15:20:33 32
                 Certainly?---Just because it was during a period where I
15:20:36 33
                 was a uniform Sergeant. It would have been 2009, 2010,
                 about there.
15:20:46 34
15:20:46 35
                 Do you know when you did
                                                            ---My understanding
15:20:46 36
                                                              maybe - - -
15:20:50 37
                                                course and
                        an
15:20:56 38
15:20:56 39
                 Some time after the Internet was invented and around the
15:21:00 40
                 Victoria Police?---Yes.
                                            And
                                                        was an
15:21:07 41
                 course and that was, look it may be a couple of years
15:21:10 42
                 before I did the
15:21:11 43
                              you said you did in 2009 or 2010?---Yes, I
15:21:12 44
                 The
15:21:16 45
                 think so, yes.
15:21:17 46
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Was there any training in that course about human sources

15:21:18 47

that might have legal obligations of confidentiality or 15:21:21 1 15:21:25 **2** privilege at that stage?---Not that I recall.

Have you done any further training since then?---No.

Has there been - sorry, when did you, you've resigned from the police now?---I finished with the Police Force in 2016.

Up until that point in time was there any general training given to members of Victoria Police about human sources or unregistered informers that they might come into contact with, with legal obligations of confidentiality or privilege?---No, not that I know of.

I take you back to your time in the Drug Squad in 97?---Yes.

That was, as you have said, your first posting as a Detective? -- Yes.

Where was the Drug Squad physically located?---412 St Kilda Road.

Who was the Inspector there?---Chief Inspector was John McCoy and there were three inspectors.

Do you know who they were?---Um, I could probably recall one or two. I think there was a number that went through. Two I can remember Steve Fontana, he was an Inspector there at one stage and Greg Baud and there was a George Cooney as well.

Do you know who the Superintendent was there or - --?---No, I don't because I would have, it was a stage I think when Chief Inspector, there was no longer that Chief Inspector rank, so that Chief Inspector being McCoy may have held that position as such where now there would be a Superintendent.

How was the Drug Squad structured, how many units were there?---There were three units, each unit had a Detective Senior Sergeant and then a number of crews made up of Sergeants and Senior Constables.

Do you know how many were in each crew?---Per crew, normally a Sergeant and three or four.

15:22:03 17 15:22:03 18 15:22:07 19

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15:21:27 15:21:28 **4**

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15:21:41 15:21:45 10

15:21:32 **6**

15:21:37 **7** 15:21:41 8

15:21:50 11 15:21:54 **12**

15:21:58 13

15:21:59 14

15:22:00 **15**

15:22:03 16

15:22:07 20

15:22:07 **21** 15:22:12 **22**

15:22:12 23 15:22:12 24

15:22:19 **25**

15:22:22 **26** 15:22:22 27

15:22:28 **28** 15:22:33 29

15:22:38 30 15:22:44 31

15:22:44 32 15:22:44 33

15:22:47 34 15:22:51 **35** 15:22:56 **36**

15:23:00 37 15:23:05 38

15:23:05 39

15:23:05 40 15:23:10 41 15:23:16 **42**

15:23:19 43 15:23:19 44

15:23:20 45 15:23:24 46

15:23:26 47

So one Senior Sergeant, one Sergeant and three or four 1 Senior Constables?---Sorry, one Senior Sergeant, maybe 15:23:28 three or four Sergeants and each Sergeant would have three 15:23:30 or four Senior Constables underneath them. 15:23:34 **4**

So reasonable sized crews?---Yes.

Who was the Senior Sergeant of your crew?---When I first started it was Mark Bowden.

And do you know who the Senior Sergeants were of the other crews?---Um, surname Barker was one of them, I don't know -I can't remember his first name, and - no, I don't know the third one.

Was Wayne Strawhorn one of the Senior Sergeants?---No, not when I started.

Did he come along as one of the Senior Sergeants?---He was there as a Sergeant of a crew when I started and he was promoted into Mark Bowden's position when Mark took vacancy elsewhere.

Do you know at what stage he was promoted into that position?---I don't exactly but if we take into account that I was only there for a short period of time, so it's somewhere, I would - I'd only be hazarding a guess to say mid 98 or something along those lines. I'd only be hazarding a guess.

Wayne Strawhorn before he was promoted Detective Sergeant, was he in your crew?---No, he was in my unit but not in my crew.

You were involved in an operation which went under the name of Operation Carron?---Correct.

In 1997?---Yes, yep.

That was, that targeted a syndicate trafficking heroin and perhaps cocaine interstate?---Definitely heroin, I don't recall the cocaine.

And it involved a number of interstate and national law enforcement agencies?---Yes.

In your notes in this case, have you seen some conversation

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15:23:58 13

15:24:06 14 15:24:06 15 15:24:06 **16**

15:24:09 17

15:24:10 18

15:24:10 19 15:24:13 **20**

15:24:18 **21**

15:24:24 **22** 15:24:24 23 15:24:24 **24**

15:24:27 **25**

15:24:31 **26** 15:24:34 27

15:24:40 28

15:24:44 **29**

15:24:44 30 15:24:45 31

15:24:49 32 15:24:54 33

15:24:54 **34** 15:24:57 **35**

15:25:00 36 15:25:03 37

15:25:03 38

15:23:37 **6** 15:23:39 **7** 15:23:39 8

15:25:16 43 15:25:17 44

15:25:22 45 15:25:23 46

15:25:27 47

notes in relation to some conversations that you've had 15:25:32 1 15:25:35 **2** this year with members of Victoria Police?---Yes, yes, I have seen them, yes. 15:25:39 3 15:25:40 **4** Perhaps if I could ask now, and I'll get you to identify 5 15:25:40 those, VPL.0005.0035.0013. If they could be brought up. 15:25:44 **6** Sorry, that should have been redacted, the copy that I have 15:26:01 **7** has been more fully redacted than that. In any case you 15:26:06 8 saw those flash up on the screen?---Briefly, it wasn't 15:26:09 9 15:26:15 10 really in focus. 15:26:16 **11** 15:26:16 12 COMMISSIONER: Have you got a copy? You can have mine if 15:26:19 13 you need it. 15:26:22 14 MS TITTENSOR: I think Mr Winneke will have a copy, 15:26:22 **15** 15:26:23 **16** Commissioner. 15:26:23 17 15:26:26 18 MR HOLT: If the live stream can be edited. It's not on Thank you, I'm grateful. 15:26:29 **19** 15:26:39 **20** MS TITTENSOR: You've seen a copy of those notes, is that 15:26:39 **21** right?---I believe I was shown these yesterday, yes. 15:26:42 **22** 15:26:49 **23** 15:26:50 **24** And you've had a chance before now to read through those? --- Yes. 15:26:54 **25** 15:26:55 **26** 15:26:55 27 Is there anything - do you agree with the contents of those notes?---Yes. 15:26:59 28 15:27:00 **29** 15:27:02 **30** It contains the effect of the conversation that you had 15:27:04 31 with a Mr Walsh who rang you on 12 February and a meeting that you had on 5 March with Walsh and Patty?---Yes. 15:27:11 32 15:27:17 33 15:27:19 34 I'll tender those notes, Your Honour. 15:27:21 35 15:27:22 36 #EXHIBIT RC65 - Notes. 15:27:23 37 15:27:27 38 15:27:28 **39** COMMISSIONER: Do you want the hard copy tendered or are we 15:27:31 40 going to have a redacted copy shortly? 15:27:33 **41**

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There should be a redacted copy somewhere in

Perhaps there's an underscore R version of

In any case, RC65.

15:27:33 **42**

15:27:36 43

15:27:40 44

15:27:42 **45** 15:27:43 **46**

15:27:46 47

MS TITTENSOR:

COMMISSIONER:

those notes in any case - - -

the system.

Were you also, have you also been MS TITTENSOR: Yes. shown a copy of an Operation Carron final report?---No.

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15:28:49 **15**

15:28:52 **16** 15:28:56 17

15:28:57 **18** 15:28:57 19 15:29:01 20

15:29:07 15:29:12 **22**

15:29:16 15:29:29 24

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15:29:26 15:29:27 30 15:29:27 31 15:29:32 32 15:29:37 33 15:29:41 34 15:29:45 35 15:29:45 36 15:29:48 37 15:29:52 38 15:29:53 39 15:29:53 40 15:29:57 41 15:29:57 42 15:30:00 43 15:30:01 44 15:30:06 45 15:30:10 46 15:30:12 47

15:29:13 **26**

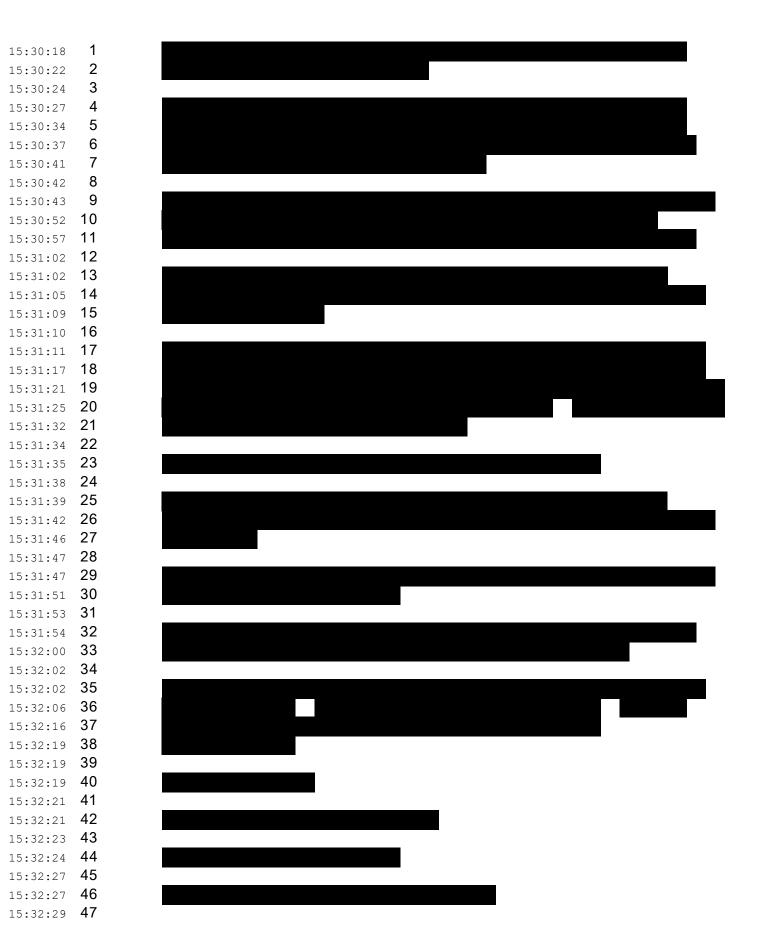
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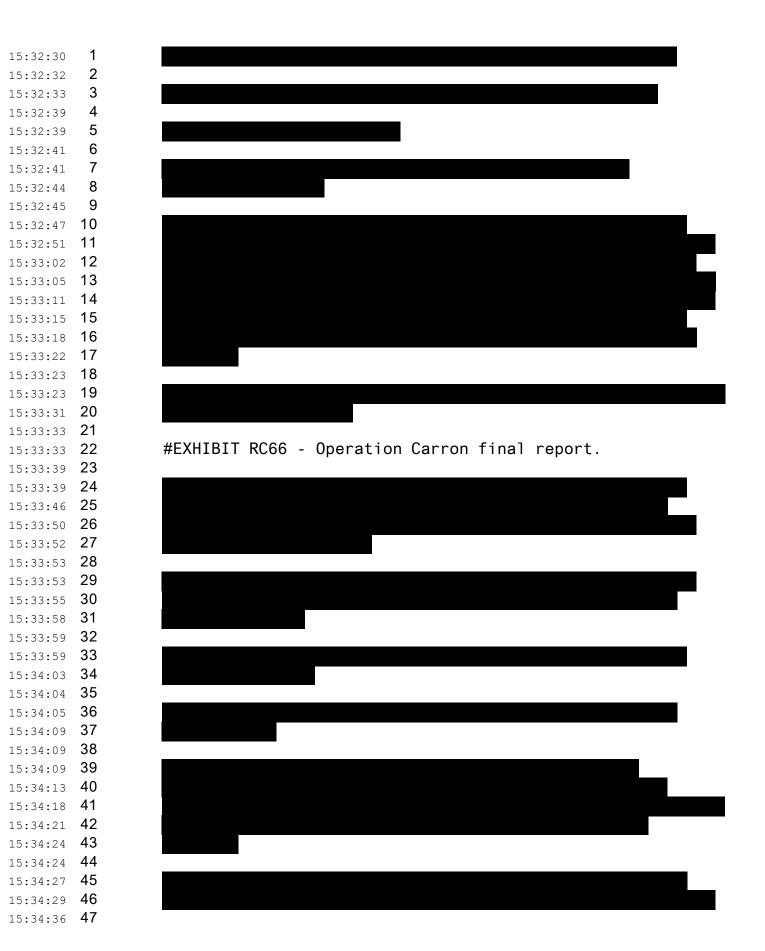
Perhaps I'll bring that up. That's VPL.0005.0007.0135. should be a redacted copy or a dash R version of that if there is one. Yes. Is that something that looks familiar to you?---I don't know if it's my eyes, I have very little chance of being able to read anything.

I'm not suggesting you wrote it because if we scroll to the last page it will indicate that it's been written by Steven Martin?---Okay. I don't recall seeing that.

In any case I might just for the purposes of what I'm doing, and it might assist your recollection in any case as to that operation, in the notes that I've just provided to you? - - - Yes.







In relation to these matters. Do you have any recollection 15:34:36 **1** 15:34:39 **2** about that?---No, I don't. 15:34:40 **3** 15:34:42 **4** Do you know who was the informant in relation to 15:34:46 **5** Arnautovic?---No. No, I don't know his name. 15:34:49 **6** 15:34:49 **7** Was there someone on your team or within the Drug Squad 15:34:52 **8** called Kelly Juric or Juhic?---I do know that name but he was definitely not on our unit. 15:34:59 **9** 15:35:01 10 Do you know if he was within the Drug Squad but in a 15:35:02 11 15:35:04 12 different name?---Yeah, I wouldn't know him if he wasn't there, so he was definitely in the Drug Squad but 15:35:07 **13** definitely not on our unit. 15:35:10 14 15:35:11 **15** 15:35:11 **16** Might there have been a number of cross-over operations 15:35:14 17 between Drug Squads?---It's possible. 15:35:16 **18** Between units I should say?---Yeah, it's possible. 15:35:16 **19** 15:35:19 **20** Absolutely. 15:35:19 **21** Now the statement that you've provided to the Commission 15:35:20 **22** 15:35:23 **23**

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effectively contains a chronology of your dealings with Ms Gobbo; is that right?---That's correct.

In relation to most of those - sorry, I should say the chronology you've gotten by way of looking at your diary to see whenever you've had contact with her?---Yes.

In the notes that I've taken you to and that have been tendered already?---Yep.

You've given a more general recollection of your events at the time without the aid of your diary; is that right?---That's right.

So whilst in your statement you say, "I effectively don't remember that meeting on that particular day" and you say that in relation to most of the events?---Yes.

You do still have a general recollection of your relationship with Ms Gobbo throughout that period of time?---Yes, absolutely.

I've referred to your diary and I might just bring that up. VPL.0005.0007.0140-R, if there is - if we just scroll through so I'll get you to recognise your handwriting. Do

you recognise that to be your diary?---Yes. 15:36:54 1 15:36:57 **2** 15:37:01 3 I'll tender that, Your Honour, and effectively you've been 15:37:04 **4** through those records to help you make your statement; is that right?---That's correct. 5 15:37:08 15:37:08 6 15:37:09 **7** Do you know who initially went through your diary looking for the various things, was that you or was that someone 15:37:12 **8** else?---No, that would have been - I'm going to forget the 9 15:37:15 15:37:18 10 operation. 15:37:18 **11** 15:37:19 12 Landow? --- Landow, that's it, yes. 15:37:21 13 So it was not you that decided what to redact?---No. 15:37:21 14 15:37:28 **15** 15:37:34 **16** MS TITTENSOR: If I could quickly get the operator to also 15:37:37 17 bring up VPL.0005.0020.0036 and just scroll up. We'll just 15:37:56 **18** scroll through that. I understand that at some later stage there were some extra parts of your diary that were 15:37:59 **19** 15:38:02 **20** discovered with relevant entries and provided to the 15:38:05 **21** Commission? - - - Okay. 15:38:06 22 Do you recognise that as your diary?---Yeah, that's 15:38:06 23 15:38:09 24 correct. 15:38:09 25 I'll tender that. Perhaps it can be an A and a B under the 15:38:10 26 15:38:13 27 same. 15:38:14 28 15:38:14 **29** COMMISSIONER: Yes. 15:38:15 30 15:38:16 31 #EXHIBIT RC67A - Kruger diary notes. 15:38:20 32 15:38:21 33 #EXHIBIT RC67B - Kruger diary notes. 15:38:24 **34** 15:38:25 **35** MS TITTENSOR: Can I ask in terms of your practice at the time, did you keep a day book?---I did. 15:38:27 **36** 15:38:29 37

keep forever because of the diary notes, especially around this period, would nearly be, apart from an odd number

Is a day book something that you generally keep?---You

would for a certain period of time but not something I'd

Do you know what became of your day book?---No, I don't.

When you left the Drug Squad and you went off a regional

CIU do you know what you did with it then?---I don't. I

don't know where they are, no.

15:38:30 **38** 15:38:33 **39** 15:38:33 **40**

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written in the day book, these diary notes at this time would have nearly been exclusive to the duties performed during the day.

Your statement and your diary records the first contact you had with Ms Gobbo on 11 November 1997?---Yes.

Do you have any recollection of that?---No independent recollection, no.

Mr Paterson in his evidence to the Commission indicated that you first spoke to Ms Gobbo on the day of the arrests, which we understand to be 18 November 97. Do you have any idea where he might have come to that understanding?---No.

It might just be a mistake on his part?---Could be a mistake on my part, yeah.

Following that time, following your first contact in December 97, you had a number of contacts with Ms Gobbo that essentially related to serving bits and pieces of the brief on her?---That's correct.

And it was not all ready and packaged up at one time; is that right?---That's right.

So that necessitated you meeting her on a number of occasions?---Yes.

To deliver bits and pieces?---Yep.

Was it in her office or was it at other places?---I have one, and this is prior to obviously being shown my diary, I only ever had one recollection of attending her office. Now that would appear that's not the case according to my diary. The one recollection I had of attending her office was serving what I thought was the majority of the brief of evidence in some blue folders.

And she, what, complimented you on the putting together of the brief?---Unbeknownst to me apparently sometimes hand-up briefs of that size are served differently.

What is it that sticks out in your mind about that episode?---Just her comment that in the past she'd known them to be - sorry, briefs of evidence of that size, because it did contain a number of volumes, and they would

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15:40:55 **45** 15:41:02 **46**

15:41:05 **47**

be served in like your A4 paper box as opposed to be bound, 15:41:08 1 15:41:12 **2** or being bound and quite clear to follow. 3 15:41:14 15:41:15 **4** Mr Paterson's statement indicates that there was some dealings between Mr Strawhorn and Ms Gobbo at various 5 15:41:19 15:41:26 6 Do you know what that was about?---No, no. 15:41:28 **7** 15:41:40 8 Over time, and consequent upon your meeting with Ms Gobbo, you built up quite a friendly rapport; is that right?---I 9 15:41:46 15:41:50 10 did, yeah, a good rapport with Ms Gobbo. 15:41:52 **11** 15:41:53 12 Were you meeting or would you have a coffee when you met her or anything like that?---No, I can't recall ever having 15:41:56 13 Every time I met her it was either -15:41:59 14 a coffee with her. well, just referring to this, it'd either be in relation to 15:42:03 **15** 15:42:07 **16** serving documents or would be chance meetings or there's a 15:42:12 17 notation in here from my diary where there's a prearranged 15:42:16 **18** meeting with myself, someone else and her. 15:42:18 19 15:42:19 **20** We get to a stage in about mid-1998?---Yep. 15:42:24 **21** 15:42:24 **22** And your diary records a number of conversations by

phone? - - - Yes.

In relation to arranging a meeting with her?---Yes.

That's on 14, 17 and 20 July?---Yep.

1998? - - - Yep.

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Do you recall those conversations and making those arrangements with her?---No, I don't.

Given what occurred after that you must have been, you must have had some knowledge at the time about what she wanted to speak to you about?---Given what occurred after that sorry, just so I'm - - -

The very next meeting on 21 July you meet with her with Mr Lim?---Chris Lim, yep.

For a particular purpose?---Yes.

You must have had some prior knowledge about what that was about? -- Yes.

What's your recollection of what that prior knowledge

So I've been obviously trying to think when this come up because it had to have come up prior, because then when you take into account the information report that's (indistinct) submitted.

Yes?---So it would have been at some stage that concerns were raised by her to me about what she believed was, maybe criminal practice within the organisation she worked for would be the best way to describe it.

Do you recall whether that conversation with her was had in person or was it over the phone?---I think that one was in person because it would have been a case of - it would have been a case of me advising that it's not my specialised area or, you know, along those lines, or "I will go back and seek advice before we go any further with this".

We have a note in your statement at paragraph 15?---Yes.

And your note in your diary refers to meeting her to serve further statements on 16 June 98?---Yes.

And then we get that series of phone calls on 14, 17 and 20 July, so the following month, about a month later?---Yep.

Do you say that conversation you had with her would have been a month prior to those telephone conversations or would it have been a bit shorter than that?---No, it could have been, could have been that long, yeah.

So you would have known when she started calling you to have this meeting what it was going to be about?---I would think so, yes.

By that stage had you had some conversations with people back at the office about what to do?---I definitely would have, yeah.

Who would you have had those conversations with?---I distinctly remember having a conversation with Wayne Strawhorn about it.

Why was that?---I'm not sure whether he was in charge at that stage, and he would have been the most experienced detective that I knew there and I would have no doubt told him the information I had received and in order to seek advice, yeah, I would have - - -

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15:45:56 **16** 15:45:56 **17**

15:45:57 **18** 15:46:02 **19**

15:46:06 **20** 15:46:11 **21**

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15:46:38 **29** 15:46:38 **30**

15:46:41 **31** 15:46:44 **32**

15:46:52 **33** 15:46:58 **34**

15:46:59 **35** 15:47:00 **36**

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15:47:06 **39** 15:47:08 **40**

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15:47:30 **47**

If he wasn't the person in charge, if it was still - - - ?---Mark Bowden.

- - - Mark Bowden, would you have spoken to both of them or just gone to Mark Bowden?---I'm not sure. I'm not sure that - if Mark Bowden wasn't there, whether I didn't speak to him but I can clearly recollect speaking to Wayne Strawhorn about it.

You recollect speaking to Wayne Strawhorn?---Yeah.

Did you speak to anyone else in the Drug Squad?---There would have been obviously leading, because of that meeting, someone was with me so that person at some stage would have been told about it, yeah.

So it wasn't - it didn't become a deep, dark secret in the Drug Squad that "this defence lawyer was wanting to provide us with some information"?---I can't comment on that because it definitely wasn't anything that was publicised, if that makes sense. It would have been a case of, "I've got information, what do I do with this information?" Go and tell someone superior to me and someone that's dealt with in this area before, what do we do from here?

This was prior to you actually having the meeting to assess her; is that right?---Yes, I think so.

The purpose of then having the meeting was to take someone with you so you could assess her to see if you should sign her up as a registered informer?---No. I'm assuming, I've not even remembered Chris Lim, any involvement at all until I read my diary, so - - -

Did you have any experience with informers before this?---No.

Was this your first experience with a potential informer?---I definitely had people give me information before, but one-off information that you had extracted as a result of investigation, so not someone that's volunteered information.

So you'd not registered anyone before?---No.

Do you know if Mr Lim had some experience with

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informers?---I can't say, I don't know.

If he's indicated to members of Landow that he was more experienced, was one of the more experienced members at the Drug Squad in relation to the management of informers, you wouldn't dispute that?---Absolutely not.

Might that be why he was sent along with you?---That was my assumption as to someone, you know, with experience in that area, that they would come along to assess the value of that information.

Do you recall there being some surprise by yourself or by anyone else that there was this qualified lawyer wanting to provide the police with information?---No.

You don't recall any surprise about that?---No.

You apprehend now that you're the first person, after she was a qualified lawyer, at least that the Commission is aware of, you're the first policeman at least she went to to provide information?---Am I aware of that?

Yes?---Only from you saying it then.

You went along to the meeting with Ms Gobbo on 21 July 98; is that right?---Yes.

You met her, your diary indicates you met her in the CBD? - - - Yeah.

With Mr Lim?---Yes.

And it indicates "re Carron and others"?---Yes.

If you're meeting her re Carron, that indicates in relation - she wanted to speak to you in relation to that operation or people involved in that operation?---Yeah, or it could have been - yeah, there would have obviously been some discussion about the Carron brief I would imagine and the others, I would say, and again assuming through what the eventual IR was submitted out, the others would have referred to that information that she was giving about possible deceptions.

Does that in itself indicate that there is some conflict potentially involved in this relationship with Ms Gobbo,

15:48:46 23 15:48:47 **24** 15:48:48 25 15:48:54 **26** 15:49:04 27 15:49:04 28 15:49:05 29 15:49:11 30 15:49:12 31 15:49:12 **32** 15:49:14 33

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15:48:03 **11** 15:48:05 12 15:48:05 13

15:48:12 14

15:48:17 **15** 15:48:19 **16** 15:48:21 17

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15:49:39 40 15:49:44 41 15:49:49 42 15:49:53 43

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15:50:05 47

that she's speaking to you on the one hand in relation to 15:50:08 1 15:50:12 **2** clients that are represented by her law firm?---Yep. 15:50:15 3 15:50:15 4 And then also the boss of her law firm essentially?---Yeah. 5 15:50:21 15:50:22 6

And that the information that she's providing to you about the boss of her law firm involves money laundering with one of the clients?---I didn't see an issue with it at the time.

Do you know if anyone else saw an issue with it at the time?---Not to my knowledge.

If we can put up the information report on the screen, it's VPL.0005.0022.0331. I might tender that, Commissioner, before I forget.

#EXHIBIT RC68 - Information report dated 21/07/98.

It looks slightly different in terms of the font that's used than the form we originally received it in before it's been redacted but I'm assured that it's the same content? --- Yes.

There's a coding up the top of HDIR0176, right up the top?---Yep.

Is that a particular form or code that was used back in the Drug Squad?---Not that I remember. I can only - maybe IR refers to an information report and it's information report number 176, but I don't know what the HD refers to.

If we go down - sorry, further up. There's an address unit 2, or the number 2 unit?---Yes.

That's the unit you were in?---Yes.

Underneath that there's a "source self-interest warning" ---Yes.

And it says "no"?---Yes.

What is that about?---No idea. Sorry, no, I probably didn't know what that meant at the time I'm guessing. But "source self-interest warning"?

Would that be something to do with being worried about

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15:50:49 **15** 15:51:10 **16**

15:51:12 17 15:51:13 **18**

15:51:22 19 15:51:22 **20**

15:51:26 **21**

15:51:30 22

15:51:36 **25** 15:51:43 26

15:51:43 27

15:51:45 28 15:51:50 29

15:51:56 30 15:51:59 31

15:52:03 32 15:52:03 33

15:52:13 34 15:52:16 35

15:52:17 36 15:52:18 37

15:52:21 38

15:52:23 39 15:52:24 40

15:52:24 41

15:52:26 **42** 15:52:26 43

15:52:30 44 15:52:33 45

15:52:34 46 15:52:35 47

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whether a potential source might have an interest in the outcome of what they're talking to you about?---It could be read that way but it could also - I'm just trying to think, source self-interest warning? Yeah, I'm not 100 per cent sure where that - - -

There's a source reliability and at that stage unknown? - - - Yes.

And then we go further down. There's an evaluation rating and it's got F3?---Yes.

Do you have any idea what that means?---Likely a scale as to known, along the lines of known to the source, but not corroborated or something like that, and had the source been used before and basically a very simple scale of how you rated the - how the information report was rated.

If we move further along this is a meeting with the unregistered informer re, and the blanked out bit was her employer's name, you can take that from me?---Yeah, yeah.

This is a document that you compiled yourself at the time?---Apparently so, yes.

And the information that she provided essentially related to her employer's suspected involvement in money laundering and she told you various areas of his dealings that ought to be looked into?---Yeah, I don't recall this information report, but I've read it, it's got my name on it, so I'm going to I must have done it and that's what it says in there, yeah.

Included in that information report there's at least one, maybe two references to Peter Reid under - if you look at number 1, it's property's put up as surety for Peter Reid who was arrested during Operation Carron?---Yes.

Under number 2, "the employer is believed to be funding or financing Reid's defence re Carron"?---Yes.

"As Reid is important to him"?---Yes.

Was there any comprehension at that stage that there might be some conflict in the evidence that she's providing?---Not by me, no.

15:53:31 17 15:53:36 18

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15:54:18 34 15:54:21 **35** 15:54:25 **36**

15:54:32 37 15:54:35 38

15:54:38 39 15:54:44 40

15:54:44 42 15:54:45 43

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15:54:46 44 15:54:49 45

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Was it raised by anyone else?---Not to my knowledge.

3 15:54:57

There's a bit of detail in this information report?---Yes.

15:55:00 4 5 15:55:01

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You clearly didn't go back to the office and write it all by memory?---Yeah, it would have been - has it got the date that it's submitted?

15:55:08 15:55:09 8 15:55:11

15:55:04

Can't tell if it's submitted on the same date but do you recall - - - ?---See up the top there you've got 21 July 98, that would be the submission date. Then you've got date information received. So this one would have been - - -

15:55:21 12 15:55:23 13 15:55:23 14

15:55:24 **15**

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15:55:19 **11**

All by memory, would you have taken notes in your - - -?---Quite possibly but it would be contemporaneous, yeah.

15:55:27 **16** 15:55:30 17 15:55:31 18

Whatever notes you took, we know they're not in your diary. Might you have taken them - - - ?---Or they could have been Chris Lim's, Chris Lim could have been taking notes and the IR was formed from that, I'm not sure.

15:55:39 **20** 15:55:40 21 15:55:44 22

15:55:37 19

Would you have audio recorded her?---No.

15:55:44 23 15:55:46 24

15:55:47 25

If we go further down, you've got some investigator comments at the bottom?---Yeah.

15:55:52 **26** 15:55:55 27

And you indicate, the first one there is further contact to be made with the informer by you?---Yeah.

15:55:59 29 15:56:01 30 15:56:01 31

15:55:55 **28**

And that you were to liaise with at the NCA?---Yes.

15:56:09 33 15:56:09 34 15:56:13 **35**

15:56:06 32

How did you know of the name ---I've got no idea. I don't remember who that is. I don't remember ever meeting someone by that name.

15:56:17 36 15:56:20 37 15:56:20 38

15:56:23 **39**

15:56:26 40

Is that potentially someone who you were referred to by Detective Strawhorn?---I don't know who that is and I don't know how I ever got that name.

15:56:28 41 15:56:29 **42** 15:56:32 **43**

That's not something - this is under a different heading of "investigator comment"; is that right?---Yeah, yeah.

15:56:35 44 15:56:36 45

The material above that is - - -?---Information.

15:56:39 46 15:56:39 47

Essentially the information that you were provided?---Yes.

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15:56:40
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                 And this is something that you say, essentially what the
15:56:41
                 next steps are?---Yes.
15:56:43
        4
15:56:44
                 The first one was you'll make further contact with the
        5
15:56:45
                 informer?---Yep.
15:56:47
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                 The next one is, "I'm going to go and liaise with the
15:56:48
        8
                 NCA"?---M'mm.
        9
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                 Do you recall if you did that?---No, I don't recall.
15:56:53 11
15:56:56 12
15:56:56 13
                 Do you recall if Ms Gobbo was handed over or introduced to
                 anyone at the NCA?---No, I don't.
15:57:02 14
15:57:05 15
15:57:05 16
                 If she was, was it by you?---Not to my knowledge.
15:57:08 17
15:57:12 18
                 We've got a later information report authored by a
                 Mr Pope?---Yes.
15:57:18 19
15:57:19 20
                 Our previous witness, who indicates that he was told by
15:57:19 21
                 Detective Hynam at the NCA that an informer had been
15:57:24 22
                 introduced to her by you and Mr Lim and he inferred that
15:57:31 23
15:57:39 24
                 that informer was Ms Gobbo?---So I'll just repeat - I
                 haven't seen that. I'll repeat that back to you.
15:57:45 25
                                                                       Hynam is
15:57:49 26
                 saying that - - -
15:57:50 27
15:57:50 28
                 Hynam says that Kruger - if that can be struck- that Kruger
15:57:57 29
                 and -
        30
        31
                 MR HOLT:
                           I'm sorry, can I just ensure that that's being
        32
                 done? That comment was just, that's a name that needs to
                 be struck from the record if the Commissioner please.
        33
        34
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 The name.
        35
        36
15:58:15 37
                 MS TITTENSOR:
                                 It's slightly confusing, Mr Kruger.
                 suggests that Hynam from the NCA?---Yes.
15:58:20 38
15:58:28 39
15:58:28 40
                 Told Pope that Kruger - I've done it again.
       41
       42
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                Strike that again, thanks.
       43
15:58:36 44
                 MS TITTENSOR:
                                Pardon me, sorry.
                                                     That Kruger - - -
       45
15:58:46 46
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Just wait until it's removed, yes.
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from the NCA- are we ready to go? Yes.

15:58:47 **47**

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15:59:05 **6**15:59:13 **7**15:59:17 **8**

15:59:20 **9** 15:59:23 **10**

15:59:23 **11** 15:59:24 **12**

15:59:27 **13** 15:59:31 **14**

15:59:32 **15** 15:59:32 **16**

15:59:35 **17**

15:59:38 **18** 15:59:41 **19**

15:59:44 **20** 15:59:51 **21**

15:59:55 **22** 15:59:59 **23**

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16:00:51 47

MS TITTENSOR: Hynam from the NCA told Mr Pope that Kruger, yourself, and Lim had introduced an informer to Hynam and that that informer had essentially provided the same information as Mr Pope was getting and thus he inferred it was Ms Gobbo?---I don't recall ever - I was surprised the first time I saw Chris Lim involved, so that would surprise me even more if you're saying Chris Lim and myself introduced Gobbo to Hynam. I don't recall that ever happening.

Might it have been - if anyone did the introduction to the NCA, might it have been Mr Strawhorn?---I don't recall any introduction to anybody else.

Do you recall there being interaction between Ms Gobbo and Mr Strawhorn following this period of time?---No.

Do you recall whether around this period of time you conducted any criminal history check on Ms Gobbo?---Some - I'm not saying I didn't, I may have. I may have. There's some reason I know or can recall, and whether it was volunteered by her or told to me by someone else, that she had a minor possession charge in the past.

The other person you hypothesise in your statement that you were told that information from was Mr Strawhorn?---Yeah.

Is that right?---Yeah.

Is it your recollection that you were having discussions about this topic of Ms Gobbo providing this information about her employer with Mr Strawhorn throughout this period?---Highly possible.

Is it your recollection you were having discussions with him?---I remember at least once talking to Wayne Strawhorn about it.

Your statement also indicates that you have a memory of there being some kind of issue between Mr Lim and Ms Gobbo?---Yes.

That one or both of them had reservations about the other one?---Yeah.

And is that impression that you have, was that formed at

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this single meeting?---From my recollection, yes. 1

> When your statement was taken were you filled in on the reservations that Mr Lim has expressed about Ms Gobbo?---No.

We're told that Mr Lim recalls having a number of concerns in relation to Ms Gobbo, the first - or one of them being that she was a solicitor, the fact that she was a solicitor. Do you recall that being raised?---No.

As an issue?---No.

At all?---No.

She wasn't registered following this; is that right?---No.

And the introduction that was ultimately made of her to the Asset Recovery Squad was not for quite a while after this?---Yeah, yeah, according to these, yes.

This was July, she wasn't introduced until May the following year?---Yep.

So a decision was made she oughtn't be registered at that stage; is that right?---She, sorry?

A decision was made at least that she shouldn't be registered?---I don't know whether it was - no, I can't say that's the case. It was probably more, be a case of a decision was made that this information is irrelevant to Yeah, I'm not sure about - I don't know our scope of work. how to answer that.

Was there any advice sought about the appropriateness of speaking and obtaining information from Ms Gobbo, especially in circumstances where it related to a client her firm was representing?---Not that I recall.

Mr Lim also recalls that she was too overt in her desire to provide information to the police. Do you recall having any - sorry, do you agree with that assessment?---I don't know how you would be too overt because the information, the only information I ever obtained from her related to those issues I would believe in that IR and I don't know how that's overt.

16:01:28 14 16:01:29 **15**

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16:01:59 29 16:02:04 30 16:02:11 31

16:02:17 32 16:02:25 33

16:02:26 34 16:02:26 35

16:02:30 36 16:02:35 37

16:02:39 38 16:02:41 39

16:02:44 40 16:02:49 41 16:02:55 42

16:03:01 43 16:03:04 44

16:03:08 45 16:03:12 46

16:03:13 47

16:03:13 1 Was she keen?---No, no.

Was she being pressured in any way to provide the information?---No.

She was doing it of her own accord?---Yes.

He also recalls that her relationships with some officers was inappropriate, do you agree with that statement?---I don't, no. No, I don't agree with it because I never saw that.

Was there any discussion about her relationships with any other police that you know about?---No.

Do you know of anyone - did you know of anyone over at the Embona Task Force that she knew in St Kilda?---No.

Did the Drug Squad members frequent the Emerald Hotel in South Melbourne, was that - - ?---No, not to my knowledge.

Was there a particular place that they went to socialise?---There was only the one name of a place I can remember and that was called The Some Place Else Bar. I can't even tell you where it is. It's in the CBD somewhere. I know that because I'd been there two or three times with a group from work.

Detective Lim also recalls being aware, and he can't remember how he was aware, or came to the understanding, that Ms Gobbo had been in possession of drugs belonging to Mr Reid at around this time. Do you recall being aware of anything like that?---No.

You would agree that all of those things would weigh upon a decision about whether it's appropriate to receive information from a person?---In hindsight, yes.

Do you recall following that meeting with her and with Detective Lim having further contact with Ms Gobbo?---The only unassisted memory I have about it is I would have run into her, I recall at least once running into her in the court precinct, and once I saw her at a hotel, the same hotel I was at, and then I don't recall any other specific meetings or run-ins.

16:05:51 41 16:05:59 42 16:06:07 43 16:06:10 44 16:06:15 45

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16:04:11 **20** 16:04:15 **21**

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16:04:36 **26** 16:04:39 **27**

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16:04:43 **29** 16:04:44 **30**

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16:06:19 46

16:06:21 47

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Do you recall if she was involved in any other cases where other Drug Squad members were the informants?---No.

16:06:29 16:06:31 4

You don't say that she wasn't, you just say you don't have a memory of it?---I don't know. No, I don't know.

16:06:33 16:06:37 **6** 16:06:38 7

Were you the informant in any of her other cases to your memory?---No.

16:06:44 8 9 16:06:44 16:06:45 10

16:06:48 11 16:06:54 12 We understand there was some committal proceedings for at least four of those charged in September of 1998. recall attending court for those proceedings?---No, I don't.

16:06:57 13 16:06:57 14

16:06:58 **15**

You recall there were meetings with the OPP, things of that nature?---According to my diary, that's correct.

16:07:02 **16** 16:07:04 17

You've just got no memory of any of that?---No, no.

16:07:05 18 16:07:08 19 16:07:12 **20**

16:07:17 **21** 16:07:22 **22** We understand that Ms Gobbo, during that period of time in any case, would have been possibly away doing the reader's course to become a barrister, so leaving the solicitor life behind her and becoming a barrister. Do you recall her still being involved in these cases later on?---No, I don't, sorry.

16:07:26 23 16:07:29 24 16:07:36 25

Your diary indicates that you were having contact with her

16:07:36 **26** 16:07:38 27

> nevertheless regarding at least one of the cases following that time?---Yes.

16:07:41 28 16:07:44 29

> I think you've referred to those in your statement; is that right?---Yep.

16:07:45 30 16:07:49 31 16:07:53 32

> There's an entry in Mr Strawhorn's diary on 22 March 1999 of him meeting Ms Gobbo, do you know what that was about?---Sorry, 22 March?

16:07:59 34 16:08:03 35

16:07:53 33

Yes?---No idea.

16:08:08 36 16:08:10 37 16:08:10 38

16:08:15 39 16:08:16 40

16:08:19 41

Do you say you've just got no memory of him having any cause to have any contact with Ms Gobbo during this period of time?---I'm saying if he had contact with Ms Gobbo that I don't recall that - and I knew about it, I don't recall

16:08:22 42 16:08:27 43

that.

16:08:31 44 16:08:31 45 16:08:33 46

16:08:36 47

The Commission's heard evidence that on 27 April there was some contact made with Detective Pope at the Asset Recovery

Squad and that was the initial stages of the handing over 16:08:43 1 16:08:46 2 of Ms Gobbo?---Yep.

> Is it your evidence that you went straight to Pope because you knew of him through some previous dealings?---No.

There's some indication in the conversation you've had with the police that you knew Detective Pope through a Peter Doody? --- Yes.

Was it just a fluke that you came across, that Detective Pope was the officer that was - - - ?---I don't even recall it was me that arranged that meeting with Asset Recovery, so - and I'd only ever met Jeff Pope once before at a social function, would have been years before I would have thought.

You go along to or you have a briefing with Pope and Segrave from the Asset Recovery Squad in relation to these allegations that Ms Gobbo makes?---Okay.

Do you understand that?---Yep, yep.

It's you and Mr Strawhorn that are present giving them the briefing? -- - 0kay.

What's your recollection of how Mr Strawhorn came to be involved in this, handing her over?---No, I don't. only assume that maybe at that time Wayne was then the Senior Sergeant. I don't know why.

Do you recall what information you told them about?---No.

Would you have told them about the nature of Operation Carron and how you became involved?---Possible, but not probable. I would say it's more a case of it would have been a discussion about that IR.

And the IR related to allegations against her employer?---Yes.

But it also involved Mr Reid who'd been arrested during Operation Carron?---Yep.

And Mr Reid, who was being represented by the employer? -- Yeah.

16:09:27 **16** 16:09:27 17 16:09:28 18

16:08:47 16:08:48 **4**

16:08:52 16:08:55 6

16:09:05 16:09:06 10

16:08:57 **7**

16:08:59 8

16:09:08 11 16:09:11 12

16:09:15 13

16:09:18 14

16:09:24 **15**

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16:09:33 19 16:09:37 **20**

16:09:40 21 16:09:40 22

16:09:41 23

16:09:42 24 16:09:45 **25**

16:09:46 **26** 16:09:46 27

16:09:50 28 16:09:54 **29**

16:09:58 30

16:10:02 31 16:10:02 32

16:10:06 33 16:10:08 34

16:10:11 35 16:10:20 36 16:10:25 37

16:10:26 38

16:10:26 **39** 16:10:30 40

16:10:30 41 16:10:30 42 16:10:34 43

16:10:35 44 16:10:35 45

16:10:40 46

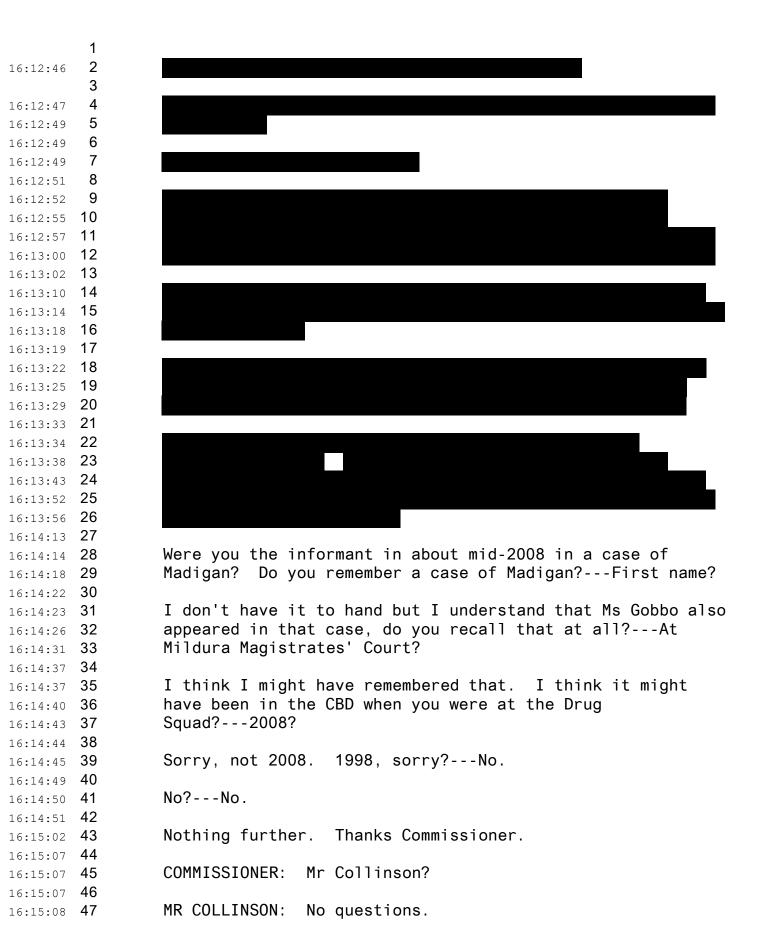
16:10:40 47

```
And previously by her?---Yes.
16:10:40
        1
        2
16:10:41
        3
                 And the allegation was essentially that Mr Reid was
16:10:42
16:10:44 4
                 involved with the employer in the money laundering?---Yeah,
                 you could take it that far but I don't think that's what
        5
16:10:49
                 the IR says. I think the IR talks more about the employer
16:10:51
        6
16:10:56 7
                 being involved in money laundering and using that client.
16:10:59 8
                 Because of his real estate, using the real estate agency
        9
16:10:59
16:11:03 10
                 and the property transactions to effect the money
                 laundering? - - - Yep.
16:11:07 11
16:11:08 12
16:11:09 13
                 And that's similar conduct to what was being alleged in the
                 course of the drug operation; is that right?---No.
16:11:12 14
                 don't think so.
16:11:16 15
16:11:16 16
16:11:16 17
                 You think it was different?---Yeah, I don't recall
16:11:19 18
                 any - - -
16:11:19 19
16:11:19 20
                 Was his real estate agent business being used in the course
                 of the drug operation?---Not that I ever recall, no.
16:11:24 21
16:11:27 22
16:11:35 23
                 There's some further contacts between you and Pope
16:11:43 24
                 following the hand-over or prior to the actual hand-over or
                 the introduction of Ms Gobbo. Do you recall any of
16:11:46 25
                 those?---No, I don't.
16:11:49 26
16:11:50 27
16:11:58 28
                 Do you recall the actual introduction?---No.
16:12:00 29
16:12:05 30
                 It appears, putting together everyone's diaries, that
                 you're all together, the five of you, yourself,
16:12:10 31
16:12:14 32
                 Mr Strawhorn, Segrave, Pope and Ms Gobbo for at least a two
                 hour period at the Emerald Hotel?---Okay.
16:12:18 33
16:12:21 34
16:12:21 35
                 You have no recollection of that at all?---I don't even
                 know where the Emerald Hotel is.
16:12:24 36
16:12:28 37
                 In South Melbourne?---Where?
                                                 Sorry, no, I don't have a
16:12:28 38
16:12:33 39
                 recollect of that at all.
16:12:34 40
16:12:34 41
                 That would have been the first event of its kind for
16:12:38 42
                 you? - - - Yeah.
16:12:39 43
                 Handing over a - - ?---Yeah, it would have.
16:12:39 44
16:12:42 45
16:12:43 46
                 - - - an informer to the Asset Recovery Squad?---That's a
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fair point.

47



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16:15:09
        1
        2
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                Mr Holt?
16:15:10
16:15:11
16:15:11 4
                 MR HOLT:
                           No questions, thank you, Commissioner.
        5
16:15:12
16:15:13
        6
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                Mr Kruger can be excused?
16:15:18 7
16:15:18 8
                 MS TITTENSOR:
                                Yes, Commissioner.
                                                      Subject to the PII
       9
                 issues that were raised with the Commission this morning,
16:15:22
16:15:26 10
                 there might be some need to recall this witness to clarify
                 some aspects of those matters.
16:15:29 11
16:15:31 12
                                At least for the time being, Mr Kruger,
16:15:31 13
                 COMMISSIONER:
                 you're free to go?---Thank you Commissioner.
16:15:33 14
16:15:36 15
16:15:38 16
                 Have you got anything there that you shouldn't take with
16:15:40 17
                 you? Is that all your material?---No, some of this I'll
16:15:45 18
                 leave.
16:15:46 19
16:15:46 20
                 There may have been an exhibit tendered.
                                                             Thank you.
16:15:50 21
                 <(THE WITNESS WITHDREW)
16:15:50 22
       23
16:15:52 24
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                Thanks Ms Tittensor. Yes Mr Holt.
16:15:54 25
                           Commissioner, I'm instructed to make an
                 MR HOLT:
16:15:57 26
16:15:58 27
                 application for non-publication of a particular piece of
                 evidence that was given today. I wonder if we might do
16:16:02 28
                                        It's in the nature of - -
                 that in closed court?
16:16:03 29
16:16:03 30
16:16:03 31
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                Before that happens I think there are
16:16:05 32
                 documents to tender, aren't there?
16:16:06 33
16:16:07 34
                 MR WOODS:
                            We're just tendering a few documents, that's
16:16:10 35
                 correct, Commissioner. Mr John Blayney is no longer
                 required, at least for this part of the hearing.
16:16:13 36
16:16:15 37
                 understand that he's going to provide - he has provided a
                 statement which I'm going to tender and he's going to
16:16:18 38
16:16:21 39
                 provide another one in relation to the later years.
16:16:23 40
                 statement, which I seek to tender, is VPL.0014.0010.0001.
16:16:36 41
                                That will be RC69.
16:16:36 42
                 COMMISSIONER:
16:16:40 43
16:16:40 44
                 #EXHIBIT RC69 - Statement of John Blayney.
16:16:43 45
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Operation Progress Report. That's a document, the contents

Together with that is a document entitled

16:16:44 46

16:16:46 47

MR WOODS:

Yes.

```
1
                 of which were put to a few witnesses which contained that
16:16:48
                 phrase "loose cannon", and that is VPL.0005.0007.0122.
        2
16:16:52
        3
16:17:04
16:17:05 4
                 #EXHIBIT RC70 - Progress Report re Operation Scorn.
        5
16:17:08
                                 How would you explain Operation Progress
        6
                 COMMISSIONER:
16:17:08
        7
                 Report?
16:17:11
16:17:12
        8
                            Operation Progress Report in relation to
        9
                 MR WOODS:
16:17:13
                 Operation Scorn I should say.
16:17:14 10
16:17:15 11
16:17:20 12
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Operation Progress Report re Operation
                 Scorn, is that right or Progress Report re Operation Scorn>
16:17:21 13
16:17:21 14
                 MR WOODS:
                            That's correct.
16:17:22 15
16:17:22 16
16:17:23 17
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Progress report re Operation Scorn.
16:17:26 18
                 MR WOODS:
                            The next is Operation Landow notes regarding
16:17:26 19
                 contact with Mr Blayney, and that's similar to the other
16:17:31 20
                 documents the Commission's seen in relation to the other
16:17:35 21
                             That's VPL.0005.0031.0004.
                 witnesses.
16:17:37 22
16:17:49 23
16:17:49 24
                 COMMISSIONER:
                                 Describe that document again?
16:17:51 25
                 MR WOODS:
                            Operation Landow notes regarding contact with
16:17:52 26
16:17:54 27
                 Mr Blayney.
16:17:57 28
                 #EXHIBIT RC71 - Operation Landow notes re Blayney.
16:17:57 29
16:18:05 30
16:18:06 31
                 MR WOODS:
                            Lastly, in relation to - there's two other
                 things to tender but lastly in relation to Mr Blayney.
16:18:07 32
16:18:08 33
                 We've asked for his diary and day books in relation to this
16:18:11 34
                          We're told there's no relevant entries in relation
16:18:15 35
                 to this period but there might be in relation to the later
                 period, so we'll find out about those down the track.
16:18:17 36
16:18:21 37
                 last two documents are statement of Kiera Olney, again
                 another witness not required to appear, which is
16:18:27 38
                 VPL.0014.0001.0001.
16:18:34 39
16:18:40 40
16:18:40 41
                 #EXHIBIT RC72 - Statement of Kiera Olney.
16:18:45 42
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#EXHIBIT RC73 - Statement of Mark Woolfe.

Finally, the statement of Mark Woolfe.

That is

16:18:45 43

16:18:52 44 16:19:02 45 16:19:06 46

16:19:09 47

MR WOODS:

VPL.0014.0003.

47

MR WOODS: The last number was .0001.

COMMISSIONER: Thanks, Mr Woods. So you're asking the court be closed for a submission as to a non-publication order of part of the last witness's evidence.

MR HOLT: No, the previous witness's evidence, Mr Pope. It shouldn't take long, Commissioner. Because of what I need to say it should be done without the live stream on.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right. Live stream will stop. Is there anyone in the courtroom who should be excluded?

MR HOLT: There is no one in the courtroom who should be excluded.

COMMISSIONER: The hearing room is closed for the purposes of this submission.

(IN CAMERA HEARING FOLLOWS)

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16:25:54	1	<u>UPON RESUMING IN OPEN COURT</u> :
16:25:54	2	
16:26:01	3	COMMISSIONER: This part can be streamed. Is that too late
16:26:05	4	to get what Mr Winneke has said or should he repeat it?
16:26:10	5	Repeat it. Mr Winneke, if you wouldn't mind a bit of
16:26:13	6	action replay there in repeating what you've just said. I
16:26:18	7	think I asked you if that was the end of the evidence to
16:26:22	8	be
16:26:23	9	
16:26:26	10	MR WINNEKE: Commissioner, that's the end of the evidence
16:26:28	11	concerning the period from 97 through to 2000. There won't
16:26:30	12	be any further evidence at this stage for the next couple
16:26:33	13	of weeks.
16:26:35	14	
16:26:35	15	COMMISSIONER: Yes.
16:26:36	16	
16:26:36	17	MR WINNEKE: But when we have arranged for the next
16:26:41	18	hearings, and as soon as that's done, there'll be notices
16:26:45	19	put up on the Commission's website.
16:26:50		
16:26:50		COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you.
	22	
	23	MR WINNEKE: If it please the Commission.
	24	
16:26:51	25	COMMISSIONER: All right. Adjourn the Commission hearings
16:27:35	26	to a date to be fixed.
16:27:45		
16:27:46		ADJOURNED TO A DATE TO BE FIXED
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