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FEIR1058

Asset Recovery Unit  
INFORMATION REPORT  
HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
28 May, 1999

**Ramsden**

**SUBJECT: Meeting with MFG13**

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RECEIVED FROM: **Jeff Pope.**  
ADDRESS GIVEN:  
TEL - (H): (W):

INFORMATION

RELATIVE DATE & TIME : **Monday 17 May 1999**

On Monday the 17th of May 1999, at approximately 12.20 p.m., Detective Sergeant SEGRAVE and I met with registered informer MFG13.

On this occasion the informer was more prepared to talk about specific incidents with s 26 (1) [REDACTED]. The informer has highlighted a couple of areas where it appears that s 26 (1) [REDACTED] has committed offences.

Firstly, the informer has stated that s 26 (1) [REDACTED] is continually charging clients who are eligible for legal aid and have received payments from Legal aid. s 26 (1) [REDACTED] charges the client the same amount as what legal aid provide for the plea or committal whatever the case may be. There is evidence in his trust account of the two amounts, one from legal aid and the other from the client being entered.

Secondly, the informer stated that s 26 (1) [REDACTED] has been doing the exact same thing with cost certificates being awarded by the courts. He still charges the client the same amount as to what he received the cost certificate for and enters both amounts in to his trust account.

Thirdly, his trust account has a number of large amounts invested in it, many appear to be shelf companies set up by s 26 (1) [REDACTED].

Fourthly, there have been incidents where s 26 (1) [REDACTED] has taken a lump sum of money from a client to pay for a defence, and s 26 (1) [REDACTED] has invested that money immediately and immediately begins earning interest from that money without any of the benefit going towards the persons who paid the money.

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Fifthly, there is a suspect property transaction relating to a block of land owned by [REDACTED], who used to be a client of s 26 (1) [REDACTED]. Documentation to be supplied by the Drug Squad regarding this block.

In conjunction with these types of possible offences being committed, the informer also stated that there would be a number of incidents where s 26 (1) [REDACTED] has committed offences under the Legal Practices Act.

The informer stated that in about two to three months [REDACTED] is about to move offices from Richmond into a building which he owns in Queen Street. It appears that he may be living on the premises in a penthouse apartment above his office.

s 26 (1) [REDACTED] currently owns a large house at 57 Grange Road, Toorak and is believed to own a number of properties in a shopping strip just north of Cairns, near Port Douglas.

The meeting concluded at approximately 4.10 p.m.

EVALUATION : A2

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Submitted by: **J.S.POPE D/S/C 28569 PHONE : 6630**

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