

**Royal Commission
into the Management of Police Informants**

STATEMENT OF KIRA STEWART OLNEY

1. My full name is Kira Stewart Olney. I am currently employed as a Principal Investigator at IBAC.
2. I was previously employed by Victoria Police between July 1990 and August 2012.
3. I make this statement in response to a request from the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants dated 12 March 2019.

Educational background and employment history

4. My educational background is as follows:
 - Bachelor of Arts (Criminal Justice Administration) – completed 1989
 - Advanced Diploma of Investigation (Detective) – formerly known as Detective Training School – completed April 1999
 - Diploma of Police Supervision – completed 2007
 - Advanced Practice in Forensic Interviewing of Children – complete 2013
 - Certificate IV in Training & Assessment – completed 2015
 - Diploma of Government (Investigation) – completed 2015
 - Diploma of Child, Youth & Family Intervention – completed 2016
5. I also completed various Victoria Police training courses.
6. A summary of my employment history is as follows:
 - Graduated from Victoria Police Academy in July 1990
 - July 1990 – August 1997 – Constable at Collingwood Police Station, Russell Street Police Station and Northcote Police Station, including secondments to Mill Park District Support Group and Fairfield CIU. Passed Senior Constable and CIU entrance exam
 - August 1997 – promoted to Senior Constable at Mill Park Police Station
 - February 1998 – commenced at Asset Recovery Squad as Detective Senior Constable
 - September 1999 – commenced at Homicide Squad, Crew (1) then Missing Persons Unit
 - November 2004 – promoted to Sergeant and commenced at Epping Police Station
 - November 2006 – commenced at Diamond Creek Sexual Offences and Child Abuse (SOCA) unit as Sergeant

- March 2009 – transitioned to the Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team (SOCIT) and commenced as a Detective Sergeant
- August 2012 – resigned from Victoria Police and commenced with NT Police as Constable for six months and then as a Detective (first class Constable) with the Child Abuse task force
- August 2015 – commenced with NT Office of the Children’s Commissioner as Manager of Investigations
- January 2017 to present – commenced with IBAC as a Principal Investigator

Involvement or association with any investigation which had dealings with Ms Gobbo (question 2)

7. I have limited recollection of these events and have refreshed my memory from my official police diary.¹
8. I can recall meeting Ms Gobbo on one occasion. My memory is that the meeting related to a prosecution witness, Carla El-Shiekh.
9. I have no recollection of Ms Gobbo being an informer or human source.
10. My diary indicates that on 14 June 1999 I accompanied D/S/C Rob Sneddon and D/S/C Pope to a meeting with “MFG13 (informer)”. I believe this refers to an informer from the Major Fraud Group. My diary records that I left the office at 11.30am with D/S/C Sneddon and attended Bridport Street South Melbourne at 11.50am. My diary notes indicate that D/S/C Sneddon and I provided surveillance in relation to the meeting between D/S/C Pope and MFG13. The meeting concluded at 1.30pm.
11. I assume that MFG13 was Ms Gobbo but I am not sure as I have no recollection of Ms Gobbo being an informer. I have not found any further reference to MFG13 in my diary.
12. I have a vague recollection that Ms Gobbo was assisting police to try to facilitate the return of a witness, Carla El-Sheikh, from Queensland. Ms El-Sheikh was a prosecution witness who had failed to appear at a trial concerning Nik Radev.
13. According to my diary, on 29 June 1999 D/S/C Pope and I travelled to Surfers Paradise, Queensland, to extradite Ms El-Sheikh to Victoria. On 30 June 1999 D/S/C Pope and I attended the Southport Magistrates’ Court for an extradition hearing concerning Ms El-Sheikh. We returned to Victoria with Ms El-Sheikh later that day. I have no independent recollection of these events.
14. I don’t know whether there is any connection between Ms El-Sheikh and Ms Gobbo.

¹ VPL.0005.0021.0001.

15. I have been asked whether my diary contains any reference to Operation Ramsden. The only reference I have found is that on 21 June 1999 I attended a crew meeting in relation to a number of operations including Ramsden. I don't recall what Operation Ramsden was about. I have no independent recollection of this.
16. I have been asked whether my diary contains any reference to [REDACTED]. The only reference I have found is that on 1 July 1999 I attended a meeting at the National Crime Authority (NCA) with S/D Sneddon and D/Sgt Segrave regarding [REDACTED]. I don't recall what [REDACTED] was about. I have no independent recollection of this.

Use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (questions 3-8)

17. I became aware that Ms Gobbo had been providing information or assistance to Victoria Police when I heard about it through media reports.
18. I recall becoming aware of media reports about Lawyer X. I suspected that Lawyer X might be Ms Gobbo after I became aware of media reports that [REDACTED] had denied being Lawyer X.
19. I only learned that Lawyer X was Ms Gobbo following the reporting of this fact in the media following the recent lifting of suppression orders.
20. I have no knowledge of the matters referred to in questions 4-5 and 7-8.
21. The only personal contact I have had with Ms Gobbo is that described in my response to question 2.

Concerns in relation to Ms Gobbo (questions 9-11)

22. I have no awareness or knowledge of these matters.

Other relevant matters

23. I have no knowledge of the matters referred to in question 12.
24. In response to question 13, I recall receiving the following training or retraining while employed by Victoria Police in relation to the identified topics:

- a) This would have formed part of my Detective Training School (DTS) and Advanced DTS training, and would have been refreshed during subsequent training including Brief Authorisation training.
- b) This was covered at the Police Academy and reinforced during subsequent training courses.
- c) This was covered at the Police Academy and reinforced during subsequent training courses.
- d) Legal professional privilege may have been covered in DTS, Advanced DTS and the Sergeants Course.
- e) Public interest immunity would have been covered in DTS and Advanced DTS.
- f) Professional and ethical decision making was covered at the Police Academy and on an ongoing basis, including for example at Operational Safety Tactics Training (OSTT).

25. I have nothing further to add in response to question 14.

Dated: 21 March 2019



Kira Stewart Olney