



Statement

Statement in the matter of: **Royal Commission into the management of police informants**

Name Christopher John NOTMAN
Occupation Federal Agent
Employer Australian Federal Police
Address 383 Latrobe Street, Melbourne
Date 29 April 2019

STATES:

Personal information

1. My full name is Christopher John NOTMAN. I am a Federal Agent of the Australian Federal Police, holding the rank of Sergeant, Public Interest Immunity
 My employment history and educational background is as follows:

Australian Federal Police (AFP) (25/3/08 – present)

Public Interest Immunity

Melbourne Office, Operations Monitoring Centre 11/9/14 – 27/6/16 - Sergeant

- Responsible for evaluation of matters referred to the AFP for consideration of investigation
- Preparation of reports for the Melbourne management team to consider acceptance or otherwise of referrals

International Deployment Group deployments (Sergeant AFP) (7/7/08 – 10/9/14)

- Melbourne Office Joint Counter Terrorism Team (12/8/12 – 26/8/13 & 5/6/14 – 10/9/14) – Sergeant. Duties included investigations, and monitoring
- Regional Assistance Mission Solomon Islands (RAMSI) (27/8/13 – 4/6/14) - Team Leader, Capacity Development Monitoring Centre. Monitoring and evaluation of programs and compilation of various reports on behalf of the Commander, Participating Police Force
- Operation Duval (4 months in 2012/2013) – Team Leader & Deputy Forward Commander conducting escorts of offshore entry persons and preparation of Standard Tactical Plans and other documents related to escorts
- Samoa Australia Police Partnership (1/6/10 – 11/8/12) – Team Leader/adviser to the Samoan Police Service (General Policing & Traffic) (major projects included crime reporting, investigation management and enhanced processes of accountability)
- Timor Leste (United Nations Mission in Timor) (21/2/09 – 21/2/10) – Team Leader, Ermera District Commander/Deputy District Commander – providing leadership and mentoring/advising PNTL leadership within the District
- Northern Territory Police (Operation Pleach (7/7/08 – 11/1/09 – Team Leader, Willowra Police Station) – General Policing and investigations in a remote

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community including response to, and investigation of numerous riots, and the arrest perpetrators and preparation of briefs of evidence

Victoria Police (30/4/73 – 23/3/08)

Cardinia Police Service Area (1/8/06 – 23/3/08) (Inspector)

- Inspector in charge of 95 police and unsworn staff including a 24 hour police station (1), sixteen hour police stations (3), one member police station (1), Traffic Management Unit (TMU) (1), Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) (1) and Youth Resource Officers (YRO)
- Responsible for provision of police services within Cardinia Shire

Bass Coast Police Service Area (13/12/04 – 31/7/06) (Inspector)

- In charge of 97 police and unsworn staff including a 24 hour police station (1), sixteen hour police stations (6) and one member stations (4), TMU, CIU, Sexual Offence and Child Abuse Unit (SOCAU) and YRO
- Responsible for delivery of police services within Bass Coast Shire and South Gippsland Shire

Latrobe Police Service Area (16/6/02 – 13/12/04) (Inspector)

- In charge of 195 police and unsworn staff including twenty four hour stations (3), sixteen hour station (1), one member station (1), TMU, CIU, Prosecutions Division, SOCAU, Divisional Intelligence Unit (DIU), Neighbourhood Watch Officer, Crime Prevention Officer, Firearms Officer
- Responsible for delivery of police services within Latrobe City

Major Fraud Group (11/3/02 – 16/6/02) (Detective Inspector)

- Managed a team of investigators undertaking complex fraud investigations.

Drug Squad (17/7/98 – 11/3/02) (Detective Inspector)

- Directed and coordinating teams conducting investigations into high level drug traffickers
- Investigations included a range of techniques including the use of human sources, covert operatives, listening devices, telephone intercepts, physical and electronic surveillance, forensic examinations, and the purchase of drugs

Gaming & Vice Squad (8/1/96 – 16/7/98) (Detective Inspector)

- Manager overseeing and directing a broad range of investigations into racing, gaming, prostitution, casino and pornography industries
- Liaised with a broad range of stakeholders involved in these industries and briefed several Government Ministers in relation to enforcement and legislation issues.

Crime Surveillance Unit (20/9/93-8/1/96) (Detective Senior Sergeant)

- Directed and controlled surveillance operations and liaised with investigator/clients
- Led the training team responsible for conducting surveillance training courses.

National Crime Authority (1/2/88 – 19/9/93) (Detective Sergeant & Detective Senior Sergeant)


- In charge of Surveillance Unit (including small Technical Unit)
- Worked in a multi-disciplinary and multi-force environment

Bureau of Criminal Intelligence Surveillance Unit (28/11/84 – 1/2/88)

- Detective Sergeant – Team Leader Surveillance.

Heidelberg Police Station (2/11/83 – 27/11/84)

- Supervising Sergeant.

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Communications D24 (7/7/82 – 1/11/83) (Sergeant)

- Sergeant – Supervisor and Radio Operator.

Breaking Squad/Major Crime Squad and Greensborough CIB (6/9/78 – 6/7/82)

- Detective Senior Constable – Investigator.

Russell Street CIB Observation Squad (15/12/76 – 5/9/78)

- Detective Senior Constable - Surveillance operative.

Fitzroy Police Station (31/10/73 – 14/12/76)

- Uniform Constable.

Russell Street (17/9/73 – 30/10/73)

- Uniform Constable.

Training Academy (30/4/73 – 14/9/73)

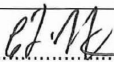
- Recruit training.

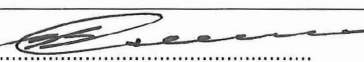
Education, Courses & Projects

- Counter Terrorism Investigation Workshop (2013)
- Prince 2 Project Management (Foundations & Practitioner) (2013)
- Introduction to Islamic Cultures Course (2013)
- Bachelor of Policing (Charles Sturt University) (2011)
- Diploma in Project Management (2009)
- Certificate IV Training & Assessment (2009)
- Diploma in Government (OHS) (2008)
- Discipline Investigators Course (2008) (Victoria Police)
- A member of the Board of Governance for the Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault (2003 – 2006)
- Graduate of the Gippsland Community Leadership Program (2003) (10 month program)
- Management of Serious Crime Course (24th) (MOSC) – 4 week course at Australian Federal Police, Canberra (2001)
- Victoria Police Officers Course (1993)
- Awarded Donald MacKay Churchill Fellowship (1992) and travelled to the United States of America, Canada and the United Kingdom to study the management, operations and training of surveillance units (two months)
- Advanced Detective Training School (investigation management) – dux of course (1985)
- Sub Officers' Course (1982)
- Detective Training School (1979)
- Victoria Police Recruit Course (1973)
- Employed as farm hand (1969 – 1973)
- Completed Form 4 at Marist Brothers College, Warragul (1969)

2. My only personal knowledge of Ms. Nicole GOBBO is that whilst I was attached to the Drug Squad at the request of then Detective Senior Sergeant Wayne STRAWHORN I accompanied him to a coffee shop near our workplace at 412 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne and had a coffee with her. I am not aware of whether STRAWHORN or GOBBO instigated this meeting. I don't recall any specific reason why STRAWHORN requested/invited me to attend the meeting, however I assume he wanted corroboration and/or a second person

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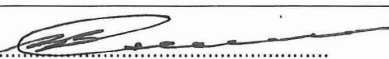
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present. Prior to this meeting I had never met or spoken to Ms. GOBBO, and I haven't met or spoken to her since. My recollection is that the meeting may have gone for between 15 minutes to 30 minutes and there was just the three of us present. I have no recollection of what was specifically discussed, however I distinctly recall it was unremarkable, and as far as I was concerned was of no interest to myself or the Drug Squad. I am certain that Ms. GOBBO did not provide any information about criminal activities of her clients or any other person, and there was no discussion about Ms. GOBBO providing information or of her being a human source. I do recall that STRAWHORN thought she may be a useful contact in the legal fraternity, however I didn't take that to extend to providing information about clients and /or criminal activities. I had no knowledge of Ms. GOBBO providing information, or being involved in any way with investigations conducted by the Drug Squad (or any other area of the Victoria Police). I have been provided with a redacted copy of what I believe is my Police Diary for this period of time and in June 2000 I have made an entry at 1410 (day/date redacted) "Strawhorn meeting Gobbo (solicitor)". I believe this is probably the date I met GOBBO with STRAWHORN, however I have not had access to my Police Diary to fully check the entries between 1998 and 2002.

Use of Ms. Gobbo as a human source

3. The first time I heard that Ms. GOBBO had been providing information to the police was after the media publicity identified the matter, I believe that was in the latter part of 2018. I don't recall specifically whether someone told me that Ms. GOBBO was the subject of the media articles or whether I first found out once she was identified in the media.
4. I had no knowledge that Ms. GOBBO was providing information to the Victoria Police until 2018. Whilst I was attached to the Drug Squad I had no knowledge that Ms. GOBBO was a human source or regular contact of any member of the Victoria Police (other than what I have outlined in paragraph 2).
5. I have no knowledge of person(s) involved in the authorization, and/or continued authorization of Ms. GOBBO as a human source.
6. As outlined in paragraph 2 the only time I have met or spoken to Ms. GOBBO was when I accompanied Detective Senior Constable STRAWHORN to meet with Ms. GOBBO at a coffee shop near 412 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne. I have not met or spoken to Ms. GOBBO since that meeting. As a result of that meeting it appears I made an entry in my police diary in June 2000 as previously referred to in paragraph 2. I don't recall completing any other documentation in relation to this meeting. Whilst I don't recall whether an Information Report was submitted, it is possible that STRAWHORN may have submitted an Information

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Report. If Ms GOBBO was a registered human source at that time STRAWHORN should have submitted an Information Report. I have no recollection whatsoever of ever seeing an application(s) to register Ms. GOBBO as an informer/human source.

7. I have no knowledge of Victoria Police receiving any information from Ms. GOBBO in relation to criminal activities or the activities of her clients.
8. I have no knowledge of the Victoria Police receiving any assistance by Ms. GOBBO.


Concerns in relation to use of Ms. Gobbo as a human source


9. I had no knowledge or awareness of Ms. GOBBO being used as a human source until the media publicity in 2018. I have never become aware or had concerns raised to me by any members of the Victoria Police or other partners/stakeholders about the use of Ms. GOBBO or any other legal practitioner as a human source, or provider of assistance and/or information.
10. I am not aware of any concerns being raised within the Victoria Police about the use of Ms. GOBBO as a human source.
11. I am not aware of, and have never been a party to any discussion within the Victoria Police about the obligation of disclosure relating to Ms. GOBBO.

Other relevant matters

12. I have no knowledge of any other human source utilized that had legal obligations of confidentiality or privilege.
13. I believe we received training as Police Recruits in relation to the right to of an accused to silence, the right of an accused to have legal a legal practitioner, legal professional privilege, and professional and ethical decision making. I believe this training was reinforced at Detective Training School, Advanced Detective Training School and Sub Officers' Course and at these latter courses included disclosure and public interest immunity.
14. In 2001 I reviewed incomplete briefs of evidence against Tony MOKBEL and Carl WILLIAMS (and possibly associates) to determine whether charges should proceed following the arrest of Drug Squad investigators involved in these investigations. I was tasked to undertake this review by then Assistant Commissioner George DAVIS. In undertaking this review I

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had access to a range of documents provided by investigators. At no time during this review did I identify, or have any inclination that Ms. GOBBO may have assisted investigators. I believe this investigation/review came under the banner of of Operation or Task Force KAYAK. At the conclusion of the review I submitted a report outlining my findings. I believe the report was forwarded to then Detective Superintendent NEWTON. I was not directly responsible for Operation/Task Force KAYAK as it was conducted by Unit 2 of the Drug Squad (whereas I was in charge of Unit 1), and was not openly discussed. However in the absence of the Detective Inspector from Unit 2, I sometimes inherited some administrative functions, and had a broad understanding of the status of the investigation. I have been provided with a redacted copy of what I believe is my Police Diary for this period of time and in August 2001 I have made several entries indicating I had been undertaking a review of Task Force Kayak.



..... Sgd.


Christopher John NOTMAN
Federal Agent 19044
Australian Federal Police

I hereby acknowledge that this statement is true and correct and I make it in the belief that a person making a false statement in the circumstances is liable to the penalties of perjury.



..... Sgd.

Christopher John NOTMAN
Federal Agent 19044
Australian Federal Police



..... Sgd.

Michael GLENANE
Federal Agent 20406

Acknowledgment made and signature witnessed by me atpm on Monday, 29 April 2019 at 383 Latrobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

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