

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

**STATEMENT OF ANDREW PAUL ALLEN APM**

1. My full name is Andrew Paul Allen.
2. I make this statement in response to a request from the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants. This statement is produced to the Royal Commission in response to a Request for Statement.
3. In preparing my statement, I have reviewed my official police diaries for the period from May 2003 until the end of 2004.

**Educational background and employment history (Q1)**

4. I joined Victoria Police in 1975 and undertook cadet and recruit training until 1 October 1976, when I graduated as a Constable, commencing at Avondale Heights Police Station.
5. The roles that I held and my progression through the ranks is set out in Annexure A to this statement. I have also included in that annexure training that I received and professional awards that I have received.

**My involvement or association with any investigation that had dealings with Ms Gobbo (Q2)**

6. My involvement with investigations that had dealings with Ms Gobbo was during the time from around August 2003 until October 2004, when I was the inaugural Detective Inspector, Officer in Charge of the Purana Taskforce.
7. At that time, the purpose of the Purana Taskforce was to investigate murders of underworld figures, including Dino Dibra, Paul Kallipolitis and others. In the lead-up to Purana being established, I was still working in the Homicide squad, whilst also overseeing the investigations being undertaken by DSS Philip Swindells' crew in relation to those murders. Those investigations ultimately led to the formal establishment of the Purana Taskforce, which was also aimed at identifying organised groups involved in the homicides.

  
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8. I do not recall having had any direct dealings with Ms Gobbo during this time, save that I may have seen and briefly spoken to her occasionally in and around courts when she was acting for accused persons. I was not generally involved in investigations as an informant, but played more of a managerial role.
9. I was involved with Purana investigations. For example, I attended the scenes of the murders of Michael Marshall, Jason Moran and Pasquale Barbaro. In addition to Purana investigations, I attended the scene of the Hodsons' murder on 16 May 2004 until Charlie Bezzina arrived. However, I played no further part in the investigation into the Hodsons' murders. There are references in my diaries to attending the scene on 16 May 2004 and to other Purana investigations. I am aware that those investigations had dealings with Ms Gobbo from time to time. By "dealings", I mean that police would have communicated with Ms Gobbo in her capacity as a legal representative during those investigations because she represented various accused persons in relation to those matters.
10. I never met with Ms Gobbo in the context of her role as a human source.
11. I did not know that Ms Gobbo was a human source until I read media reports in 2019.
12. I have reviewed my diaries and the only diary notes that I have found which mention Ms Gobbo are as follows:
  - (a) My diary entry for 25 March 2004 at 1110 records, in relation to [REDACTED] that Ms Gobbo was to be advised that the need for [REDACTED] "can say" statement to be progressed was urgent and the OPP was to be briefed. At that time, court proceedings in which [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were the accused were underway. I assume from my diary note that Ms Gobbo was acting for [REDACTED] at that time. This diary note is recording a meeting at the OPP. My solicitors have asked me whether I had contact with Ms Gobbo in negotiating [REDACTED] plea deal. I have no memory of any such contact and do not believe that it occurred. It is also not something that I would have typically done in my managerial role at Purana;

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- (b) My diary entry for 27 April 2004, records a meeting at the OPP regarding "Purana issues" and a DNA application in respect of [REDACTED]. I believe I attended this meeting with DSS Swindells. My note records Geoff Horgan SC was to contact an agency and Ms Gobbo in relation to the DNA or other application, in respect of [REDACTED].
13. My solicitors have asked me if I recall Ms Gobbo being mentioned at a meeting with Inspector Boris Buick and the OPP on 17 May 2004 about [REDACTED]. My diary records that I attended that meeting but makes no mention of any discussion regarding Ms Gobbo. I do not now recall the content of the discussion or whether Ms Gobbo was mentioned.
14. My solicitors have also asked me if I informed Inspector Buick on 18 May 2004 that Geoff Horgan was meeting with Ms Gobbo that day regarding [REDACTED]. I do not have a note of this conversation and do not recall it.
15. My diary also records that on 16 July 2004, I attended a meeting at 1130 at the OPP in relation to, among other things, process and issues relating to [REDACTED]. I have no record of any discussion about Ms Gobbo at that meeting. There are other references to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in my diaries.
16. While I was informed that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were assisting police in relation to their own charges, I had no involvement in negotiating with those witnesses the terms on which they would provide assistance. The negotiation of deals for those witnesses was handled by the OPP and the witnesses' legal representatives.
17. My solicitors have asked me if I recall having a conversation with Ms Gobbo in mid-2003 in relation to Andrew Veniamin having visited her after she represented Lewis Moran. I do not recall, and have no record of, ever having a conversation with Ms Gobbo in relation to this issue.
18. In October 2004, I left the Purana Taskforce and commenced in the role of Chief of Staff to the Chief Commissioner of Police, Christine Nixon. In this role, I had no contact with Ms Gobbo and was not aware that she was providing any information or assistance to police at any time. I believe I was replaced, when I left Purana, by DSS Gavan Ryan and then DSS Jim O'Brien.



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**How I learned, or were given reason to believe, Ms Gobbo was providing information to police (Q3)**

19. I had no knowledge that Ms Gobbo was providing information or assistance to police until I read it through media reports.

**Awareness of others (Q4)**

20. I am not aware of any other member of Victoria Police or any other organisation who was aware that Ms Gobbo was providing information or assistance to Victoria Police.

**Authorisation of the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (Q5)**

21. I do not know who was involved in the authorisation of the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source.

**Personal contact with Ms Gobbo (Q6)**

22. To the best of my recollection, the only contact I had with Ms Gobbo is that described above.

**Information & assistance received (Q7 & Q8)**

23. I am not aware of any information or assistance being received by Victoria Police where the source of that information was Ms Gobbo.

**Concerns raised as to the use of a legal practitioner – and Ms Gobbo – as a human source (Q9 & Q10)**

24. I have no information to provide in response to these questions.

**Awareness about disclosure in relation to Ms Gobbo (Q11)**

25. I have no information to provide in response to this question.

**Other human sources with obligations of confidentiality or privilege (Q12)**

26. I am not aware of any other human sources that have provided information or assistance to Victoria Police who were subject to legal obligations of confidentiality or privilege.

  
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**Training (Q13)**

27. I completed a number of courses during my time at Victoria Police and do not currently have access to the content of those course. However, I recall receiving training in relation to:
- (a) obligations of disclosure at Detective Training School and Advanced Detective Training School;
  - (b) the rights of an accused person to silence and to a legal practitioner at the Academy and other internal courses;
  - (c) legal professional privilege and professional ethical decision-making from the Academy, Detective Training School and Advanced Detective Training School.
28. My knowledge and learning in relation to the topics in question 13 was also gained from and supported by experience on the job.
29. Between 2007 and 2017 when I was a Divisional Superintendent at Geelong and Ballarat, I also received training in relation to my obligations to register and record human sources as the local human source registrar for those places and provide that information to the Source Development Unit. This training was provided as new registration practices were adopted. I recall completing online training modules and attending training in Melbourne in relation to these matters. I have not provided any detail in relation to the content of this training because it does not seem to be relevant to the topics that are the subject of question 13 and I expect that Victoria Police would not want the content of its training to be made public.

**Other information (Q14)**

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

Dated: 11 June 2019



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Andrew Paul Allen

**Annexure A**

1. I was a probationary Constable from 1976 to 1977 at Russell Street (then known as 'A District', performing uniform duties.
2. From 1977 to 1981, I was a Constable performing general duties at Elwood and St Kilda Police Stations, including a secondment to the St Kilda Special Duties Unit.
3. From 1981 to 1983, I was appointed to Criminal Investigation Branch, where I performed duties at Fitzroy, Richmond, Russell Street and Prahran Divisions.
4. From 1983 to 1986, I was a Detective Senior Constable with the Armed Robbery Squad, involved in major criminal investigations into armed hold-ups across the state.
5. From 1986 to 1988, I was a Sergeant at the Russell Street Community Policing Squad, involved in child neglect and abuse investigations and sexual assault investigations. I was seconded to the 'A' District Support Group in 1987, where I was investigated drug and related criminal offenders;
6. From 1988 to 1990, I was a Detective Sergeant with the Armed Robbery Squad, in charge of an investigation team.
7. From 1990 to 1991, I was a Sergeant at the Sub-Officers' Course Victoria Police Academy, directing staff duties and assessing suitability of potential sergeants.
8. From 1991 to 1995, I was a Detective Senior Sergeant with the Rape Squad & Child Exploitation Unit, Crime Department, where I was second in charge, managing major investigations into sexual assaults of child and adult victims' statements, including cold cases.
9. From 1995 to 1997, I was an Inspector (Commissioned Officer) within the Chief Commissioner's Office as a project officer in a team charged with identifying best practice in service delivery across Victoria Police, reporting to the Deputy Commissioner, Administration.
10. From 1997 to 1999, I was a Detective Inspector with the Organised Crime Squad, Crime Department, managing overt and covert investigations in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies.



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11. From 1999 to 2000, I was a Detective Inspector with the Tactical Response Squad, Crime Department, managing investigations into outlaw motorcycle gangs, kidnappings and product contamination. During this period, I acted as Superintendent on several occasions.
12. From 2000 to 2003, I was a Detective Inspector with the Homicide Squad, Crime Department, managing and overseeing murder investigations, suspicious missing persons and cold cases. During this period, I was assigned for two months as acting Superintendent in Region 4, Division 1, Rosanna.
13. From August 2003 to October 2004, I was Detective Inspector, Officer in Charge, Purana Taskforce, managing and overseeing a number of underworld homicides in Melbourne, establishing and resourcing of the taskforce.
14. From October 2004 to November 2005, I was Acting Superintendent, Chief of Staff to the Chief Commissioner. I commenced this role once brief preparation was underway by the Purana Taskforce for the impending prosecutions. During this period, I was also Acting Superintendent, Ballarat Division, from June to August 2005.
15. From November 2005 to January 2007, I was Superintendent, Chief of Staff to the Chief Commissioner, providing strategic and operational advice while performing a key liaison role with the Ministerial Office of Police and Emergency Services.
16. From January 2007 to October 2007, I was Divisional Superintendent, Geelong, overseeing, leading and managing a division of over 300 personnel in all aspects of operational policing across the City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast and the Borough of Queenscliffe Local Government Areas.
17. From October 2007 to November 2017, I was Divisional Superintendent, Ballarat, overseeing, leading and managing a division of up to 300 personnel in all aspects of operational policing across the City of Ballarat, Moorabool, Golden Plains, Pyrenees and Hepburn Local Government areas.
18. In May 2017, I commenced Carer's Leave until the end of my service, effective as of 27 July 2018.
19. I retired from Victoria Police in July 2018.

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20. Throughout my police career, I undertook training and completed courses and also undertook external education, including the following:
- (a) Detective Training School;
  - (b) Sub-Officers' Course;
  - (c) Advanced Detective Training School;
  - (d) Officers' (Inspectors') Course;
  - (e) International Police Executive Officers' Course;
  - (f) Senior Managers' Leadership Development Program;
  - (g) Graduate Certificate in Applied Management; AIPM (Manly NSW) and Charles Sturt University;
  - (h) Victorian Public Sector Leadership 21 Certificate; and
  - (i) Management of Serious Crime, AFP Canberra.
21. The professional awards that I have received include the following:
- (a) Australian Police Medal;
  - (b) National Police Service Medal;
  - (c) National Police Service Medal, Second Clasp;
  - (d) National Police Service Medal, Sixth Clasp;
  - (e) Chief Commissioner's Commendation; and
  - (f) 35 year Service Award.

*A.P. Kelly*  
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