

(12)

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT

1. I make this statement in relation to my knowledge of the death of Victor PIERCE which was related to the death of Frank BENVENUTO.

2. I didn't personally know Frank BENVENUTO as a friend, but I had met him on a few occasions at Italian weddings. From memory one of these weddings was [REDACTED] who had [REDACTED] another wedding was [REDACTED]. These weddings would have been over 15 years ago. Besides these occasions I didn't have any other dealings with BENVENUTO.

3. The first time I met Victor PIERCE was at [REDACTED] wedding. He was there with Sharon MERCIECA. [REDACTED] introduced me to him and I only spoke briefly with him. Besides this I only met him on one other occasion when I went to the [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Victor PIERCE was already [REDACTED] with a lady and he came up and said hello.

4. Around [REDACTED] I was introduced to Andrew VENIAMIN by Dino DIBRA. Just before Dino was murdered, Dino and Andrew had a big argument but I don't know what over. After Dino was shot there was a rumour that Andrew was involved. I didn't really believe the rumour. Andrew was at Dino's funeral with Faruk ORMAN who was a close friend of his and was always with him. At the mosque [REDACTED] came up to me and pointed out Andrew and said he was the one who had killed Dino. When we went to the cemetery I approached [REDACTED] and asked him if he knew who had murdered Dino. He said he would try and find out for me.

[REDACTED]

5. Later I believed Andrew was involved in Dino's murder and I have [REDACTED]

6. It would have been around [REDACTED] after Dino's murder, I was down at the [REDACTED] having a coffee outside [REDACTED] when I saw Andrew VENIAMIN across the road. Andrew came over and spoke to me and we exchanged numbers.

7. About 2 days later I got a call from Andrew and he said he wanted to catch up for a chat. We organised to meet at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I met him there in the afternoon and he was [REDACTED] At the time Andrew was driving a silver Porsche Boxter convertible. At first we just spoke generally and then Andrew asked me if he [REDACTED] I told him that I didn't know and that I had [REDACTED]

inadmissible

8. About 3 or 4 weeks later we caught up again in [REDACTED] after he had rung me. Andrew turned up [REDACTED] During this meeting he again asked me if I had heard anything about [REDACTED] I said no and he asked me if I could find out [REDACTED] I asked him, [REDACTED] He said [REDACTED] By this I knew Andrew meant [REDACTED]

9. On one other occasion Andrew was with me and we were driving along [REDACTED] [REDACTED] just up from the [REDACTED] going towards the [REDACTED] Andrew asked [REDACTED] if he had any news about [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and Andrew got angry [REDACTED] but he calmed down quickly.

[REDACTED]

10. I met Andrew a few times after this but he didn't talk about PIERCE any more. We became closer friends over this time. He actually may have mentioned PIERCE but I didn't really take any notice of it.

11. Around this time I had moved to [REDACTED] I was at home watching television when I heard about Victor PIERCE being shot in Bay St, Port Melbourne. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *inappreciable*

12. The next day just after lunch [REDACTED] came and saw me at [REDACTED] I met [REDACTED] downstairs at my building. I think from memory [REDACTED] had rung prior to this to organise the meeting. [REDACTED] went for a walk along the waters edge to talk so it couldn't be picked up by listening devices. [REDACTED] asked me if I knew how [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He asked me this because he knew I didn't have an [REDACTED] and I removed my [REDACTED] He wanted to know

when the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] could be seen. I asked him why, even though I knew what was going on. [REDACTED] then said, [REDACTED] I knew he

was referring to PIERCE's murder. He said "You wouldn't believe what happened." He then went on to detail that when [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] When he was telling me this he

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I don't know what [REDACTED] but after this he said he wouldn't [REDACTED] again.

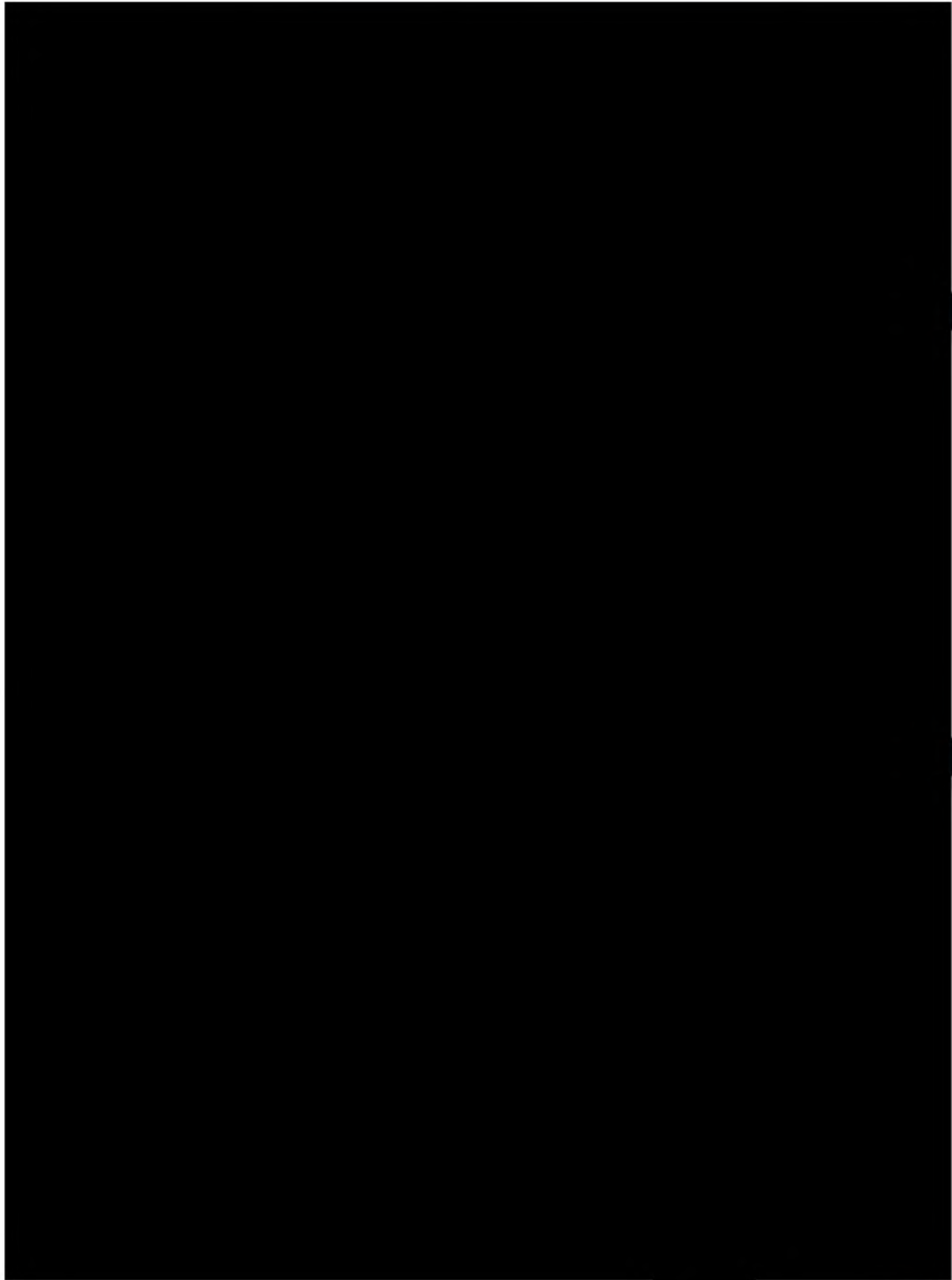
13. He went on to say he was concerned that they had been [REDACTED] and that he was heading towards [REDACTED]

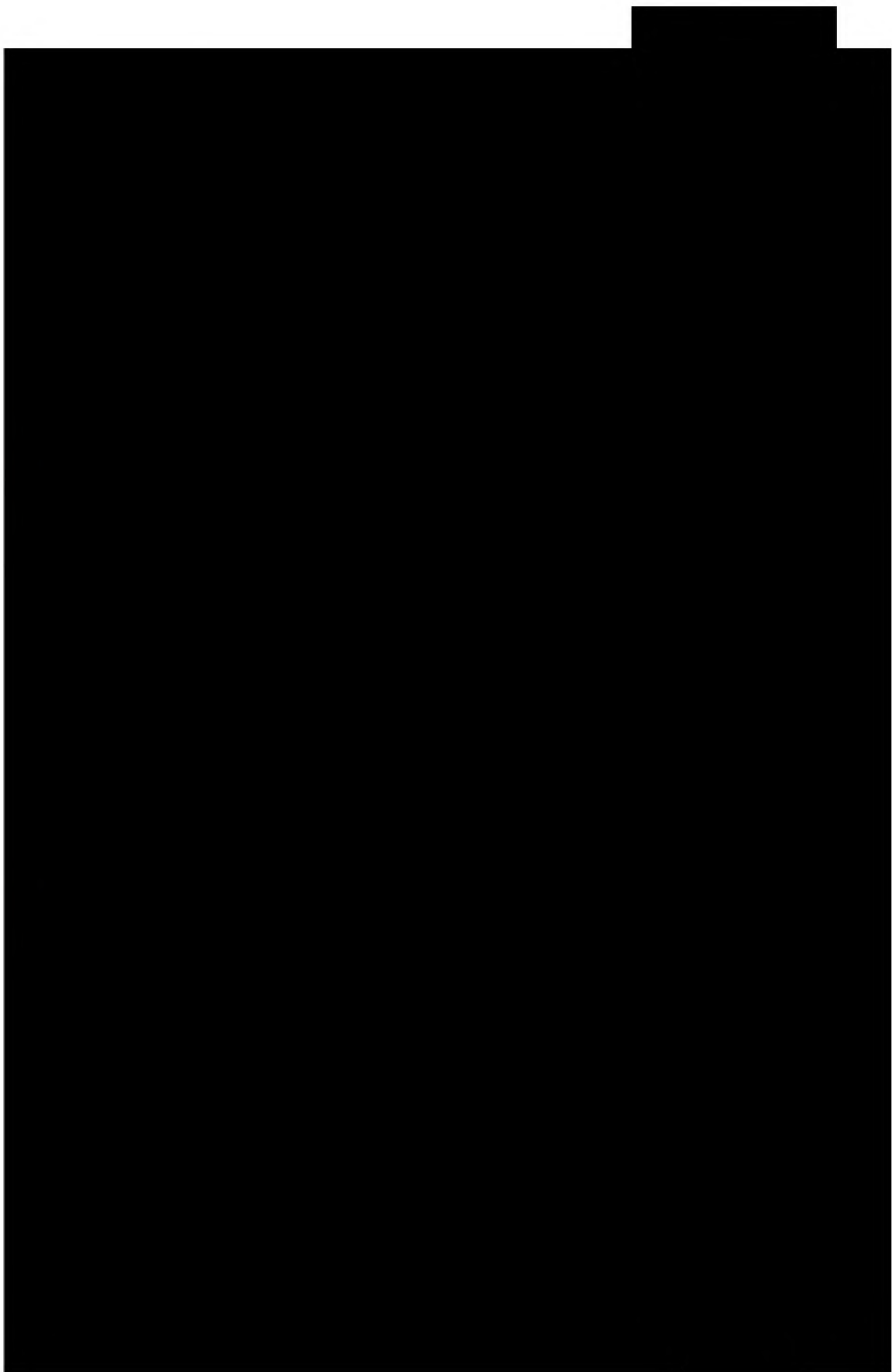
[REDACTED] I told him he would be okay as it [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] didn't say anything else about the murder. I said to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] He just shrugged his shoulders and said, "Ah well."





[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Statement made and signature witnessed

[REDACTED]

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.

[REDACTED]



Acknowledgement made and signature witnessed

