

STATEMENT

Name: Mr Cooper

STATES:

I make this statement under the belief that any information contained herein cannot be used against me in any criminal proceeding.

On 22 May 2007 I was asked by Detective Senior Constable Rowe of the Purana Taskforce about a red, Honda Civic belonging to any person who frequented The Grove Café, Coburg. In respect of this vehicle I can say the following.

Joe Ferola who is known as 'coffee shop Max' and who was a close friend of Tony Mokbel owned a red Honda Civic for several years. I would estimate the year of the car would have been mid to late 90's. He was called 'coffee shop Max' because he ran The Grove Café for some time prior to Joe Parisi taking over. I know that he later gave this vehicle to a person I know as 'Umba' who also hung around at The Grove Café. 'Umba' worked for Joe Parisi making coffee's for all the card players. He worked there for about a year.

Between the middle of 2004 and the start of 2005 I use to see Joe Ferola driving Tony Mokbel around in this vehicle. Ferola would drive Tony around on most days. I know it was during this time because I was hanging around The Grove Café a lot.

I was owed a lot of money by members of the Mokbel family including Tony. I would always ask Tony how he was going and he would tell me that he was 'battling'. He would say this so I would think he didn't have enough money to pay me what I was owed.

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