

WitF-200112.003

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> How are you going?

WITNESS F: Hello.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, how are you going? It's <sup>Richards-O</sup> how are ya?

WITNESS F: I've had better days .....

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, better than yours, more than likely.

WITNESS F: Yeah, well, that wouldn't be hard.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: It's - I just encountered, I don't even know - I  
can't even really talk to you 'cause, yeah, I know - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Probably not.

WITNESS F: Um -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Prob - probably not, I - I can only imagine, going  
from what your message - what it was like.

WITNESS F: Well, I - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, anyway did you - - -

WITNESS F: Look my - my position isn't resolved in terms of

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the final resolution of my work as an informer.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: Because nothing's - nothing's ever been done in terms of finalising it and unfortunately as a consequence of this morning, it may become the subject of some ugly correspondence or litigation down the track because as - unfortunately - what was - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - always the position of Victoria Police was that in the event - that there was a possibility of my position - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - or my role being disclosed - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - that that would be at all times steps would be taken to try and protect that.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Right.

WITNESS F: And today's a classic case of a gigantic cock-up.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, all right.

WITNESS F: So the - the result of it and, once again, not my fault.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep, yep, yep, yep, yep. I - I had no idea about whatever the agreement was - I - I - yeah. So that was the agree - part of the agreement, was it?

WITNESS F: Which agreement?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> The one you were just talking about.

WITNESS F: Well, are you talking about my settlement or my agreement?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> I have no - I have no idea, Nicola, about either or either or or - - -

WITNESS F: No, that's all right, well, it's, I mean, there's no point talking to you, no offence - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - to you, there's no point talking to you about it.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> No, no, no, that - that part of it probably not, like, as - I'm not privy to it, so I can't - - -

WITNESS F: No, no.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> - - - comment on it.

WITNESS F: No. And, look, it's a pretty simple position,  
which - which is - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - when you've - when you've finished giving  
evidence, we'll sort it out.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: And obviously they - they haven't come to an end.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: Because while one part of Victoria Police may not  
be talking to another part - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - and one part of it is talking to the state  
director of public prosecutions - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - the state director and I are in heated  
agreement and discussion about my - the statement I'm in  
the - in the process of finishing.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep, yep.

WITNESS F: With a - with a view to giving evidence against  
Dale so - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: Unfortunately some people are aware of certain  
things and some people aren't.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR And it makes it difficult for all three people.

WITNESS F: Oh, yeah, and I'm - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: It makes it more difficult for me - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: But, anyway.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah, well, obviously you've got another contact in  
relation to that, I would think - - -

WITNESS F: No, I don't.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR I would presume.

WITNESS F: No, I don't.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR All right.

WITNESS F: No, you're - no, you are it.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Oh, good, good, good. All right.

WITNESS F: I - I have as - as of a couple of weeks ago - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: Look, to put you in the picture - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: I was having very fruitful discussions with - with  
Taskforce Driver, with - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - Boris Buick and - and his offsider.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: And - to the extent where - I dunno, look, I - I -  
we were - I went in the - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah, yeah.

WITNESS F: We reached - reached a point where Boris had put a  
request in writing to his boss in relation to taking two  
separate statements.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: There was no issue with any of that from my point of view. I even offered to put in writing that no-one would be sued if no-one made any false promises to me.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And everyone's in heated agreement about that.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm 'hm.

WITNESS F: And I got a letter sent to me - sorry, given to me, which said, "You are no longer allowed to have contact with anyone from the taskforce at all."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Right.

WITNESS F: And the taskforce is not aware of what's going on with the DPP, that I can tell you - they're not aware of it. It's pretty ironic really, considering that they are the taskforce investigating, yet they've got no idea what's going on.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> They're not aware of what the DPP's doing?

WITNESS F: Absolutely not.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> All right.

WITNESS F: I've got that in - I've got that in writing in front of me, <sup>Richards-O</sup>

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: From the DPP, that is.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> How long ago was that thing with Boris?

WITNESS F: He sent me a message about late - it would've been  
November. I can't remember the exact date but - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep, yep, that's all right.

WITNESS F: Look, about, probably about 10 days after I got  
excused - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: Give or take two weeks after I got excused so, say,  
maybe the third week of November.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, all right.

WITNESS F: And he - he was - he just sent me a message  
apologising saying that he had been instructed by those  
above him that all contact would cease.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: And - but prior to that - prior to him and prior  
speaking to him, unbeknownst to police, I was dealing  
with the DPP, because I'd offered to do it before I even



got asked.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: And I did it in writing so no-one could ever say  
that it wasn't done in writing.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> And you're still dealing with them now, are you?

WITNESS F: Yep.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> All right.

WITNESS F: And one of the things I had mentioned to Boris was  
that I'm not in a position to know what - and I - and I  
don't - this was sent to him not with a view to him  
answering me.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: Obviously I don't know what investigators might  
wanna ask or not ask, 'cause they are the ones that know  
what's important and what's not.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And I can sit down and write a 50-page statement,  
but it might not include the things that are important,  
and it might brush over some things - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> That is.

WITNESS F: - - - that they want more detail of.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: And, so I was in court - happy to speak to  
          whomever, 'cause Boris said to me it wouldn't be him, it  
          would be specific people from within his taskforce - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - that had different aspects of criminal  
          activity they were looking at.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: And I had - I said I've got no issue with talking  
          to whoever, just - just put it in place and arrange it  
          and let's get it out of the way and do it.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yeah, just a final .....

WITNESS F: And that was what he was in the process of getting  
          approval for when he said to me that he was no longer  
          able to have any communication with me at all. And - and  
          it would - and I want you - I don't want you to think  
          that - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - I'm saying that in a critical way, even at

least - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Right.

WITNESS F: - - - at least to let me know that.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep.

WITNESS F: And unfortunately he wasn't in a position to say,  
"By the way, this is the person you should speak to."  
There was no handover, no nothing.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, right, right. I will make some sort of  
inquiry, as much as I can, about anyone that knows  
anything, what's going on.

WITNESS F: I don't think you'll find anybody, <sup>Richards-O</sup>

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Oh, well, I'll try, is all I can offer you.

WITNESS F: Oh, oh, look, but I understand that as a  
consequence of what's happened - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - there's some - there's some spastic - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - at the - I said I won't be insulting to  
spastic people because - - -

Richards-O  
MR .....

WITNESS F: - - - they're cleverer than the people that - who  
advise Victoria Police - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - on legal matters.

Richards-O  
MR | Yep.

WITNESS F: But those idiots at the VGSO has - have obviously  
given advice to force command - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - to be too scared. Run away from her because  
she might sue us again.

Richards-O  
MR | Yeah.

WITNESS F: So we'll just do nothing and we'll ignore her, and  
everything will go away.

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: But as you can well appreciate, when the chief  
commissioner gets - the new chief commissioner gets  
appointed and he says, "The first thing I wanna do and I  
guarantee the public I'll solve the Hodson murder."

Richards-O  
MR           Yeah.

WITNESS F:   And I'm the only person that - that can give  
                  evidence about it and yet no-one wants to talk to me.

Richards-O  
MR           Yeah.

WITNESS F:   It's an absurd position and, frankly, it's lucky  
                  that it hasn't become public.

Richards-O  
MR           It's only a matter of time, I would have thought,  
                  but anyway - - -

WITNESS F:   Well, I'm not - I'm not talking to the media.

Richards-O  
MR           Mm.

WITNESS F:   They're the ones that seem to - they ring me and  
                  they know things that - that can only have come from  
                  police.

Richards-O  
MR           Yeah.

WITNESS F:   And I catalogue them because unfortunately the  
                  other problem that's arisen is because of the handling of  
                  me.  Nobody's got any continuity.  And I want to know if  
                  - I mean, I mean I hear all sorts of things, I'm not  
                  gunna pick up the phone and - and ring some number - - -

Richards-O

MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   What for?

Richards-O

MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   You know, I mean, what for - what's the point?

Richards-O

MR           |   Yep. Well, yeah, I - I - I know what's happened in  
                  the past and obviously John was your contact point - - -

WITNESS F:   Yep.

Richards-O

MR           And he's not here so that's where I fall into - - -

WITNESS F:   I wasn't gunna talk to him anyway, he's - I mean,  
                  that bloke had no clue. And it - and I'm not being  
                  critical of him, it's not his fault, he didn't have a  
                  clue.

Richards-O

MR           Yep, yep, yep, we're - - -

WITNESS F:   I mean, he just - he just drew the short straw and  
                  they said here's a - here's a - here's a shit sandwich,  
                  you deal with it.

Richards-O

MR           Oh, yeah.

WITNESS F:   I don't - I mean, I've gotta be realistic and put  
                  it in these terms but - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - at the end of the day, it's - it's - it's an  
ironic situation to have a person who I say, and you  
might or might not agree and I don't care whether - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - you do or not, I say, I've been fucked over  
by Victoria Police - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - in many ways, but here I am still saying,  
"Here, let me make the statement."

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: Because at the end of the day, I can't get the  
monkey off my back until I - and I won't have a current  
serving police officer, who's senior in rank, perjuring  
himself in court in November - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - giving false evidence to a court room - - -

Richards-O  
MR Mm.

WITNESS F: And that - and - and he will enable Dale to get off

his ACC charges. I said, "Forget it. I - I - tell me where to go."

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yeah.

WITNESS F: Look, and even if Victoria Police either don't want to or can't facilitate any form of protection, I'll pay a bodyguard myself if I have to.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: But in the end it's not fair that it - that nothing gets resolved from my point of view because one of the very reasons why I agreed to make a statement in the first place was because if I didn't my name would be tarnished. Now look what's happened.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yep, yep. Yeah, well, it's gone full circle, hasn't it.

WITNESS F: Yeah, it has, it has. But I - but, I mean, fortunately, in a way, I'm still in the position of saying, "Well, I'm happy to help." But - but unfortunately for reasons best known to the chief commissioner's office - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - they have got the person who's willing to solve the crime, but nobody wants to speak to them.





<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: " - - - finalisation of our situation out, when you  
            have finished giving evidence."

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yeah. And - - -

WITNESS F: Really I'm - 'cause I'm - I've - I mean, if I could  
            say to you - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - I - if I knew myself I was definitely not  
            gunna be called - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - in either a - a murder trial, an ACC trial  
            or, God forbid, a coroner's inquiry - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - then I would know that's the end of it and I  
            could pursue the other unresolved matters that are  
            left - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - in abeyance. But, you know, four years  
            later nothing's resolved and nobody's talking to anyone.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR No.

WITNESS F: So what do we - is there something I can do to move this forward or get an answer one way or the other?

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah, absolutely. I'll speak to the people from Driver who are - you know, who needs to be spoken to, at least. And say whether or - you really want an answer on whether or not you're gonna be a witness at any of those things, don't you?

WITNESS F: I'd just like to know whether they would like - you know what, there's two aspects to it,

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: And I know that Boris agreed with this.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: One aspect is emptying my brain to you.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: Because, as you well appreciate, I could - I could provide a statement or statements - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - which ultimately you or somebody might decide not to use - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - in form as evidence - - -

Richards-O  
MR | Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - but there might be information in those  
statements - - -

Richards-O  
MR Yep, yep.

WITNESS F: - - - that helps you to find other things.

Richards-O  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: So what - what - what Boris and I had discussed was  
making - he said two statements for two different  
investigations.

Richards-O  
MR Yep, yep.

WITNESS F: And then with no - no promises, no - no  
inducements, no nothing in place, just make the  
statements then, if there's a "Well, yes, you would be a  
very valuable witness," then deal with the next step.

Richards-O  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: Without anybody being tied up with the same  
problems that arose from the stuff up of 2008/2009.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep, yeah, which were fair - I know about, yeah.

WITNESS F:   And I - I mean I 'm the one with the most to lose  
              so, I mean, as Boris agreed, he couldn't - you can't, as  
              an organisation, you can't lose from that process.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yeah.   And, look, from my point of view       I well,  
              as I think you know, where I'm from, and - - -

WITNESS F:   I .....

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           I - I think that - that was always our point of  
              view, as you as a priority, and I - and after it got  
              handed over - - -

WITNESS F:   And - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           - - - it probably was out of our decision making  
              process anyway.

WITNESS F:   Of course it was, it had turned to shit because as  
              I have repeatedly said to - - -

MR ROLLO:   Mm.

WITNESS F:   - - - countless people on countless occasions, I  
              must have - if I had a dollar for every time I've said

<sup>Sandy White-O</sup>  
              's name.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR |       Yeah.

WITNESS F: There wasn't a problem.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: Or there wasn't a problem that could have been dealt with while he was in charge.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yep.

WITNESS F: But the minute somebody handballed my responsibility to a bunch of other people, things went downhill from then.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah. And just, while we're on that point, which is totally irrelevant but something I need to pass on to you, is that condolences about your mother about eight months ago, I know it's very late.

WITNESS F: Yeah, a year - a year ago in two weeks.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah, but you've still been thought of, I - I -  
I - - -

WITNESS F: Uh'huh.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR Yeah. Whilst we're talking about that person and stuff, just thought I had been speaking to her about that so I just thought I'd let you know that they're still thinking of you.

WITNESS F: Yeah, well, while he's still dealing with  
prosecuting people that are only being prosecuted because  
of me - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: I mean, I'm well aware of that.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, yeah.

WITNESS F: And did he know about my fifteen operations?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yes.

WITNESS F: Um - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: Anyway, ironically - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm, mm.

WITNESS F: I haven't changed my position. I mean, he always  
regarded me as a very stubborn individual and I haven't  
changed, <sup>Richards-O</sup> But what - what Boris, and I understand  
he had discussed this with Doug Fryer.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And he - he - what had been - what I even said to  
Boris is, "If you want something in writing - - -"

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: " - - - to say that this is what we're agreeing to, as in no-one has to talk about MOUs, [REDACTED] I can sign a piece of paper saying no promises, inducements," blah blah.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: If that satisfies the idiots that I know are advising Vicpol - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: No problems.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: Let's just deal with this statement then go from there.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And he thought that was - well, and I'd say he thought it was a very good idea.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: It was - I - I mean that in terms of him - I'm talking about it from an investigative point of view.



MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep, yep, I understand. The best thing I can probably do for you is just get a - a more clear answer about whether they want your help or not, I suppose, is probably the biggest thing, yeah?

WITNESS F: Yeah. And if - if, look, if I'm - if I'm not going to - I can tell you this, <sup>Richards-O</sup>

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: If I know now and it's - and it's made crystal clear whether that be in writing or some other way - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - that nobody is ever gunna call me to give evidence - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - in any criminal prosecution or any inquest - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - then there's a number of things I wanna do to finish all this stuff off.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: A number of things. And in the meantime I can't do  
them - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Uh, yeah.

WITNESS F: I'm sorry, I - I can do them, but I'm reluctant to  
do them because if I'm gonna be a witness, I'd rather not  
put - I'd rather not put - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> I understand, I think you - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep. I will try and find out for you as much  
as I can do. I'll speak to the people that need to be  
spoken to. That whole being called, I - I would say that  
the only thing we - that - no-one can guarantee you is  
getting called by the coroner's court.

WITNESS F: Mm'hm.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> I wouldn't think that, you know, you'd be able to  
get anything of either positive or negative out of that.  
The other stuff, well, yeah, I - I can try and get for  
you to say yes, they will or no, they won't.

WITNESS F: No, well, I mean the coroner's - an inquest is a  
whole - another cup of tea - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - 'cause the coroner to try four witnesses.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> That's what I mean so that I can only get - - -

WITNESS F: But at the end - but at the end of the day, well, I mean that - that's another example of - of - of something that causes a disaster because, as an example, let's say there is an inquest or that it's inevitable that there would be one if there wasn't a criminal prosecution.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> You'd think so, yep.

WITNESS F: I would expect so, yes.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: Particularly in light of just the - the case we're talking about.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And if there was an inquest, I - I couldn't imagine a situation where I wouldn't be called by the coroner.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> No.

WITNESS F: And at the end of that, the coroner would be directing the DPP to - to do something which would involve me. So I mean I just can't - I was realistic enough to talk openly about all this in some detail with Boris.

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   And - in the - in anticipation of - of the whole  
                  thing not being over with any time soon.

Richards-O  
MR           Yeah, all right, yeah. Oh, look, I understand where  
                  you're coming from, absolutely. And in my position all I  
                  can do is try and get an answer for you really. And -  
                  and I - and if you're asking me for a time frame you know  
                  I'd never be - - -

WITNESS F:   No, no, no, no, no, no, not - not - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Oh, anyway, yeah, just - I don't wanna give any  
                  false hope or - or leave you or anything so - - -

WITNESS F:   No, no, no, no, no, no .....

Richards-O  
MR           I - I will ask though.

WITNESS F:   For what it's worth - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   I have been conversing with the  
                  DPP - - -

Richards-O  
MR           | Yep.

WITNESS F:   - - - in .....

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   About giving evidence - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   - - - and making statements - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   - - - for three months now.

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.   And you're almost finished?

WITNESS F:   Mm, not exactly.

Richards-O  
MR           No, right.

WITNESS F:   No, no, well, nothing's - nothing's finalised but,  
              look, from a director's point of view he's got a  
              difficulty because whilst he might be very keen to do  
              certain things - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Yeah.

WITNESS F:   He's got to rely on investigators - - -

Richards-O  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F:   And unfortunately the investigators aren't allowed

to talk to me.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah. More than likely from the point of view of looking after you, I would - in a lot of respects we would never have wanted you to give evidence.

WITNESS F: I know, I know. And - and I think the reality is that had it not been - had it not been a corrupt police officer murdering people then - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - that probably would have happened.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, yeah.

WITNESS F: But at the end of the day, you know, all the things that I thought I - I would - all the - all the things that I had hoped and expected not to lose as a consequence of - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - agreeing to give evidence as opposed to not giving evidence - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: I've lost now.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: And some of them are - you know some of them are  
irretrievable.

Richards-O  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: There's no way I can ever return to practise, I'm  
always looking over my shoulder. I'm gunna give you a  
list of 60 different things.

Richards-O  
MR            Yeah.

WITNESS F: And in - in the knowledge that that's the position  
I'm - I'm, you know, my position hasn't changed.

Richards-O  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: And I - and I - I was really aggravated beyond all  
belief to know that there's a serving police officer  
who's still obviously in a position to - sorry, two  
things.

Richards-O  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: He's obviously still very supportive of Paul Dale.

Richards-O  
MR            Yep.

WITNESS F: That was clear from his evidence.

Richards-O  
MR            4m'hm.

WITNESS F: And he's therefore in a position of power and authority where I'm concerned because he's a police officer and it shouldn't be that Dale's got anybody who's a current serving officer who's got any - any sway at all.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, I don't know the one you're talking about  
so - - -

WITNESS F: Oh, let alone - let alone the fact that he could get us - get up in the witness box and give totally perjured evidence. Isn't it - it's unfortunate that when I made my statement the investigators back then at Petra never asked for any information about him.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm, yeah, I don't know the one you're talking about.

WITNESS F: Well, it doesn't matter, Boris knows all about it.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, all right, yeah. Frustrated, absolutely, you -  
you obviously are.

WITNESS F: Oh, well, it's not - mate, look, I'm not near as sick as I was a year ago.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> It'd be hard, mm.

WITNESS F: No, I had the last - I had the last hole in my leg - - -



MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - operated on the [REDACTED] and that -  
that came about from the stress of you're giving  
evidence, you're not giving evidence, you are, you're  
not.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: The informant ..... coming out - yes, it is -  
no, it's not - no-one could give me an answer for nine  
months so - be nice to know what's going on.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> All I can do is try for you, Nicola. I will - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> I will try, Nic, it's - yeah, I will - I will get  
back to you over - and as I say, I'll - when I actually  
find out something I'll give you a call. It's what I  
will definitely guarantee.

WITNESS F: If you could.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And if - if - I suppose you could clarify one other  
<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
thing, and it is - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And it - and that is if there is some issue in  
relation to the Dale prosecution - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - am I to speak to you or is there somebody  
else that I'm supposed to be talking to?

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MI           | I'm - as I say, I don't know - - -

WITNESS F: No, but you're like me, you assume that there would  
be someone from an actual - from - investigators - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           I did assume - I did assume, but as we know we  
shouldn't assume anything.

WITNESS F: I know.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           But - it - and - I - I put it, yeah - gonna make  
another presumption it'd probably be quite stupid - but  
just contact me - - -

WITNESS F: No ..... look, I'll tell you - you'd tell me  
if you did agree with this, but - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - one of the reasons why I think that it's  
inappropriate that I should be saying anything to you or  
anyone from your office - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - about anything to do with Dale full  
stop - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - is from the simple point of view that once  
again if I - if I end up giving evidence at any  
hearing - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - including an inquest - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - this is - and say for example I had a query  
about something to do with Dale's upcoming ACC charge,  
'cause he's got a direction's hearing - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - in three weeks' time. If I was - if - if  
Victoria Police's attitude is, "Well, <sup>Richards-O</sup> | is the contact  
person."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: Then the problem for you and your office is, I

speak to you, you - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yeah.

WITNESS F:   - - - have to take a note of it, you convey it to  
              someone, there's - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yep.

WITNESS F:   - - - a note somewhere.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yep.

WITNESS F:   And you convey it to some investigator from Driver  
              and there's - that begins the whole problem of my  
              relationship I will - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yep, the discovery process.

WITNESS F:   Exactly.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yeah.

WITNESS F:   Exactly. And it should be somebody from Driver -  
              and I mean, they need to record it like you have to - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yep.

WITNESS F:   Let them - let them tape record me, I don't care.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> |       Yeah.

WITNESS F: Add it to the - add it to the 2000 hours you've  
already got, I don't care.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Gee whiz, yeah, yep, and - right, I'll find out, you  
know, I - I - I presume that I am the contact person at  
the moment and - and I - - -

WITNESS F: Isn't - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> And I - - -

WITNESS F: Common - common sense and logic would suggest  
that if there be anything in relation to Dale or - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup>                      Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - any other police officer who, for example,  
had perjured himself - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - that it shouldn't be conveyed to you.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> You would think so, but at the moment as far as - as  
I say, I haven't seen the - whatever there is in  
agreement or a protocol or whatever else was put in  
place, to start with - - -

WITNESS F: Oh, look, there'll be - it'll be some - it'll be  
one of those stupid idiots from the VGSO which but for

them - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: - - - no writ would have ever been issued in the first place.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: So it's entirely their fault.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep, yep, so I'm stuck with that at the moment, and, you know, even if I knew more, I couldn't tell you, but - 'cause that's all I do know. I know that you've gotta contact me, and I'll do what I can to help you, Nic, so - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah, that's all right, I mean, I - I - I really actually felt sorry Ken Leay when he said that his - in his top five things he was gunna achieve - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - as chief commissioner, the Hodson murder was one. I thought, "Yeah, good luck with that, 'cause with no-one talking to me, it's not gunna happen."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, yeah. I - I - the - as I - as I say, the only thing that I can speak of from this - my side of the - the fence is that I personally wouldn't want you up there, I - I don't think, I - I, you know. It's been

talked about a lot, a lot of time, over a long period of time, as you know, and looking after you is probably our priority from my point of view rather from the investigative point of view.

WITNESS F: I know that, but I - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - I got disclosed as an informer by the Crown prosecutor, who appeared on behalf of Victoria Police.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: I was repeatedly called that. I've been called - labelled it in the media.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: Every criminal I've ever acted for thinks that I was.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: And certain others - I mean, then - almost none of them will - that will speak to me any more. Some they wanna murder me, and will always wanna do that. What difference does it make now?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: It's a bit late for that.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: The "don't worry, we'll make sure you get a suppression order, your name will never come out" - well, too bad - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: - - - they lost that application, didn't bother to go to the Supreme Court and get one there. I mean, how - what - what else is there to - what is there that could be lost?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup>            Yeah. I suppose from our point of view is - is the confirmation.

WITNESS F: Well, I - in some ways, I mean, as <sup>Sandy White-O</sup> used to say to me - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup>            Mm.

WITNESS F: It's not the confirmation that's the problem because the assumption gets made, and some people will act on the assumption.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup>            More people would act - would act on affirmation than assumption, I would - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah, and all I'd say is that - that - that unless



specifics came out, which they never would - - -

Richards-O  
MR Correct.

WITNESS F: - - - because for a number of reasons - - -

Richards-O  
MR Correct.

WITNESS F: - - - what difference does it make?

Richards-O  
MR That - that's probably the way you - I don't know  
the - - -

WITNESS F: Well, take a look at it from my point of view.  
What difference could it make?

Richards-O  
MR Yep. I- I think, yeah - - -

WITNESS F: I had to - I had to spend a lot of time and money  
with a psychologist - - -

Richards-O  
MR | Mm.

WITNESS F: Trying to get my head around the significant  
changes to my life and what it means for the rest of my  
life in a - in a way of - to try and - to try and not get  
sicker and sicker from the stress of the worrying about  
it.

Richards-O  
MR Yeah.

WITNESS F: Because, as you'd appreciate, it's the fear of the possibility, which is - which is the biggest source of - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - stress.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: If - if you can work out a way of managing that stress or having certainty and not having or managing those fears and it's been rather difficult.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: And all I'd say, having been labelled an informer and - I mean, well, one point about that document that got released by the - by those idiots at the VGSO that head - that was headed "witness expenses".

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Mm.

WITNESS F: And any - gosh, if anyone ever asked me questions about that. There was stuff left in that that was my 38/38 stuff.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yeah, yeah, I know.

WITNESS F: Which, I - you know, at some point someone will ask about that stuff.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: Some - and all those things, all I'm saying is look at it from the point of view of what - what - what was - what had always been protected and managed and - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: And I - and managed in such a way that I could function as well because I had reassurance and trust that nothing was gonna happen.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yep.

WITNESS F: All that went out the window in January 2009 and nothing's changed since.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah. No, I hear you loud and clear.

WITNESS F: And - and it's - it's unfair on your office now, frankly.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Mm.

WITNESS F: Because some people get me, stuff it all up, cause immeasurable damage that can never be fixed and then say, "Oh, by the way, <sup>Richards-O</sup> | here, have her back."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Y-

WITNESS F: "Your problem again."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, yep, totally - yes, mm'hm, what can I say?

WITNESS F: I expect to be free to be critical of everybody almost. I know that you can't say certain things.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> I definitely can't.

WITNESS F: I know.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: And especially - especially for the tape recording, I know, <sup>Richards-O</sup> anyway.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Come on, you shouldn't - surely not taping everyone now, are ya?

WITNESS F: I don't tape anybody because if you tape people, then you end up with - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - with a whole big gigantic warehouse of recordings, in my case. And what's the point?

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> Yeah, true.

WITNESS F: But certain police officers think they're really clever when they meet you and they're by themselves and

they don't take a single note and they think that you don't - don't assume that they're recording you.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yeah, yes, well, we've all been around a while so yes.

WITNESS F: Yeah. So I - I am pleased to say - - -

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            | Mm.

WITNESS F: - - - the only recording I ever made was the Dale one or the only one I'm ever prepared to admit to was the Dale one. And look at the mess that's caused.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            (ep, all right, mm.

WITNESS F: And, like, as I said - I've said a number of times since, it's not my fault that completely unsolicited by me, the man basically confesses to a double murder.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            Yeah, yeah.

WITNESS F: Which he - which I believe he did in not too many words.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR            | Yeah, yeah. All right, what I'll do for you is I'll try and find out, that's the most important thing I can do for you.

WITNESS F: Well, look, if you can, you can.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep. If I can't, I'll still tell ya what I find out.

WITNESS F: Yeah, and, look, it may be - look, feel free to speak to Boris, confirm - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: - - - what you need to confirm. Make sure what I've told you is what he well say is, "Yeah, that's right, that's right, that's right."

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: He might be able to say who's given some directive from high above.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | Yep.

WITNESS F: Because he - he certainly wasn't happy with the position that he was told he had to be in and - and at least somebody should be aware that the DPP has a particular view which is - which is at least let's give information.

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | ██████████ All right, I will, I will do that.

WITNESS F: All right, well - - -

MR <sup>Richards-O</sup> | All right, Nic.

WITNESS F: Speak to you next week some time, <sup>Richards-O</sup> perhaps.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Yep, no worries, I will get back to you.

WITNESS F: O.K.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Thank you.

WITNESS F: Thanks very much.

<sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           Bye.

WITNESS F: See ya.

<sup>Richards-O</sup> | <sup>Richards-O</sup>  
MR           | Time's 4.47 pm on the 20th of January 2012.  
<sup>Richards-O</sup>           |           talking with Witness F. I'll deactivate the  
                  |           device.

END OF RECORDING