

TOULERN VALE

Mr Cooper

States:-

1. My full name is ^{Mr Cooper} I am [REDACTED] years of age.
2. I make this statement in the belief that the information I provide to the police cannot be used against me in any future court proceedings.
3. In April 2003 I was remanded in custody after the Rye lab. Whilst in gaol I continued to have telephone contact with Tony Mokbel. I was able to use Jason Elliott an inmate at ^{P11} [REDACTED] who was a good friend of Tony's. Jason would ring Tony who would ask to speak to me. Tony was eager to get me out on bail. He kept promising to get me out on bail. Late in 2003 Tony told me that I had to apply for bail as two policemen had been implicated in wrong doings which were relevant to my brief. I applied for and was granted bail on Friday 19 December 2003.
4. I was led to believe that Tony would pick up the costs for my solicitor and the barrister. This was not the case as later down the track I had numerous arguments with Tony over the fact the QC had not been paid for three months and was now becoming very annoyed. The fee for this one day was \$7,500.00 and I was being harassed for the money. I told my defence team that Tony had told me he was going to pay but they denied any knowledge of this. Tony made it clear to me that I had received a large amount of money from him for my role in manufacturing amphetamines and that I would have to pay the legal fees. I eventually paid them myself from money I received from Tony Mokbel for the Gisborne job as described below.
5. Once on bail I was now subservient to Tony Mokbel. A few days after my release from custody I was pressured by Tony to attend a clandestine laboratory and to make more amphetamine.

Mr Cooper

INITIAL AGREEMENT

6. I met Tony Mokbel sometime around 6 pm on Sunday 21 December 2003 at Belfiora Restaurant in Brunswick, where we had a discussion. Tony and I struck a deal that payment for this exercise was to be a large amount of cash (\$250,000.00) in relation to a 10 litre cook of P2P as well as ongoing funds of \$80,000.00 a week if I was to divulge my knowledge to two persons at that clandestine laboratory that were to assist me. I was given a position where I would show these people how to cook this one time and sit back and enjoy the proceeds every time thereafter.

7. I was to meet Tony the next morning at the coffee shop in Coonens Road in Pascoe Vale. I had with me a personal backpack containing a change of clothes and toiletries etc, some personal tools such as a Stanley knife, slide cutters and a black marker.

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8. The following morning on Monday 22 December 2003 I met Tony at the coffee shop where he drove me to Diggers Rest Pub car park. Tony drove me to the Diggers Rest car park. Whilst travelling to this location Tony told me that I owed him big time as he had paid a bribe to magistrate [REDACTED], the sum of \$20,000.00, which assured my bail. He also told me that he picked up all solicitor fees but as I have discussed above I later learned that this was untrue. At this point I half heartedly believed Tony as no assistance was given to me for my time in custody however I didn't have much of a choice. I was then placed in the boot of a red coupe with a sleeping bag thrown over me. The car was either a [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. It was a late model, late 90's, two door hatch. The driver was [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] years, by the name of '[REDACTED]'. He looked like [REDACTED] He [REDACTED] and had a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] He looked like [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] on the [REDACTED] He had [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was dressed in [REDACTED] He looked run down.

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9. [REDACTED] spoke to Tony at the car park. Tony introduced us. He told [REDACTED] to look after me and get me what I needed. He said to [REDACTED], 'You know what to do when you are finished.' By that he meant that [REDACTED] was to contact Tony when the cook was finished and the gear had to be returned to Tony. The sleeping bag was red in colour. It was zipped out totally to look like a blanket. It was shiny red material. They put me in the boot so that no one could see me and that I couldn't see where I was going. I believed that it was a case where [REDACTED] didn't want me to know where his property was and that it was going to be only the one time and other manufacturing attempts would have gone on after my absence. It was in their interests not to divulge to me where their place was.
10. I was taken to a destination which took approximately 10 to 20 minutes by vehicle which I believed to be in the [REDACTED] area. We headed out of Melbourne. We took side streets, it wasn't the freeway. It was long stretches of road though. Upon arrival to the [REDACTED] property I stuck my head out and noticed a huge barn-style shed which was silver in colour. It was corrugated iron. To the left of the shed was a huge white federation style home. This was a timber home which looked relatively new. I would definitely recognise that house again.
11. The house and barn were about 200 metres up a gravel driveway. There was a standard wire mesh farm gate at the entrance to the property which had a chain and a hook. The house was about 40 metres from the shed. From the driveway looking at the shed the house is to the left of the shed on an angle.
12. A large sliding door was pulled open and [REDACTED] proceeded to drive the car into the shed. He then closed the sliding door and locked the shed from the inside of the shed. There was no way out now. He indicated to me that the trust between us was very minimal.
13. I noticed quite a bit of glassware that might have been used in an attempt to cook methamphetamine. The glassware was putrid and dirty. It had not been washed

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or stored properly. This troubled me as I can not work with contaminated products. I was also annoyed with the fact that the whole clan lab was positioned in a barn style shed with crushed rock as flooring on which to work on. It was a blue metal rock. This made things totally impossible, should a spill occur to retrieve anything from the blue metal rock. Also, the equipment used to cradle vessels were pathetic. I then had to create some way to support the vessels using a ladder laid horizontally over two chairs and sitting glassware inside the squares.

14. All of the chemicals were already there. There was ketone, methylamine, acetone, methanol, caustic soda and mercury chloride. [REDACTED] told me that the chemicals were owned by both Tony Mokbel and Carl Williams.
15. [REDACTED] told me that another cook was sent to them months prior and they had numerous failed attempts. It was supposedly a friend of Carl Williams. I wasn't given that persons name. I know that Tony was very distressed by even speaking about this person as it cost them vast amounts of lost income.
16. I also made [REDACTED] source some 44 gallon drums in which I filled ¾ full of tank water and placed it on a large burner to heat the water. This was then used to wash the glassware with dishwashing detergent in order to clean it sufficiently for a large cook.
17. Another person [REDACTED] who I was led to believe [REDACTED] helped in the process of helping me prepare certain mixtures in the aid of manufacturing amphetamine. [REDACTED] spent most of his time preparing aluminium balls which we used in major reactions. [REDACTED] prepared various solutions of caustic and methylamine in alcohol while I constructed a makeshift frame to support a motor to turn a paddle which was used in the major reaction in a 20 litre vessel in a wok.
18. [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] He stood about [REDACTED], he was [REDACTED] [REDACTED] which was fairly short. He was [REDACTED] decent, [REDACTED] very [REDACTED]

He almost looked like [REDACTED] He had [REDACTED] and was fairly well spoken. He had [REDACTED] and quite [REDACTED]. I would recognise both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] again.

19. [REDACTED] drove an older model [REDACTED] beige in colour, with the [REDACTED] on the tailgate. It had a black bull-bar. It also had a faded black torn-cover. It had a black roll bar in the back. It had a very filthy and worn interior. This was a two door.
20. He arrived shortly after my arrival with [REDACTED] about two hours later. He arrived in that car.
21. The usual process in manufacturing were applied by myself with the attention taken by the two men watching me. From time to time they would ask me what I was doing and why. To my own knowledge I felt that these two men were far from capable to be able to produce amphetamine without my supervision as I would have to ask them time and time again to do the same things which they had not understood the first time.
22. To support the glassware the duo condenser and the drop-in funnel and the 20 litre vessel, I placed an old school desk on a table, latching a motor to the top of the desk and using the school desk as a frame to cradle the duo condenser and 20 litre vessel. This was crude but effective way to complete the major reactions.
23. The school desk was fake laminex wood, like fake wood-grain. They had lots of them in their shed, about 10 of them. I ripped the top off one for the frame I constructed.
24. The shed was approximately 40 meters long by 10 meters wide. The sliding door was on the short side and was suspended by rollers on the top. This would slide from right to left. There were no windows but there were clear sheets of plastic

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on the roof. The shed was attached to a guest house, bungalow type, which had a mezzanine floor with a bedroom on top. It also had a bathroom and another bedroom downstairs. This was not to be used for the manufacturing process as it was only a place for sleep. It had a kitchen. The flooring in the bungalow was of black slate. It had aluminium windows and a large aluminium sliding door in the living area and I noticed through the kitchen window a large building which looked like some sort of hospital in the far distance. When I asked [REDACTED] what that building was, he was reluctant to answer me. It was all rural. There were no other houses around, just this large building in the distance.

25. Inside the shed I noticed about 500 hay bales. There were various timber benches that were up against the tin with heaps of junk piled on them. There were rusted chains, shackles and various old tins of paint. There were large amounts of dust on every item in the shed, pieces of plastic, there was a tractor lawnmower and farming equipment.
26. [REDACTED] stayed with me the whole time. Because of my absence from manufacturing due to the reason being my imprisonment for nine months, I was as fit as I had ever been, compounded with the nervousness of being on bail for such a short time as well as the disgust I had with my surroundings. This enabled me to work as hard as I had ever worked before because of the fear instilled in me I managed to turn 10 litres of ketone into methamphetamine in less than 30 hours.
27. During the vacuum filtration a process used in taking the crystals out of the solvents the crystal is then placed on large sheets of butcher paper in order to dry the smell of acetone and minute powder particles of methamphetamine in the air can have different effects on different people. I am immune to most of this as I have grown accustomed to these reactions. However [REDACTED] suffered from [REDACTED] and had [REDACTED] at this time. I placed [REDACTED] and cleared [REDACTED] to ensure that he would [REDACTED] I was overwhelmed with

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more fear that he would [REDACTED] if he wasn't attended to [REDACTED]. I did my best in completing my task and watching over him at the same time.

28. Within three hours [REDACTED] I had come to the end of the manufacture procedures and he was in better shape at this point. I carried him to the barn section where I laid him on the hay bales away from the smells of acetone and amphetamine dust particles, thinking that this was what [REDACTED]
29. I made a total of 13 kilograms of finished product which equated to approximately 30 pounds. I added caffeine and turned this into a total of approximately 36 pound bags. Six of these bags I placed in my backpack. The other 30 bags I placed in a sports bag [REDACTED] had given me.
30. Buy this time after the completion of manufacturing [REDACTED] had come good and was in a fairly coherent state, though not in a position to drive a vehicle. I told him I wanted to leave and I was taking his car. He then told me that he needed [REDACTED] and he was going into the house to get it. I got Tony's number from [REDACTED] and I told him that I would go see Tony right away, hand over the product and he could find a way of getting his vehicle back to him as I felt I had fulfilled my obligations.
31. I asked [REDACTED] if he would be alright and if he had someone who could watch over him as I was frightened that [REDACTED] might occur in my absence. He told me [REDACTED] was inside the house and that he would be okay. That was the last I saw of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I never saw [REDACTED]
32. I drove the [REDACTED] back myself. On leaving the premises I could not identify street signs however I do remember driving past a strip of shops with rural equipment and a General Store. [REDACTED] property was on a narrow asphalt road. This road took me to the Diggers Rest Train Station so to my knowledge this property was between Diggers Rest and [REDACTED] If given to opportunity to

back-track from Diggers Rest Train Station, I'm sure I could locate the property from the position of the house and barn from the entrance to the property.

33. At the Diggers Rest Train Station I knew that I was moments from the Calder Freeway. Having taken the Calder Freeway, I took Western Ring Road and then took the Edgar's Road turnoff. I then drove the car to the Excelsior Hotel in Thomastown and parked the car with the product inside in the car park. I went in to the pokies venue where I used the phone there to call the mobile number I had gotten off [REDACTED]. I spoke to Tony Mokbel and told him about the situation that had occurred and that I was at Thomastown. I told him that everything was okay and that I needed to see him or someone to hand over the product and the car. He told me he would be there in an hour and to sit tight and wait. I did this but playing the pokies and having a drink. This was now approximately 10 o'clock in the morning. Having left the property it was still quite dark so I assume I had left the property at about 5.30 in the morning. I remember taking a short nap in the car at the Excelsior Pub as I was exhausted.
34. Within an hour of calling Tony he arrived at the pub with another gentleman whom I had never met before. We spoke in the car park as we walked around and I told of the things that had occurred. He couldn't help but start laughing. I told him it wasn't funny at the time and I really hope that [REDACTED] was okay. He assured me [REDACTED] was okay as he just spoken to him on the phone. The other gentleman took the sports bag containing the product and the car and left me with Tony and the car he had come in. I don't know who the other guy was. I would know him if I saw him again. I believed he was one of Tony's helpers. He wasn't well dressed. He was of Middle Eastern background as they spoke in Arabic together. He must have been 30 years old, thin build, short dark hair, with a dark complexion and very heavy facial hair.
35. The things he discussed with Tony in Arabic were that he was taking the car back to his house and he would wait for Tony there. He asked Tony if there was

anything he wanted him to do to the product in Tony's absence. Tony responded in Arabic, 'Don't touch nothing as you will stuff it up. Just do as I say and wait for me.' I could understand the whole conversation which made me believe Tony hadn't told him that I come from the same background, therefore it was to my knowledge the other male was nothing more than a helper.

36. He drove off in the [REDACTED] leaving me with Tony and his car that he came in. Tony's car was a black late model coloured Skyline GTR super sports. He drove me back to Gilbert Road 7-11 which was within walking distance to [REDACTED] place at [REDACTED], Reservoir. I had my backpack with me at this time. I was very nervous on arrival as I didn't know what to say to [REDACTED] about my absence for 2 days. She wasn't home she was at work. [REDACTED] Family Member at the time was there. She asked me where I had been and I told her, 'Now that's a silly question. Please don't ask me again.' She said she was worried that I might have been killed or something like that as she couldn't contact me. She had rung the Mokbels in my absence but they all responded surprised and said they didn't know where I was. She covered for me by telling [REDACTED] that I was in the presence of my legal team, and finalising my bail conditions. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] believed her.
37. I was reporting on bail three days a week at Reservoir Police Station between 6 am and 9 pm. I had to report Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. It was Wednesday 24 December 2003 at lunchtime that I returned to [REDACTED] house. I remember it was the days before Christmas. I had not missed reporting on bail as I had only been away since Monday. I had reported on the Monday 22 December in the early morning. I had a curfew where I had to be home between 10 pm and 6 am or otherwise in the presence of [REDACTED].
38. I was meant to get an initial payment of \$250,000.00 for my services at the Gisborne clandestine laboratory and an ongoing payment of \$80,000.00 per week for the information I divulged on the manufacturing process to [REDACTED]. However I

received \$110,000.00 in dribs and drabs from Tony at various places including The Grove Café, Belfiora Restaurant or his mother place. I received the payments in various amounts such as \$10,000.00, \$5,000.00 and \$15,000.00 lots. At one meeting I had with Tony at Belfiora restaurant approximately two weeks after I gave him the drugs, I told Tony I needed some money. He told me that he had recently supplied to some people in Sydney. He said he was going away to Queensland on holidays and that he would get the money to Milad who would then get the money to me. We discussed he would get me about \$70,000.00. About three days later ^{Family Member} [REDACTED] gets a telephone call from Milad's wife Renate, asking her to come around for coffee. I came home that day and I received a package from [REDACTED]. This package contained \$34,000.00. [REDACTED] told me that Renate had given her the package and she stated that [REDACTED] had given her the package for her to give to [REDACTED] to pass on to me. [REDACTED] and Renata had [REDACTED] I later discussed with [REDACTED] what happened to the balance of the money, I was supposed to receive \$70,000.00. [REDACTED] replied that he had been given \$68,000.00 but had to keep \$34,000.00 himself because his butcher shop was struggling.

ARGUMENTS RE MONEY

39. In total I received the amount of \$110,000.00 over a period of about 4 months. There were constant arguments and discussions between me and Tony over funds and failed attempts by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] where he tried holding me responsible for their negligence.

PROVISION WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS

40. At one stage about three months after the time I was in the laboratory at Gisborne, Tony asked me to go back and give [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] a refresher course. I insisted this was not possible as I had not received the full amount for the first time I had been out there. Tony explained to me that we were in a catch 22 situation without them knowing how, how could he be in a position to pay me if nothing was being produced. I assisted him in ways of handwritten correspondence. I wrote instructions on A4 printing paper. I drew diagrams and written text on where I felt they were losing the plot. This was done a minimum of 4 times, maybe 5. It

seemed to have a positive effect although I believe [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]^{PII} motivation and attitude to work was fairly laid back. They weren't pressured and seemed to have all the time in the world unlike myself who never experience that luxury.

41. Once again I felt betrayed and used knowing very well that plans were never going to be as expected.
42. I have never seen [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]^{PII} since. I believe that they are no longer in the picture as even Tony was frustrated with their laziness. I do believe at one stage Tony himself and Mark Lanteri went in to the [REDACTED]^{PII} laboratory and taught themselves with the help of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]^{PII} and the literature I had provided, hence making Mark Lanteri [REDACTED]. This was quite evident to me because of the change of demeanour in Lanteri's attitude and his head swelling. Also the increasing amount of assets Lanteri was starting to acquire, such as motor bikes, car and expensive clothes. On numerous occasions he would also ask me some questions regarding the manufacturing process which I refused to give him specifying to him, [REDACTED] and did not need to learn from me.
43. I later sold the 6 pounds of amphetamine to Horty for \$32,000.00 a pound. I only charged him for 5 so he wouldn't tell either Milad or Tony about this transaction.

Mr Cooper

Mr Cooper

Statement taken and
Me this 6 day o

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Dale Flynn
Detective Sergeant 26168

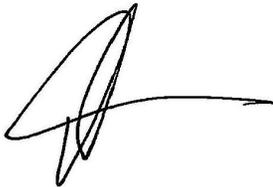
I hereby acknowledge that this statement is true and correct and I make it in the belief that a person making a false statement in the circumstances is liable to the penalties of perjury.

Mr Cooper

Mr Cooper

Acknowledgement
By me this 6

Witnessed
at Melbourne.



Dale Flynn
Detective Sergeant 26168