



NSW POLICE FORCE

P190A

Version 4.3 (01/2014)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of:	SF GLENROE
Place:	SCC Sex Crimes Squad
Date:	17 December 2015

Name:	Brian LUCAS
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STATES:

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything that I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 63 years of age.
3. I entered the seminary at St Columba's College Springwood in early 1975 and was ordained a priest on the 18th August 1980. In 1979, prior to being ordained, I was a Deacon at St Therese Catholic Church Mascot. Upon being ordained I was posted to Our Lady of Mt Carmel Mount Pritchard as an assistant priest from 1980 to 1985.
4. In 1985 I was the assistant priest at St Michael's Parish Lane Cove where I remained until 1987 when I was transferred to the assistant priest position at St Mary's Cathedral which I held until 1990. In 1990 I became the Archdiocesan Secretary and Financial Administrator a position I held for the next 12 years. In 2002 I became the General Secretary for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and just recently was appointed the National Director of Catholic Mission, a position I am currently taking up.
5. When I first entered the seminary at St Columba's College Springwood I was introduced to John FARRELL who was a year above me at the time. I recall studying together at the seminary for some years although John FARRELL left at one stage although I do not recall why this was the case. I recall attending a family celebration in Armidale for John I believe it may have been his 21st birthday and I also attended his ordination in Armidale. During my time in

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the church I would have socialised with John FARRELL from time to time at various events when he visited Sydney however have not had any significant dealings with him since 1993. It is possible since this time that our paths have crossed at some event however I don't recall any.

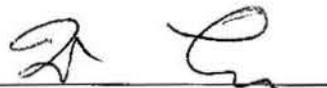
6. In 1987 I addressed the plenary meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishop Conference (ACBC) in company with Father John USHER on the matter of Child Sexual Abuse. Subsequently both Fr USHER and I made a further presentation to the ACBC plenary meeting in April 1988. I was a member of the Committee established by the ACBC until 1999.
7. Part of the protocol that was developed and which by 1996 came to be known as 'Towards Healing' required the nomination of people to a resource group in each Province. I was a member of the Resource group for the Province of Sydney until the mid 1990's when the NSW Bishops employed a person, Mr John DAVOREN, to manage the Professional Standards Office.
8. I have been asked by D/S/C COLEMAN regarding what was meant by a Province. In Church law Dioceses are grouped to form a Province. In Australia the Dioceses within each state are a separate Province named after the State Capital.
9. I recall having received a phone call from John FARRELL prior to a hearing at Narrabri where FARRELL had been charged with the sexual assault of a young boy. I remember that FARRELL strenuously protested his innocence and that at the trial FARRELL was represented by well known Queens Counsel Chester PORTER and the case was dismissed by the magistrate. I am not aware directly as to how FARRELL'S defence was funded however I have since a document titled, "Points For Discussion (paragraph 5.5)" where notation was made of FARRELL repaying some of the previous costs expended in the legal process so I believe that the Diocese of Armidale may have either funded or lent FARRELL the money to pay for his defence.
10. I have been asked by D/S/C COLEMAN about a document on Bishops House letterhead beginning "Brian Lucas 15/4/92" on which there are hand written notes presumably made by Bishop MANNING regarding conversations he and I had. I do not recall those conversations directly however we spoke often so I am sure that the notes are reflective of that.

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ANNEXURE A: HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENT TITLED "Brian Lucas 15/4/92"

11. At some time in 1992 I met with a young woman who had made a complaint about John FARRELL'S behaviour towards her at a time when she was a student at REDACTED REDACTED at the REDACTED. I had two meetings with the young woman and at the second meeting the young woman gave me a document outlining her concerns which I sent to Bishop MANNING. I believe around the same time Bishop MANNING had received complaints about FARRELL using inappropriate and sexualised language to a group of altar servers at Merrylands Parish.

ANNEXURE B: DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO MY SECOND MEETING WITH REDACTED INCLUDING HER DEPOSITION^{CPS}

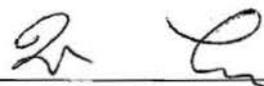
12. I was asked by D/S/C COLEMAN regarding a handwritten document on Bishops House letterhead titled, "6/6/92 – Lucas". I believe that this was notes taken as a result of a conversation I had with Bishop MANNING regarding my second meeting with REDACTED^{CPS} at which she had handed me a deposition of her complaint against FARRELL. As a result of that meeting I typed a document which begins "Supplementary material from interview with REDACTED^{CPS}". All this information I would have forwarded to Bishop MANNING.

ANNEXURE C: HANDWRITTEN NOTES MADE BY BISHOP MANNING REGARDING DETAILS OF MY SECOND MEETING WITH REDACTED^{CPS}

13. As a result of the complaints against FARRELL Bishop MANNING instructed Fr John USHER and I to interview FARRELL, also present at the meeting was Fr Wayne PETERS, the Vicar-General of Armidale. I know that Fr USHER attended as his roll in the resource group however I don't exactly know but believe that Fr PETERS attended the meeting at the direction of Bishop MANNING. My recall of the meeting which was at St Mary's Cathedral house is relatively sketchy although I clearly remember FARRELL explaining that the complainant had exaggerated the incident and after cross examination from Mr Chester PORTER QC the magistrate dismissed the charge.
14. I can recall the Fr PETERS was at the meeting more in an observer's role and as a representative of the Armidale Diocese although he had a good knowledge of FARRELL. The meeting really didn't have a chair person although 20 years later I cannot exactly recall who did

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what however it was probably me asking the questions whilst Fr USHER, who has a background in social work, did more of the talking. I recall the meeting lasted about two hours.

15. I can recall that Fr USHER would have been at the subsequent 2 meetings although whether or not Fr PETERS came back for both meetings or just the 2nd meeting which is documented in the above annexure I cannot recall.
16. I believe that the catalyst for the first meeting with FARRELL was two-fold, one that a complaint had been made to the Bishop by ^{CPS} and secondly that families of altar boys with the Merrylands Parish had complained to the Parish Priest about FARRELL'S behaviour and language around the altar boys. I cannot recall exactly the complaint made but I know that Bishop MANNING would have informed me of them. I have some recollection that Bishop MANNING may have had Fr USHER, in his role as a social-worker, speak with FARRELL prior to the arranging of that first meeting however I cannot be sure.
17. I have been asked by D/S/C COLEMAN if I recall how the first meeting with FARRELL was organised. I cannot remember know exactly what took place to get FARRELL in but generally I would have been asked by the Bishop to make contact with FARRELL and arrange to see him or the Bishop contacted FARRELL directly to contact me and arrange a suitable time to see me. Any reports out of the meeting and any subsequent meetings would have been forwarded by general post.
18. I cannot say for certain that the document titled, "Points For Discussion" was entirely mine in fact I think it was more likely that after the first meeting at St Marys House I would have discussed with Fr USHER and probably Bishop MANNING my belief that FARRELL had been involved in some-way with the complaint made by the young boy at Narrabri and came to the decision that FARRELL needed to be removed from the church and was unlikely to go voluntarily.
19. **ANNEXURE D: TYPED LETTER TO BISHOP MANNING WITH DOCUMENT ATTACHED TITLED "POINT FOR DISCUSSION"**
20. I further recall that there was other discussion involving the young women, Merrylands and general discussion as to whether FARRELL should continue in the priesthood. The meeting concluded with an agreement that there would be a further meeting before which I would

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prepare a proposal to put to Bishop MANNING and FARRELL. I subsequently prepared a document with a series of proposed actions.

21. I can't recall many details surrounding the last two meetings. I do recall FARRELL being presented with a document which was discussed at some length. FARRELL was not inclined to immediately accept this proposal and asked for more time to think about it. My recollection is that he came back at the third meeting and agreed to the proposal.

22. I have been asked by D/S/C COLEMAN if I recall ever speaking with a ^{CPB} [REDACTED] I can honestly say I do not know have any recollection however I have been shown an email thread between myself and John DAVOREN, who was the manager of the Professional Standards Office, where I have made a hand written note at the bottom of the page noting ^{CPB} [REDACTED] name, contact number and reference [REDACTED]

23. ANNEXURE E: EMAIL THREAD BETWEEN MYSELF AND JOHN DAVOREN WITH HANDWRITTEN NOTE AT BOTTOM

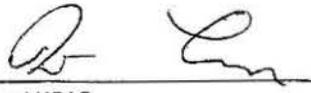
24. In December 2015 I was contacted by D/S/C COLEMAN regarding my knowledge of John FARRELL and whether or not I would be prepared to make a statement about this to Investigators. D/S/C COLEMAN and I exchanges emails from which the basis of this statement was compiled. On Thursday 21st January 2016 I attended Police Headquarters at Parramatta which time I completed and signed this statement.

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~~Sgt P. COLEMAN~~
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