



Anglican Diocese of Newcastle

Zimmerman House

Child Protection & Professional Conduct Unit



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CONFIDENTIAL

File Note

Area Under Discussion: Project RUSH

Date: 10/8/9

Name: Michael Elliott

Position: Director of Professional Standards

phone call received

meeting

other

phone call made

Details:

on the 10/8/9 I met with John FARRAGHER of John Farragher removals Cameron Park to discuss the matter of Peter RUSHTON (file no. 20). In late 1998 Farragher's removalists were engaged to move the late Revd Peter RUSHTON from Maitland to Hamilton.

Removalists reportedly were disgusted to find child pornography when packing RUSHTON's personal effects and left the job, reported it to their manager and refused to return. RUSHTON is now deceased and although he was never formally charged there are a significant number of reports from adults claiming he sexually abused them when they were children. An investigation was conducted by the church involving retired Arch Deacon Colvin FORD, Bishop BEAL, Bishop HERFT, Solicitor Robert CADDIES and Solicitor Greg HANSEN.

John FARRAGHER rejected much of the facts as they were recorded in the file (for example, that Farragher's had formally retracted their complaint about child porn indicating they had been mistaken and it was actually adult porn). John FARRAGHER asserts he is certain it was relayed to him that it was child porn and there was no question in his mind about this fact. He now regrets not pursuing the matter further and reporting it to Police however felt reassured after discussions with Bishop HERFT that the matter would be dealt with appropriately.

Review of the file would initially indicate that FORD, BEAL, HERFT, CADDIES, HANSEN and RUSHTON were involved in an elaborate cover up, disposing of the child porn and replacing it with adult homosexual material. This is also highlighted by the fact that FORD is alleged to have told Rev'd Roger DYER (Wallsend Parish) that he had to dispose of approximately 200 child porn videos from RUSHTON's residence.

John FARRAGHER is seeking the names of the removalist staff who saw the material and is confident he can come up with those.

This matter will be referred to Sgt FABER, Strike Force Georgiana for followup.

Signed _____