

Notes made by Bill CONWAY

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Contact Name: Aviva Notelovitz
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Brief Description: Notes prepared by Principal Bill CONWAY regarding allegations by REDAC
REDACTED against AVL . These notes are chronologically dated from
the 23/07/2002 through to 07/08 2002.

Report on accusation

Informed by Mother 23.07.02 4:30 PM
 Mother of RE reported to me that her son had told her of an incident that occurred at camp the previous week. Details of the incident were given in a meeting with ZS and myself present. Certain points were not clear to Mrs RE which left the picture incomplete and insufficient to conduct a Risk Assessment according to Child Protection Guidelines. The report was obviously of a serious nature. She said her son was willing to speak to me and an arrangement was made for a meeting on 24.07 with ZS and me.

Meeting with RE Mother, and Mr Simons 24.07.02 12:00 PM
 RE reported details of an incident that occurred on 12.07.02 while at camp in Bowral. 11-12 boys from South Head Synagogue participated along with 4-5 counsellors. On the evening of 12.07 RE felt homesick and retired to the room where boys were to be sleeping. He was accompanied by a counsellor (Levy) who talked to him, then the counsellor went to bed and fell asleep. Later, AV came in and was sitting on the other side of the room. RE was trying to sleep but was invited to where AV was. RE did not move but was joined by AV who proceeded to tell him stories while lying beside him on the floor. RE was lying quietly and, assuming he was asleep, AV began stroking his neck, chest. RE turned over to avoid the touching. Later he was touched again in the genitals and buttocks. Again RE tried to turn over to avoid the touches. He said the incident took place over a span of about 15 minutes. RE also reported after being reminded by his mother that AV took his hand, placed it on AV's lower abdomen and tried to place it on his penis. RE removed his hand from the area quickly before he touched the genitals. RE was visibly nervous and embarrassed when telling this last incident, however he freely spoke without prompting by others and appeared comfortable.

Rang Rabbi Feldman 24.07.02 1:45
 Informed RF of the report. He advised that AV be told to not come to work until further notice. He advised not to reveal details of the allegation at this time and requested a meeting with ZS and myself.

Meeting with AV, ZS 24.07.02 2:00
 ZS told AV that we had been informed of an incident that required us to investigate and asked that he not return to work until further notice. He was told there would be an investigation of the matter that would involve him at some point, but we were not prepared to divulge the details of the situation at this time. AV said he thought he knew what it might be about, but felt it wasn't that 'serious'.

Informed DOCS 24.07.02 2:15
 DOCS was called, but after waiting approximately 20 minutes on hold, I disengaged. Details were recorded through their automated system.

Rang Geoff Newcomb 24.07.02 2:30
Mr Newcomb was informed and suggested I inform DOCS and the Ombudsman. He suggested I have sent the Protocols from AIS and follow them.

Faxed Form A to DOCS 25.07.02 8:30 AM

Spoke with DOCS Caseworker – Veena Bhatte 9:30
Report of incident given by telephone to case worker. The fact that AV usual place of residence is outside Australia was mentioned.

Rang Rabbi Feldman 25.07.02 12:00
Confirmed meeting for 2:30 PM

Rung by Rabbi Feldman 25.07.02 1:30 (2:15)
Left message to ring back. Rang back and was told AV had left the country this morning. RF had been informed by his son Rabbi Yossi Feldman that he had vacated his room and was gone, presumably on a plane to the US. RF told me to follow the procedures required by law.

Rang Geoff Newcomb 25.07.02 2:45
Asked for advice with info regarding AV's departure. Told to ring DOCS and JIRT in Kogarah. He asked to be kept informed.

Rang Kogarah JIRT (Alison Brazel) 25.07.02 2:55
Reported to JIRT that I was informed that AV had left the country. Asked for details of his home, family, etc., but did not know. Asked for a contact person who would know. Gave Yossi Feldman's phone number.

Fax received from DOCS 26.07.02

Phone Conversation with Kelvin Simon, DOCS rep with JIRT 26.07.02 1:30 PM
Informed me that he had spoken with the parents. He offered to them to have REDACT interviewed by JIRT, and stressed that this was not required. Parents were to think about it and let him know. He will inform me of any progress as it occurs. Stressed the importance of notifying the Ombudsman within 30 days.

Meeting with Rabbi Feldman 30.07.02 11:00AM
I reported to him the actions I had undertaken thus far. RF asked me to prepare a report for him. RF asked that I write a letter to Dr Newcombe to confirm steps taken are appropriate. Asked that I complete the Ombudsman report asap.

Meeting with Zev Simons 30.07.02 9:30AM
ZS told me he had received a phone message from AV saying he planned to return to Sydney next Tuesday.

Conversation with Mrs RE (mother)**5.08.02 2:00PM**

Told by her that RE requested to go to JIRT and was interviewed by Mr Kelvin Simon. They (mum, dad, RE) were happy they had gone. RE was clear with details and, according to Mrs RE left no doubt in Kelvin's mind that the incident actually happened. JIRT requested information in order to pursue their investigation, but indicated there wasn't much they could do if AV was in the US.

Completed Ombudsman Report**5.08.02**

Needs signature of Rabbi Feldman. Will ask for him to review the report on Wednesday when we have our Management meeting.

Faxed Geoff Newcombe of AIS**06.08.02****REDACTED**
**Telephone call from Geoff Newcombe****07.08.02 12:00**

Dr Newcombe confirmed his receipt of the fax and felt all procedures have been followed correctly. I discussed the contents of the Ombudsman report and he made some suggestions, which I immediately incorporated into the report. His suggestion about informing parents was clearly to not report the reason for AV's dismissal but to simply say he has returned to the US or "resigned". The school should not give information that may be interpreted by an employee to be slanderous, regardless of the allegations.