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*Royal Commission into  
Institutional Responses to  
Child Sexual Abuse*

**Statement of Grant Davies**

**Name:** Grant Davies  
**Address:** Known to the Royal Commission  
**Date:** 2 March 2016

1. This statement by me accurately sets out the evidence that I am prepared to give to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. This statement has been prepared on the basis that the Commission will issue a Notice to Produce under the *Royal Commissions Act 1902 (Cth)* section 2(3A), for the production of a signed statement addressing the matters set out herein.
3. On 25 January 2016, my solicitor received a letter requesting a statement from me answering a number of questions set out in an attached schedule. I have attempted to answer those questions to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**1. A brief overview of your relationship with:**

**i. Bernard Brassil**

4. Mr Bernard Brassil was a lawyer whom I contacted after I came to believe that police might be investigating me. I had heard rumours around the dance studio that B2M had made a report to police. I received Bernard Brassil's phone number from my mother, who had made enquiries on a legal services hotline.
5. In early May 2007, I made contact with Mr Brassil over the telephone seeking legal advice about the process for investigations involving communications over electronic devices. I wanted to find out about what my rights would be if an investigation was to take place, and what process an investigation might involve.
6. I also phoned Mr Brassil on 14 May 2007 when police executed a search warrant at my premises at **REDACTED**. I informed him that police were at my home with a search warrant. He spoke to the police officers over the phone and advised me of my right to silence, which I exercised pursuant to his advice.

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7. Later in 2007, Mr Brassil acted for me in proceedings to recover my property seized by police during the search warrant at my premises on 14 May 2007. He also gave me advice in relation to obtaining my previously seized property.

**ii. BZB**

8. BZB is my ex-wife. I met BZB in the late 1990s and we married in 2001.
9. BZB and I lived and worked together throughout the duration of our marriage. We often worked as comedy performers together.
10. We have one daughter together, CAH. I have not seen CAH since being arrested.
11. BZB sent me divorce papers on 10 March 2015. I received a letter in mid 2015 advising me that our divorce had been finalised.

**Legal Advice**

**2. During the period from 1 January 2007 to 13 May 2007:**

**i. What, if any legal advice did you seek?**

12. As set out in Paragraph 4 and 5 above, in early May 2007 I sought advice on what happens during the process of police investigations that might involve communications over electronic devices. I did not state what the offences involved. I wanted to know what my rights were if such an investigation were to take place.

**ii. From whom did you receive this legal advice?**

13. Mr Brassil.

**iii. What was the legal advice that you received?**

14. Mr Brassil informed me of my right to silence and advised me that I ought to exercise my right to silence if police wanted to speak with me. He also advised me about the process of a criminal investigation. He told me that police might contact me, and that if the police were to get in touch with me or to come to my house, I was to speak to him immediately and to advise them that I wanted to speak with my lawyer. During this telephone conversation he told me that he would not give me legal advice specific to my case over the phone and that the advice he was giving was general advice only.
15. Mr Brassil explained to the effect that generally in investigations into offences involving electronic devices, police would ordinarily seize and go through the device. I recall that he specifically said that he would not advise me what to do or what action to take.

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**iv. What, if any, steps did you take on receipt of the legal advice?**

16. Within a number of days of my conversation with Mr Brassil, and having spoken to BZB, I disposed of my computer.

**3. During the period from 14 May 2007 to 31 December 2008:**

**i. What, if any, legal advice did you seek?**

17. As set out in paragraph 6 above, on 14 May 2007 I telephoned Mr Brassil when police were searching my house at REDACTED I sought advice about the execution of a search warrant by police.

18. REDACTED

19. I consequently sought legal advice about the recovery of my seized property. In doing so I instructed Mr Brassil to act for me to have the items which had been seized by police returned to me.

**ii. From whom did you seek this legal advice?**

20. Mr Brassil.

**iii. What was the legal advice that you received?**

21. During the execution of the search warrant at my premises on 14 May 2007, Mr Brassil advised me of my right to silence, which I exercised.

22. REDACTED

23. Mr Brassil acted for me in relation to proceedings to recover seized electronic devices. I do not remember the details of that process, I recall it involved a number of phone calls and brief discussions with Mr Brassil. I instructed Mr Brassil that I wanted my possession which had been seized by police returned to

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me. He agreed to act and attended at a Local Court to make an application on my behalf.


24. In late July 2008, Mr Brassil and I attended Ashfield Police Station to collect the seized items.

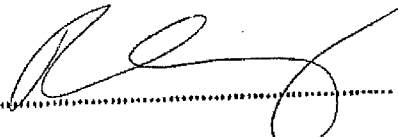
**iv. What, if any, steps did you take on receipt of the legal advice?**

25. I exercised my right to silence when police were executing the search warrant at my premises.

26. I did not meet with the police officer at McDonalds.

27. I did not have any further communications with the police following the phone call in June 2008. Mr Brassil handled all communications with police from that point.

Signed:   
Date: 2/3/16

Witness:   
Date: 2.3.16.