

Statement

Name John Charles Whittaker
Address REDACTED
Occupation Semi-retired, Pharmacist
Date 11 April 2016

1. This statement made 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. My full name is John Charles Whittaker and I was born in 1935.
3. I am a pharmacist having graduated from Sydney University in 1958.
4. I own and operate a pharmacy in the western suburbs of Sydney.
5. I became involved with Tennis NSW in 1978 when elected as representative for the central division of NSW country and therefore was a member of the Council of Tennis NSW.
6. In 1979 I was elected to the Board of TNSW which has twelve members.
7. In 1989 I was elected as Vice President of Tennis NSW and became President in 1991.
8. I have been asked to make a statement to the Royal Commission about the following matters which occurred in the late 1990's.
 - a. When and how I first became aware of allegations of sexual abuse of BXJ (whose pseudonym has been revealed to me) by Noel Callaghan (**Allegations**).
 - b. The steps I took to report the Allegations to the Board of TNSW.
 - c. The investigation conducted by Maria Shand of Rigby Cooke Lawyers.
 - d. Tennis NSW's response to the Allegations generally.
9. The events about which I have been asked to make a statement occurred almost 20 years ago and I have very little recollection of the detail.
 - a. I do not recall when and how I first became aware of the Allegations but I do recall being advised at some point in time.
 - b. I do not recall what action I took to report the Allegations to the Board of Tennis NSW or discuss the Allegations with the CEO of Tennis NSW, Craig Watson.
 - c. I do recall attending a meeting in the Sydney CBD with a lawyer and Craig Watson in the late 1990's, however I do not remember who else attended or any detail from this meeting.

- d. When I became aware that charges had been laid against Noel Callaghan, the Board of Tennis NSW decided to suspend him on full pay pending those charges being determined.
- e. Subsequently Noel Callaghan resigned as head coach of Tennis New South Wales.

Dated 11 April 2016



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John Charles Whittaker OAM