

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Statement

Name

Fabian Colless

Address

Queensland Police Service, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000

Occupation

Detective Sergeant of Police

Date

10 July 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. Where direct speech is referred to in this statement, it is provided in words or words to the effect of those which were used, to the best of my recollection.
- 2. My full name is Fabian Colless and I am a Detective Sergeant of Police current attached to the Sexual Crime Unit, Child Safety and Sexual Crime Group, State Crime Command. Part of my responsibilities is to manage and overview duties associated with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse for the Queensland Police Service (QPS). I have acted in this role since the inception of the QPS response to the Commission in 2013.
- Between January 2015 and June 2016 I acted in the role of Detective Senior Sergeant (Operations Leader) of the Sexual Crime Unit with the same responsibilities.
- 4. I have been employed by the QPS for over 22 years. I have been assigned to plain clothes (Investigative) duties since 1999. My experience includes working within the Criminal Investigative Branch and the State Crime Command. I have been assigned to the Child Safety and Sexual Crime Group as a Detective Sergeant since 2008.

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Signature:		 Witness:		
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- This statement is made in response to a request for information from the Royal Commission for a statement in relation to searches undertaken by the QPS in response to Requirement to Produce No. S-QLD-91.
- The current request from the Royal Commission seeks specific information, which will be addressed below:
- 7. On the 25 May 2015 I was advised of the issue of a Requirement to Produce (S-QLD-91) to the QPS by Detective Inspector Garry Watts. This requirement requested all documents held by the QPS in relation to the organisation FSG Australia and/or the Gold Coast Family Support Group from 1993 to the date of issue.
- It also requested any materials in reference to particular persons including Pseudonym CIJ and another female person.
- Between the 25 May 2015 and the 9 June 2015 I conducted searches and inquiries to locate any relevant material. These searches included QPS Qprime checks on relevant persons and organisations and inquiries with the Gold Coast Child Protection Investigation Unit (CPIU).
- 10. In relation to pseudonym CIJ, I conducted Qprime searches on CIJ using her first name, surname and date of birth but found no holdings for her. I also conducted phonetic searches attempting to search for similar names or incorrect spelling which was unsuccessful.
- 11. I also conducted Qprime searches with the organisation using FSG Australia and the Gold Coast Family Support Group. I identified multiple occurrences on the Qprime system relating to these business entities but none having any relevance to child sexual abuse, nor CIJ or the other female person.

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Signature:		 Witness:		****

- 12. On the 9 June 2015 I advised QPS Legal Solicitor Melanie Johnston of being unable to locate any QPS holdings for CIJ with the name and date of birth provided. I also provided her with materials relating to the other female person.
- 13. On the 8 July 2016 I was advised by Detective Inspector Garry Watts of the request for a statement from me in relation to searches conducted with CIJ. I was also requested to conduct Qprime searches in relation to pseudonym CIK.
- 14. On the 10 July 2016 I conducted a Qprime search on CIK in relation to any relevant reported or recorded occurrences. I was unable to find any such occurrence under the details provided.
- 15. I was also advised by Detective Inspector Garry Watts that checks were conducted with the Gold Coast CPIU, North to ascertain if any records existed for CIJ or CIK in the months of April and May 2000. The Gold Coast CPIU conducted an audit of their daily staff occurrence log and advised that no reference was made in these logs to CIK or CIJ.
- 16. Daily occurrence logs are a mandatory record to be used by all sworn staff to record their daily activities for each daily shift. There would be an expectation that if contact was had with CIK or CIJ in relation to child sexual abuse then an entry would be made outlining brief details of that contact.
- 17. I compiled this statement on the 10 July 2016.

