



## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes


### Statement of Stephen McCann

10 November 2022

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary, to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is Stephen McCann. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry.
2. I joined the NSW Police Force in 1966 as a cadet. I served until 2002.
3. In 1974 I became a plain clothes detective, Homicide, with the Special Crime Squad.
4. In 1985 I was transferred to Darlinghurst Police Station as a Detective Sergeant.
5. In 1987 I became the Officer in Charge at Surry Hills Detectives.
6. In 1990 I returned to the Homicide Squad. One of the first cases assigned to me, as Officer in Charge, was the murder of Richard Johnson at Alexandria Park in January 1990.
7. I was also the Officer in Charge of the investigation into the murder of Kritchikorn Rattanajurathaporn at Bondi in July 1990.
8. Both Mr Johnson and Mr Rattanajurathaporn were gay men.
9. In 1994 I was transferred to the Drug Squad. I served on the Northern Beaches and at North Sydney.
10. I retired in 2002.
11. In April 1991, having led the investigations into the murders of Richard Johnson and Kritchikorn Rattanajurathaporn, I compiled a summary or overview of some of the links and connections which I had discovered in relation to those deaths and other attacks on gay men, some of them also resulting in deaths, in various parts of Sydney up to that time.
12. I sent that summary, in the form of a letter dated 15 April 1991, to Chief Superintendent Norm Maroney, Director of Operations, State Command. (SCOI.10445.00128).

13. When I prepared and sent the April 1991 report, I was inviting State Command to sanction and resource a task force to investigate these matters.
14. I do not recall ever receiving any answer or response to that letter.
15. In August 1991 I compiled a longer account in relation to such links and connections. I sent that longer account, in the form of a letter dated 10 August 1991, to The Commander, Modus Operandi Section. The letter was headed "Overview of homosexual murders and incidents within the inner city area – INNER CITY GAY MURDERS" (SCOI.10342.00010).
16. The Modus Operandi Section was a section of State Command that had an intelligence role. It received, collated and analysed crime reports, and could provide investigating police with information relevant to their case. I thought that providing the information that I had assembled to this Section would ensure that it would be available to police generally.
17. My understanding and expectation at the time was that the Modus Operandi Section would be able to locate and/or generate, from their consolidated records and holdings, intelligence concerning the individuals and groups I had identified, including as to connections between them, and to provide me with that intelligence. That might have enabled me to pursue further inquiries in relation to some of the unsolved deaths to which I had referred.
18. Again, I do not believe that I ever received a response or reply to that letter.

Signature: 

Name: Stephen McCann

Date: 10/11/22