

**From:** Anthony\_Crandell/[REDACTED]Staff/NSWPolice  
**To:** [Ainslie\\_Blackstone/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%nswpolice;](#)  
[Ainslie\\_Blackstone/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%nswpolice](#)  
**Cc:** [Michael\\_Willing/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%nswpolice;](#) [Michael\\_Willing/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%nswpolice](#)  
**Subject:** Re: NYTimes.. a few questions [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Date:** Thursday, 12 January 2017 20:23:45

---

Thanks Ainslie

Great job, all good by me.

Regards

A/Assistant Commissioner Tony Crandell - Commander, Education & Training Command  
- Corporate Sponsor, Sexuality and Gender Diversity

On 12 Jan 2017, at 8:20 pm, Ainslie Blackstone <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Evening Sir,

How about this:

In 2013, the NSW Police Force's Bias Crimes Unit established Operation Parrabell to review a number of investigations into the deaths of people connected with the Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Bisexual, Intersex, and Queer (GLBTIQ) community.

The operation was revised in 2015 to include nine specialist investigators, which included Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers (GLLOs), and the support of the Homicide Squad's Unsolved Homicide Team.

Operation Parrabell will use 10 bias-indicators from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to assess 88 deaths that occurred between 1976 and 2000, which were highlighted by researchers as having potential bias motivation due to connection with the GLBTIQ community.

NSW Police Force Corporate Sponsor for Sexuality and Gender Diversity, Acting Assistant Commissioner Tony Crandell, said Operation Parrabell will consider motive as well as other bias crime indicators.

"The true beauty of Parrabell is it is an open, honest, and transparent review," Acting Assistant Commissioner Tony Crandell said.

“We are re-examining cases that have been reported within the community (GLBTIQ) as potentially being motivated by gay-hate – which, to my knowledge, is not something that has ever been done before.

“Our findings will also be academically assessed, allowing experts in bias issues to provide further feedback to our investigators.

“In many cases, the deaths have caused great concern for the loved ones left behind, and we want to give them the most accurate record of the past possible at this point in time.

“While the review is a difficult task because we can’t rewrite history, we know it is important we do everything we can to ensure the best outcomes in the future.”

Ainslie Blackstone  
SCC Media Supervisor  
[REDACTED]

On 12 Jan 2017, at 17:38, Anthony Crandell <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Ainslie

I would prefer my quotes not to be about the quality of police investigations or investigators. I think they came from an interview transcript with SBS, which was not my finest hour.

I say that because the review is about identifying bias motivation, not just looking at the offender's motive but also other bias crime indicators. If we place too much emphasis on motive alone then those that faced the court throughout the early 80's arguing 'gay panic' defence, which was legislated at the time, as a mitigating factor to counter a verdict of murder, would all escape thorough scrutiny.

I also don't want too much emphasis on determining the motivation of investigators because I will not be able to say that an investigation is poor because of homophobia or just a case of sub-standard investigative performance. On that basis I would prefer to leave out references to investigators driven by homophobia, even though they are already in the public arena.

I would like to highlight the positive side of Parrabell which will be an open and academically reviewed re-examination of cases reported to the community as motivated by gay hate. Parrabell will provide an accurate record of the past, which is the best we can do from this point in history, for the families of people deceased that may feel concern around the circumstances surrounding the death of someone close to them.

Regards

<0.6CE.jpeg>

Ainslie Blackstone---12/01/2017 17:17:25---Afternoon Gents, Firstly, MJW: Sorry for bothering you on leave, but I know you'd want to be across

From: Ainslie Blackstone/[REDACTED]/Staff/NSWPolice  
To: Michael Willing/[REDACTED]/Staff/NSWPolice, Anthony Crandell/[REDACTED]/Staff/NSWPolice  
Date: 12/01/2017 17:17  
Subject: Fw: NYTimes.. a few questions [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

---

Afternoon Gents,

Firstly, MJW: Sorry for bothering you on leave, but I know you'd want to be across this...

I sent the NY Times reporter the previous Macnamir and Taradale media releases and the statements about Parrabell, so she had all the information we had put on the public record.

As below, she just wanted a bit of clarification on a few things and I wonder if there is anything further we can advise?

Would it be right to say there are 30 unsolved matters in the Parrabell list (I got that from Ava's story). Do we know how many were cliff locations - or has that not previously been disclosed?

In terms of the cold cases, I don't even know where I'd begin to find that information - if it's not in the notes I have, it's not happening.

Also, in terms of other clarification and possible quotes she was seeking, I have drafted some for each of you (based on previous interviews, etc) - can you let me know if you think there would be any issues or concerns:

**Three men were previously charged and convicted over the 1990 death of Thai national Kritchikorn Rattanajuathaporn.**

**The four unsolved matters – the deaths of Scott Johnson, Giles Mattaini, Ross Warren, and John Russell – are currently being re-investigated by the State Crime Command's Unsolved Homicide Team.**

**The Scott Johnson matter is currently subject to a third Coronial Inquiry.**

***Homicide Squad Commander, Detective Superintendent Mick Willing, said due to the inquest, he was unable to outline specific details of the investigations, but assured the community investigators have been committed to finding answers for the families.***

***"The families of these four men have endured many years of uncertainty. Like all families of victims of unsolved crimes, they deserve answers – we are doing everything we can to provide that for them.***

***"Since reopening the investigations, detectives have spent thousands of hours researching and revisiting each case.***

***"Investigators have gathered as much evidence as possible, which has now been presented to the NSW Coroner."***

In 2013, the NSW Police Force's Bias Crimes Unit established Operation Parrabell to review a number of investigations into the deaths of people connected with the Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Bisexual, Intersex, and Queer (GLBTIQ) community.

The operation was revised in 2015 to include nine specialist investigators, which included Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers (GLLOs), and the support of the Homicide Squad's Unsolved Homicide Team.

Operation Parrabell will use 10 bias-indicators from the FBI to assess 88 deaths that occurred between 1976 and 2000, which were highlighted by researchers as having potential bias motivation due to connection with the GLBTIQ community.

The focus of the review is the motive and whether the offender was driven by a hatred for homosexuality, rather than opportunity, robbery or other reasons.

*"The true beauty of Parrabell is it is an open, honest, and transparent review," Superintendent Tony Crandell said.*

*"I am not concerned about whether or not the outcomes are good or bad for the police. I care about the truth, and that is what Parrabell is about."*

*"One of the most important areas of the review is determining if the investigations were thorough.*

*"It's a difficult question to ask, but it has to be asked because if you talk about sore points in the GLBTIQ community, that is a sore point.*

*"Were investigators homophobic at that time and if they were, did that homophobia drive their performance as detectives?"*

*"As an organisation, we need to know whether or not that is the case."*

<0.9044.jpeg>

----- Forwarded by Ainslie Blackstone [REDACTED] Staff/NSWPolice on 12/01/2017 15:28 -----

From: "INNIS, Michelle" <[REDACTED]>  
 To: Ainslie Blackstone <[REDACTED]>  
 Date: 12/01/2017 14:36  
 Subject: NYTimes.. a few questions

---

Ainslie, thank you so much for those releases and statements.

Is there any way that we can get these statements updated with a quick comment? esp the statements in bold. I'm not looking for something new, just more recent.

Investigations into the deaths of Scott Johnson, Giles Mattaini, Ross Warren, and John Russell remain open. An investigation into the death of Thai national Kritchikom Rattanajuathaporn (who died in 1990) has been resolved with an arrest.

In relation to the unsolved murders, the police said in a statement, issued in 2014:

**"These families have endured many years of uncertainty. They deserve closure, and we are doing everything we can to provide it for them."**

**Since February 2013, police investigators have spent "thousands of hours" gathering as much evidence as possible in an effort to determine how Scott Johnson died.**

And a few other questions:

Have there been any arrests and convictions in any of the cliff deaths? I have a spreadsheet of 88 deaths, and I've tried to label the cause of death. Do you know approx how many might have been cliff deaths? and how many have been solved, which means a conviction has been recorded? And were any of these recent convictions?

And in the cold cases, you mentioned that someone had been arrested over the death of the Thai national. Was that 1990? and was that the last conviction from that list?

Ainslie, thanks very much for this. It is complicated and time consuming. Much appreciate your help  
 kind regards  
 Michelle Innis  
 NYT

Michelle Innis  
Sydney



-----

All mail is subject to content scanning for possible violation of NSW  
Police  
Force policy, including the Email and Internet Policy and Guidelines. All  
NSW  
Police Force employees are required to familiarise themselves with these  
policies, available on the NSW Police Force Intranet.