

From: Arthur_Katsogiannis/Staff/NSWPolice
To: Michael_Willing/Staff/NSWPolice; Jennifer_Scholz/Staff/NSWPolice; Michael_Willing/Staff/NSWPolice; Jennifer_Scholz/Staff/NSWPolice
Cc: Peter_Cotter/Staff/NSWPolice; Pamela_S_Young/Staff/NSWPolice; Peter_Cotter/Staff/NSWPolice; Pamela_S_Young/Staff/NSWPolice
Subject: RE: Paul Sheehan Articles
Date: Thursday, 7 March 2013 22:16:43

Thanks Mick.

Regards

AK

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

----- Original Message -----

From : Michael Willing/Staff/NSWPolice
To : Jennifer Scholz/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
Cc : Arthur Katsogiannis/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Peter Cotter/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Pamela S Young/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
Sent on : 07/03/2013 14:03:13
Subject : Re: Fw: Paul Sheehan Articles

Jen,

No comment was made to Paul Sheehan from my area (Homicide) but, as discussed, I can advise the following,

The issue of alleged "gay hate" murders in Sydney, and in particular the Bondi area, has been topical of late following the publicity surrounding the "Scott Johnson" case which aired a few weeks ago on Australian Story. The Australian Story centred around a theory, advanced by Scott's brother Steve Johnson and an American Investigative Journalist Dan Glick, that Scott Johnson had been murdered at Manly in 1988 (having been thrown off a cliff) in similar circumstances to a number of matters that occurred around the Marks Park, Bondi area in the 1980's and early 1990's where homosexual males were attacked and prima facie thrown off cliffs.

The Bondi matters were investigated by Strike Force Taradale and presented to a Coronial inquest before then Deputy State Coroner Jacqueline Milledge. While most of those matters (about 7 deaths in total) remain unsolved, persons were charged with murder and convicted in relation to at least one of the matters - the murder of a Thai national.

Following the Scott Johnson case on Australian Story a decision was taken for the Homicide Squad Unsolved Homicide Team to conduct a review of that matter and to assess any new information/evidence that Steve Johnson and Daniel Glick have which may support their assertion that Scott Johnson was murdered. That decision was taken in line with the announcement of a NSW Government reward seeking information concerning the death of Scott Johnson.

It is apparent that Steve Johnson and Daniel Glick believe that by looking at alleged "gay hate" murders across Bondi, the Northern Beaches and other parts of Sydney, investigations will then uncover evidence to support their theory. That review is underway at present *(but in strict confidence - to this point there has been no new factual evidence at all presented by Steve Johnson and Daniel Glick that can be realistically pursued. I can also add there has been approximately 6 calls to crime-stoppers in response to the NSW Government reward and none of them relate specifically to Scott Johnson's case).* It is the only case we are looking at.

The push for an investigation (and indeed a Royal Commission) is a constant theme in emails and other items of correspondence sent to various senior police, politicians and journalists by well-known gay activist Gary Burns. Gary Burns appeared as a witness in the inquest before Deputy State Coroner Milledge and is very vocal in his calls for action on the issue.

I earlier today (7 March) met with State Coroner Mary Jerram, Deputy State Coroner Carmel Forbes (who re-heard an inquest into Scott Johnson's death), and Deputy State Coroner Hugh Dillon, as part of my regular dialogue with the Coroner's office. During our conversations we discussed the issue of the alleged "gay hate" murders and they all informed me that they have no intention of revisiting the matters at all at this stage.

Finally, and in summary, I can confirm that the Unsolved Homicide Team is conducting a review of the Scott Johnson case ONLY (no other matters). I am closely monitoring the media and community interest in the issue and have been for some time. However at this time we do NOT intend to open or reopen an investigation into the alleged "gay hate" murders across Sydney. In saying that if someone came forward with factual evidence relating to a specific murder or suspected murder of course we would action it.

Regards

Mick Willing
 Detective Superintendent
 Commander
 Homicide Squad



Michael Willing
 Detective Superintendent | Commander - Homicide Squad | State Crime Command | NSW Police Force

▼ Jennifer Scholz---07/03/2013 12:27:40---Hi Mick, See request below for advice concerning Paul Sheehan's articles.

From: Jennifer Scholz [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice
 To: Michael Willing [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
 Cc: Arthur Katsogiannis/[redacted] Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice, Peter Cotter [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
 Date: 07/03/2013 12:27
 Subject: Fw: Paul Sheehan Articles

Hi Mick,

See request below for advice concerning Paul Sheehan's articles.

I've spoken with Georgie Wells as to whether or not there was any contact by Sheehan from SMH prior to the articles being published and her response is as follows:

"As discussed, this statement was put together for a request by the City News on Tuesday, and further sent to Lisa Davies from the SMH yesterday who was seeking comment on what police are doing in relation to alleged gay hate crimes from the 80s and 90s.

As far as I am aware, no comment has been provided to Paul Sheehan.

"A number of these deaths were investigated by Strike Force Taradale and briefs put before the Coroner whose role it is to determine the cause of death.

Investigations into the death of Scott Johnson are being reviewed by the Unsolved Homicide Team. If anyone has any information that could assist police in any of these matters they should contact Crime Stoppers."

As requested below, can you provide some advice on this issue especially what is SCC response to the review of all gay/hate crimes etc.

Email advice back to me with a due date of tomorrow morning will be fine.

Regards,

Jenny Scholz
 C/Inspector
 Staff Officer, State Crime Command
 [redacted]

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Scholz [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice on 07/03/2013 12:17 -----

From: Brett Greentree [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice
 To: Jennifer Scholz [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice
 Cc: Arthur Katsogiannis [redacted] Staff/NSWPolice
 Date: 07/03/2013 11:54
 Subject: Fw: Paul Sheehan Articles

Jen,
 Can you provide some advice please by tomorrow
 Thanks,
 BG

▼ Bryan Hallett

----- Original Message -----

From: Bryan Hallett
Sent: 07/03/2013 11:04 ZE10
To: Brett Greentree
Subject: Fw: Paul Sheehan Articles

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/digging-up-past-to-reveal-scale-of-gayhate-deaths-20130306-2fle5.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/gay-hate-the-shameful-crime-wave-20130303-2fe9w.html>

Brett,

The articles above are what the email below relates to. IS this something that SCC are looking into and if so, can we get some advice for the Commissioner and the Minister please?

Regards

Bryan Hallett

Dept Liaison Officer/Manager Operations Response Unit [Office of the Commissioner, NSW Police Force](#)
Police Executive Offices | Level 14 / 201 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000

----- Forwarded by Bryan Hallett, [REDACTED] Staff/NSWPolice on 07/03/2013 09:31 -----

From: Adam Whyte/[REDACTED] Staff/NSWPolice
To: Bryan Hallett, [REDACTED] Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
Date: 07/03/2013 08:24
Subject: Paul Sheehan Articles

Hey Bryan,

Susan Fosbery called this morning enquiring about the recent articles by Paul Sheehan regarding the deaths of gays in and around sydney.

She was seeking confirmation that we have had a look at the articles and have also been monitoring them for information.

Can you have a look at them and advise, apparently they have been published this week.

Cheers

Adam