

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

18 September 2023

Nick Kaldas Chair, Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide GPO Box 3273 SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email: dvsrc.enquiries@royalcommission.gov.au

Dear Mr Kaldas,

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

I assist the Honourable Justice John Sackar ("Commissioner") in the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes ("the Inquiry").

The Inquiry

On 13 April 2022, the Governor, by Letters Patent, issued a commission to the Commissioner to inquire into and report on historical LGBTIQ hate crimes. Specifically, the Letters Patent require the Commissioner to inquire into and report to the Governor and Premier on the following matters:

- A. The manner and cause of death in all cases that remain unsolved from the 88 deaths or suspected deaths of men potentially motivated by gay hate bias that were considered by Strike Force Parrabell; and
- B. The manner and cause of death in all unsolved suspected hate crime deaths in New South Wales that occurred between 1970 and 2010 where:
 - i. The victim was a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community; and
 - ii. The death was the subject of a previous investigation by the NSW Police Force.

The Commissioner is required to report on the above matters by **15 December 2023**. Furthermore, in conducting the Inquiry, the Commissioner is directed to have regard to the "findings of previous inquiries and reports" (see Paragraph C of the Letters Patent).

A copy of the full Letters Patent and additional information about the Inquiry is available on the Inquiry's website: www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au.

Public Hearing 2

The second public hearing of the Inquiry ("Public Hearing 2") is examining the ways in which the NSW Police Force ("NSWPF") has approached issues relating to "bias crimes" and "hate crimes" from 1970 to present, including the investigations conducted by Strike Forces Parrabell, Macnamir and Neiwand.

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Public Hearing 2 has been conducted in several stages of hearings in December 2022, February-March 2023, and April-May 2023.

Public Hearing 2 is listed for three additional weeks of hearing scheduled to commence on Thursday, 21 September 2023 ("the September hearing").

Material before the Inquiry

A number of documents have been tendered before the Inquiry in the course of Public Hearing 2 which relate to you. These documents include:

- Exhibit 6, Tab 4, Statement of Assistant Commissioner Anthony Crandell, at paragraph [22] (SC01.76961);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 6, Statement of Sergeant Geoffrey Steer, at paragraph [14] (SC01.82080);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 126, Email from Geoffrey Steer to Anthony Crandell re: Departure from Bias Crimes Unit (SCOI.74679);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 226, Jana Wendt, 'Pamela Young: NSW Police and the Death of Scott Johnson', *The Australian* (online), 19 October 2018 (SCOI.82077);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 369, Email correspondence between Rick Feneley, Zdenka Vaughan and Michael 12:05pm Willing re: Inquiry re Pam Young (NPL.3000.0004.0742);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 372, Email correspondence from Georgina Wells to Strath Gordon re: Chronology (NPL.0138.0002.3306);
- Exhibit 6, Tab 382, Record of interview with Michael Willing (NPL.0147.0001.0005); and
- Exhibit 6, Tab 382A, Document titled 'Mick Willing notes' (NPL.2017.0001.0029).

These documents are available on the Inquiry's website at the following address: https://www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au/hearings/public-hearing-2-commencing-5-december-2022/.

Further material to be tendered

I am writing to advise you that two further documents will be tendered in the course of the September hearing which are of relevance to you, specifically:

- Email from Pamela Young to Pamela Young re: Texts from NK, 17 April 2015 (NPL.0138.0001.0044);
 and
- Email from Pamela Young to Naguib Kaldas re: Desperate Greetings, 15 April 2015 (NPL.0138.0001.0129).

Please find enclosed a copy of each of these two documents.

Please do not hesitate to contact Enzo Camporeale on 0498 484 133 or at enzo.camporeale@specialcommission.nsw.gov.au if you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Enzo Camporeale Director, Legal

Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry

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Encl. (2)