

## New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: Manly Police Station  
Inquest touching the death of \_\_\_\_\_  
David LLOYD-WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 16th October, 1978

Name: MORTIMER, John Charles  
 (Surname in capitals)  
 Address: Manly Police Station Tel. No. [REDACTED]  
 Occupation: Constable of Police STATES:—

My full name is John Charles Mortimer and I am a Constable of Police, stationed at Manly. On Thursday the 24th August, 1978 I attended the Scenic Drive, North Head regarding a report of a body found over the cliff at the south eastern section of North Head, I arrived there about 3.30pm. There I saw and spoke to other Police who were already in attendance. I was informed that the Police Rescue Squad had recovered the body of a male person from the base of the cliff situated at the south eastern point of North Head from about 300 hundred feet below that cliff. The body had already been conveyed to Manly District Hospital by the Government Contractors where life was pronounce extinct by Doctor Dalrymple.

I then observed a white volkswagon station sedan registered number AKP 007 which was parked at the southern end of the Scenic Drive. T then returned to Manly Police Station and as a result of inquiries I interviewed a Mr Herbert Charles RUSSELL of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Manager at the Australian Broadcasting Commission, together with him I attended the Manly District Hospital Morgue at about 5.30pm on the 24th August, 1978 and there the body of David LLOYD-WILLIAMS was formally identified to me by Mr RUSSELL. Also present during the identification was Senior Constable Parry from Manly Police Station. The body identified to me was the same body that was retrieved from the base of the cliff at North Head earlier that afternoon by the Rescue Squad and identified to me by Senior Constable Parry as being that body. Mr RUSSELL informed me that he had worked with the Deceased and had known him for a period of five or six years. He further stated that he was of the opinion that the Deceased had been in a

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: J. Mortimer

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WILLIAMS.  
 Name: MORTIMER, John Charles.

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depressed state for about six months prior to his death as a result of marital problems. He further stated that the last time he had seen David LLOYD-WILLIAMS was approximately three weeks prior to his death and at that time he believed LLOYD-WILLIAMS appeared to be in an agitated and restless mood. A Statement was obtained from Mr Russell, I now produce that Statement.

On the morning of the 25th August, 1978 Senior Constable Parry identified the body of David LLOYD-WILLIAMS to the Government Medical Officer.

The Deceased was last seen alive by his Mother inlaw Mrs Anna Louisa WORTON, at about 8.30am on the 24th August, 1978, when she saw him at her home at [REDACTED] when she made him breakfast after he had spent the night at her home with both Mrs Worton and her husband. Mrs Worton informed me that although David LLOYD-WILLIAMS had been separated from her daughter, Christine for a period of four months both Mrs Worton and her husband had remained friends with the Deceased. Mrs Worton stated that she was of the opinion that the Deceased was suffering deep bouts of depression as a result of his marriage breakup and was aware that the Deceased had been under psychiatric treatment for his problem. A signed statement was obtained from Mrs Worton and I now produce that statement.

I then interviewed Miss Elizabeth Margret Lloyd-Williams of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] sister of the Deceased, David LLOYD-WILLIAMS. Miss Lloyd-Williams informed me that she had last seen her brother alive at about 8.30am on the 22nd August, 1978 when she visited him at his flat at [REDACTED] Cabramatta Road, Mosman. On that occasion she stated that when she knocked on the door her brother took some time to answer the door and when she spoke to him he began to cry and was apparently suffering a bout of deep depression and he stated he

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: J Mortimer

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(Surname in capitals)

believed the authorities were coming to take him away. Miss Lloyd-Williams stated that she consoled him for awhile then had to leave to go to work as she was aware that his Mother inlaw Mrs Werton was coming over to visit him. She further stated that her brother had been in good health and spirits up until his break up of his marriage after the 1st April, 1978, and his main conversation at the time centred on the fact that he relised his wife would not be coming back to him. A signed statement was obtained from Miss Lloyd-Williams. I now produce that statement.

At about 7.30pm on Monday the 9th October, 1978 I interviewed Mr Robert Norman Steele of [REDACTED] who works as a Supervisor at Emoleum Pty Ltd Australia and he stated that at about 11.45am on Thursday the 24th August, 1978 he had gone for a drive to North Head and after having walked around the cliff top he observed a body of the Deceased at the base of the cliff at the south eastern end of Scenic Drive and had summoned the Police to attend. A signed statement was obtained from Mr Steele and I now produce that statement.

Inquiries at North Ryde Psychiatric Centre revealed that the Deceased LLOYD-WILLIAMS had been a patient of Doctor Hoult. A letter was obtained from that Doctor. I now produce that letter.

It is my opinion that David LLOYD-WILLIAMS had during a deep bout of depression and sadness over the breakup of his marriage driven his car to North Head and whilst in a state of depression jumped from the cliff to end his life. Inquiries had also revealed that the Deceased had previuosly contemplated taking his own life as he had expressed his desire not to go on without his wife. There are no suspicious circumstances and no notes were found at his home or in his motor vehicle at the scene where the body was recovered.

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: 