

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE

P.190

STATEMENT in matter of: John HOKIN Manslaughter

Place: Merrylands Police Station

Date: 15 October, 1992

Name: NASH, Aaron Robert

Tel. No: [REDACTED]

Address: Merrylands Police Station

Occupation: Constable of Police STATES:-

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

2. I am 21 years of age.

3. On Wednesday, 22 July, 1992 I was rostered for duty as driver of Merrylands 25, Supervisor's car. The Supervisor was Senior Constable Pledge. My hours of duty were from 10pm that date until 6.30am on 23/07/92.

4. Shortly before 1.50am on 23/07/92 I was standing in the charge room of the Merrylands Police Station near the door to the station area when the defendant John HOKIN walked into Police Station. Senior Constables Pledge and Harrison were in the station at the time and I heard Hokin say to Harrison, "I've had a fight with my mate. I think I've killed him." I saw that the front of Hokin's shirt was opened and I could see scratch marks on his body. I then went into the charge room and spoke to Constable Brincau. Pledge came into the charge room and said something to me and he and I left the Police Station. When I left I saw Hokin having a conversation with Senior Constable Harrison.

Witness: *G. J. Hale* Signature: *A. Nash*

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5. I then went with Senior Constable Pledge to Hokin's home at the corner of Burnett Street and [REDACTED], Merrylands. The house fronts onto Burnett Street and we parked at the front of the house. Senior Constable Pledge and I entered the front yard and walked down the right hand side of the house into the back yard. As we came into the back yard I saw a male person on his back, his legs were wrapped around a support post to the rear verandah and the male person was motionless. I also noted that the person was dressed in bib and brace overalls. I saw Constable Pledge feel the male person in the neck and on the wrist and Pledge told me something.

6. Constable Pledge then left and I remained in the rear yard with the deceased. Whilst standing in the rear yard I noted on the verandah was small fire place full of ash, a number of empty beer bottles, there was one broken beer bottle about 2 metres from the deceased's head and near the bottle was a chair which had been knocked over. On the left hand side of the deceased about 2 metres beside and old motor vehicle I saw a spade on the ground. The rear of the premises and yard were untidily kept. Shortly after Constable Tunks and Constable Green on Merrylands 1 arrived and I had a conversation with them. Shortly after two ambulance officers, Tucker and Kusch from Parramatta arrived. They examined the deceased and told me something and they left shortly after.

7. Shortly after Senior Constable Pledge returned and Detective Senior Sergeant Gibson, Detective Sergeant Fluke and Detective Slattery arrived. Shortly after Scientific Police arrived and a number of other Police and I left the yard.

8. I remained in the front of the premises until such time as the body was removed by the contractors. I then went to

Witness: Signature:
G. J. Klabe
Ant Sjt *ANW*

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the Westmead Morgue with Constable Tunks where we signed the body of the deceased in. I then returned to the Police Station and continued other duties.

Witness: *[Handwritten signature]*Signature: *[Handwritten signature]*
[Handwritten signature] Aaron Robert NASH