

## New South Wales Police

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v2.6

STATEMENT in the matter of:  
Death of STOCKTON

Place: Surry Hills  
Police Station  
Date : 11 November 1996

Name: Gavin William JAMES

Address: [REDACTED]

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Student

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 anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

2. I am 23 years of age. [REDACTED]

3. I am a regular drinker at the 'Bar Cleveland', which is a hotel situated at the corner of Cleveland and Bourke Streets, Redfern. I would go drinking there about three times a week, but not on any particular nights. I have been drinking there for about eighteen months.

4. On Tuesday the 5 November, 1996 I went to the Bar Cleveland with a friend, Nathan, I don't know his last name. Nathan met me at my girlfriend, Lara ACKROYD's house at [REDACTED], [REDACTED], about 9.30pm - 9.45pm and the two of us walked up to the Bar Cleveland. We drank in the front bar of the hotel until it was closing, which was about midnight. The bar staff then ushered any other people who were still drinking, into the back bar, which stays open later, normally until about 3.00am, depending on how many people are drinking.

Witness: [REDACTED]

Signature: Gavin James

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5. Nathan and I stayed in the front bar talking to the staff and we picked up a few glasses for them while we were drinking. Then about 1.00am, Nathan and I were sitting down at one of the tables talking to Magda one of the staff, when I noticed people coming the door of the bar that leads from Cleveland Street, near the corner of Bourke Street. I looked across and I saw two males coming into the bar. Then I saw Brent the bar manager go over and talked to them. Then I think Nathan got up and went over to Brent and the two guys, who were standing just inside the door to my right as I looked at them. I saw one of the guys leave the same way he came in, it was then I noticed that he had a ponytail and that his hair might have been dark brown, I'm not sure.

6. Then Nathan called me over to where he was with Brent and the other guy. As soon as got over to Nathan and Brent, I saw the guy had a black eye, I'm not sure which one it was, but it looked like it had just happened, it was a real purpley colour and could smell that he had been drinking. I remember he had one of his arms in a sling. Nathan, Brent and I layed him down on the floor of the bar and Brent went to call someone about him, I think it might have been the Salvation Army. I think I asked for some ice for his eye and I remember Magda handing me some ice wrapped in some cloth. I put that on his eye and we sat and waited for the people Brent had rung to arrive. The guy hadn't said much at all that I can remember at that stage, except something like, " I want to die. " I think he said this about two or three times and when he said it he sounded reasonably coherent.

7. About half an hour later I saw a white van with what looked to be a red stripe down the side stop in Cleveland Street

Witness: Signature: 

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outside the Bar Cleveland and two men came in and looked at the guy on the floor and began talking to him. The asked him his name and we looked for his wallet and couldn't find one. Then I helped one of the guys take him out to the van and the Salvation Army guy found that he had a mobile phone. I didn't know anything about mobile phones, so I went back into the bar and got Nathan to have a look at it to see if he could access it to see if we could find out who this guy was, but Nathan couldn't access it. We put him into the back of the van and one of the Salvation Army guys thanked us and they drove away.

8. During the time I was with the guy with the black eye I wasn't too concerned about him as he didn't look physically injured other than his arm in the sling and his blackened eye.

9. I remember this guy as being unshaven and over fifty, other than that I don't recall anything more about him. I have never seen this guy drinking in the bar before.

10. On Tuesday 12 November, 1996, I attended the Surry Hills Police Station and Detective WALKER showed me a colour photocopy of a photograph, with a male and female depicted in it. The male in that photocopy is the same person I have described with the blackened eye, only he looked older and he had more grey hairs in his hair and facial hair. I then signed and dated that photocopy of the man.

Witness: Signature: 



Gavin Sand  
12/11/96.

Carl Stodden  
Nov, 96