Case 75 - Bias Crimes Indicators Review Form

File Number: 277

Product Type: TEXT DOCUMENTS:Investigators Note

Date of Note: 6 Mar 2017

Brief Description: Murder/death of Carl STOCKTON (75) on 05 November, 1996.

Carl STOCKTON was a 52 year old homosexual male who lived alone in Surry Hills and

worked as a train driver. He was not open about his sexuality.

STOCKTON died at St Vincent's hospital after being transported there from Campbell House after staying there after a night drinking. He had three separate injuries to his head

which were the cause of his death.

There are no known suspects nor is it known how he came to get these injuries with the

Coroner providing an open finding to their cause.

NSW POLICE FORCE

STRIKE FORCE PARRABELL

Bias Crimes Indicators Review Form

Investigation No:	75
Victim/Deceased:	Carl STOCKTON
Date of death:	11 November, 1996
Investigation Status:	Unsolved
Offender/s:	Unknown
Investigative Unit:	Surry Hills Detectives with assistance of Homicide
Description:	Carl STOCKTON was a 52 year old homosexual male who lived alone in Surry Hills and worked as a train driver. He was not open about his sexuality. STOCKTON died at St Vincent's hospital after being transported there from Campbell House after staying there after a night drinking. He had three separate injuries to his head which were the cause of his death. There are no known suspects nor is it known how he came to get these injuries with the Coroner providing an open finding to their cause.

Indicator 1 – 9 taken from the 'Responding to hate Crime – A multidisciplinary Curriculum for Law Enforcement & Victim Assistance Professionals. National Centre for Hate Crime Prevention, United States Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, 2000. Indicator 10 developed by NSWPF Bias Crimes based on research and cases.

1. Differences	
Prompts	Comment
Immutable characteristic differences between victim and POI's sexual orientation immutable characteristic differences between victim and POI's sexual orientation	Despite a large investigation and numerous media releases, no suspects have been identified for the death of Carl STOCKTON. It should be noted that STOCKTON'S death was not ruled a murder by the Coroner (TR-137). STOCKTON came from a devout Christian family. He lived by himself at Mort Street, Surry Hills a house owned by his father. He was a recluse with few friends and he was not known to have had a partner nor a flatmate (ST-648). This fact was reiterated in a statement from his father (ST-651). 1208 had been a close friend of STOCKTON'S for over 24 years, having named STOCKTON the god parent of her son 197 208 gave Investigators a four page typed statement where she stated, "Carl had confided in me that he was a homosexual, I was aware of this fact from virtually our first meetings." In relation to STOCKTON having partners, she stated, "Carl never had a live in boyfriend. I can remember him telling me within the last few years that his libido was fading and he was happy about that. I am aware that years ago Carl would cruise for sexual partners but as far as I am aware he wasn't in the habit of cruising anymore" (ST-648).
Victim is a member of a group which is outnumbered by members of another group in the area where the incident occurred	STOCKTON lived at Mort Street, Surry Hills. He rarely socialised and would often go to Bar Cleveland located at Cleveland Street cross of Bourke Street, Redfern by himself. Three months prior to his death, his address was broken into and approximately \$10,000.00 of goods was stolen. Just prior to his death, STOCKTON spoke to his friend Geoffrey TYSON and stated that he was thinking of moving to another suburb because, "people around here don't like me." The meaning of this statement was not clarified and it is unknown who he thought did not like him (ST-679).
Victim was engaged in activities promoting his/her group	There is no evidence suggesting STOCKTON was engaged in activities promoting a homosexual lifestyle.
Incident coincided with a holiday or date of particular significance to the victim or POI's group	STOCKTON received the injuries resulting in his death on 5 November, 1996. The Melbourne Cup was held on this date. STOCKTON was not known as a gambler with friends stating they don't believe he would have put a bet on the Melbourne Cup itself. There is no evidence to suggest that this date held any significance to STOCKTON.

Victim, although not a member of the targeted group is a member a member of an advocacy group that supports the victim, or the victim was in company of a member of the targeted group	Statements from Bar Cleveland staff including Magda KOS (ST-669) and Brent TOZER (ST-656) stated that STOCKTON was a regular to Bar Cleveland and that on the day he received his injuries, he was drinking alone and playing poker machines. Statements from Bridgette PAROISSIEN (ST-652) and her partner Robert DILIBERTO (ST-650) stated they saw STOCKTON in their rear yard near Bar Cleveland. They stated his motor skills were poor and they believed he was drunk due to this. They did not see any persons with STOCKTON whilst he was there or with him as they helped him move on back to Bar Cleveland. There is no evidence to suggest that any other persons were with STOCKTON during the night or when he received his injuries.
Historical animosity exists between the victim's group and the POI's group	Evidence suggests STOCKTON had been victim to an assault on a previous occasion motivated by his sexuality. In 1986, ten years before his death, STOCKTON'S friend Peter MOORE commented on a few bruises that STOCKTON had on the side of his face. STOCKTON replied, "I am a homosexual, it happens occasionally" (ST-678). STOCKTON explained to his friend Gavan MCLENNAN that this assault occurred in Moore Park, and he fled Sydney for five nights afterwards (ST-649). There is no evidence to suggest that whom or whatever caused the injuries to STOCKTON which resulted in his death, were the same people who assaulted him ten years earlier.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No

Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.

Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

Carl STOCKTON identified as a homosexual male. He lived by himself at Mort Street, Surry Hills, a house owned by his devout Christian family. STOCKTON came out to two female friends however was not open about his sexuality to many people. He appeared to be a solitary person with no boyfriend or house mate ever living at his address with him. STOCKTON often drank alone or socialised with very few people. He did not appear to have many friends, however those who knew him stated he would never make enemies nor be aggressive in any situation. How STOCKTON received his injuries was undetermined, therefore it is not known if there were suspects involved and if so, their sexuality.

2. Comments, Written Statements, Gestures	
Prompts	Comment
Bias related comments, written statements or gestures were made by the POI	There are no known direct witnesses to the incident which resulted in STOCKTON receiving his injuries. It is unknown if STOCKTON was injured through an accident or foul play. There is no evidence collected indicated written statements or symbols being observed on STOCKTON'S body or at the location.
Comments and gestures can occur before, during and after the incident	No evidence of bias related comments or gestures were identified by witnesses who located STOCKTON outside Bar Cleveland.
Victims may not be aware of the significance of gestures made	No bias related comments or statements were identified for this matter.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No

No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No

There are no known direct witnesses to the incident which resulted in STOCKTON receiving his injuries, either through an assault, an accident or a combination of both. The exact location where STOCKTON received these injuries was unable to be determined. There is no evidence collected indicated written statements or symbols being observed on STOCKTON'S body or at the location.

3. Drawings, Markings, Symbols, Tattoos, Graffiti

Prompts	Comment
Bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were left at the scene or were seen on the POI	Thirteen (13) black and white photographs of poor quality of the address of STOCKTON, which were taken after the assault (PH-153), along with forty nine (49) black and white photographs of poor quality of the Crime Scene at the hotel and post mortem of STOCKTON (PH-152) were reviewed. The post mortem report (OD-486) (OD-488) was also reviewed. From these, no bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were observed at the scene, at STOCKTON'S address or on the body of STOCKTON during post mortem.
Before discounting symbols, ensure that you understand the meaning of the symbol	No bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were located at the scene.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	(y/n) No

No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No

The exact location where STOCKTON received his injuries causing his eventual death was unable to be determined. STOCKTON was located outside Bar Cleveland. No bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were located at this location. STOCKTON did not have any bias related injuries or markings on his body

4. Organised Hate Groups (OHG)

Prompts	Comment
Objects or items that represent the work of an OHG were left at the scene, e.g. business cards, flyers, burning cross	The exact location or manner in which STOCKTON received his injuries remains unknown with the Coroner returning an 'open finding'. STOCKTON left Bar Cleveland around 11.30pm on 5 November 1996 and returned about 1.30am with a number of injuries. He was last seen uninjured but in a heavily intoxicated state by witnesses Robert BILIBERT (ST-650) and Bridgette PAOISSIEN (ST-652) in their rear yard which backs onto the rear of Bar Cleveland at 12.50am on the 6 November 1996. It appears apparent STOCKTON received his injuries between 12.50am and 1.30am nearby Bar Cleveland. Investigators canvassed between PAOISSIEN'S address and Bar Cleveland and were unable to identify any objects or items representing the work on an OHG.
An OHG claimed responsibility	There is no evidence of any OHG claiming responsibility for this matter.
There are indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area	In a statement from Eric HOOSON who worked for Sydney City Mission and assisted STOCKTON from Bar Cleveland to Campbell House, he stated that he had "heard rumours from a coworker Terry HUGO who stated that on the street, people believe that four Caucasian males who frequent the Bar Cleveland are responsible for a number of similar bashings in the vicinity of Bourke and Cleveland Street (intersection of Bar Cleveland). Apparently a deceased male named 'Champagne Charlie' was attacked by the same males" (ST-671). Police were

	unable to identify any historical events around the location to support this or
MO is similar to known MO of an OHG	any statements from Terry HUGO. Government Medical Practitioner Christopher LAWRENCE conducted STOCKTON'S post mortem, noting the cause of death from craniocerebral injuries. Dr. LAWRENCE stated that STOCKTON had "massive head injuries with three apparent areas of impact on the right temporal, posterior parietal and left temporal regions. There is also bruising on the legs, on the chest and on the arms. Some of the injury appears to be older, for example, the old rib fractures and the right clavicle. The pattern of the injuries is odd. It appears to indicate three separate impact sites which would be inconsistent with a single fall. The sequence of events need to be further clarified, however, in my opinion the pattern of injuries could represent an assault. Alternatively, this severity of injuries could be caused by being struck by a motor vehicle. The pattern of the other injuries is not typical of a pedestrian motor vehicle collision; however the head injuries could be produced if the decedent [STOCKTON] were lying on the road when struck" (OD-475). It has not been identified how STOCKTON received these injuries therefore it is unknown if they were from an MO used by an OHG.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

There is no direct evidence of an OHG active in and around Bar Cleveland, however in a statement from Eric HOOSON who worked for Sydney City Mission and assisted STOCKTON from Bar Cleveland to Campbell House, he stated that he had "...heard rumours from a co-worker Terry HUGO who stated that on the street, people believe that four Caucasian males who frequent the Bar Cleveland are responsible for a number of similar bashings in the vicinity of Bourke and Cleveland Street (intersection of Bar Cleveland). Apparently a deceased male named 'Champagne Charlie' was attacked by the same males." Police were unable to identify any historical events around the location to support this or any statements from Terry HUGO. STOCKTON'S injuries do not align with any known MO for an OHG. No OHG'S claimed responsibility for the injuries caused to STOCKTON, nor was any signs located identifying an OHG being responsible.

5. Previous existence of Bias Crime Incidents

3. Frevious existence of bias crime incluents	
Prompts	Comment
Victim was visiting a location where previous bias crimes had been committed against members of the victim's group	Detective Constable Bret COMAN and Detective Senior Constable Robert ALLISON spoke with Rochelle EVANS about past assaults in and around Bar Cleveland at the time STOCKTON was injured. These enquiries however offered no information pertinent to this enquiry (ST-635) (ST-636). No statement was obtained from Miss EVANS however in a statement from Eric HOOSON who worked for Sydney City Mission and assisted STOCKTON from Bar Cleveland to Campbell House, he stated that he had "heard rumours from a co-worker Terry HUGO who stated that on the street, people believe that four Caucasian males who frequent the Bar Cleveland are responsible for a number of similar bashings in the vicinity of Bourke and Cleveland Street (intersection of Bar Cleveland). Apparently a deceased male named "Champagne Charlie" was attacked by the same males" (ST-671). Police were unable to identify any historical events around the location to support this or any statements from Terry HUGO.
Several incidents occurred in the same area and the victims were members of the same group	There is hearsay from Eric HOOSON to Police that four males from Bar Cleveland were responsible for a number of similar bashings in the immediate area, however Police have been unable to confirm these reports.
 Victim has received previous harassing mail, email, social media posts or phone calls or has been the victim of verbal abuse (anti-gay) based on his/her affiliation with a targeted group 	There is no evidence to suggest STOCKTON had been receiving any harassing mail, emails or phone calls prior to this incident.
Recent bias incidents or crimes may have sparked retaliatory bias crime	There is no evidence to suggest any recent bias incidents or crimes to have sparked any retaliatory bias crime.

Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

There is no direct evidence to suggest that Bar Cleveland was an area that previous bias related incidents had occurred. In a statement from Eric HOOSON who worked for Sydney City Mission and assisted STOCKTON from Bar Cleveland to Campbell House, he stated that he had "...heard rumours from a co-worker Terry HUGO who stated that on the street, people believe that four Caucasian males who frequent the Bar Cleveland are responsible for a number of similar bashings in the vicinity of Bourke and Cleveland Street (intersection of Bar Cleveland). Apparently a deceased male named 'Champagne Charlie' was attacked by the same males." Police were unable to identify any historical events around the location to support this or any statements from Terry HUGO. There is no evidence to suggest that STOCKTON had been receiving any harassing mail, emails or phone calls prior to this incident. STOCKTON was a reclusive person who fled Sydney to Melbourne when his house was broken into, however he was a regular at Bar Cleveland suggesting that he had not had trouble at this location prior.

6. Victim/Witness Perception

Prompts	Comment	
Witnesses (actual) perceive that the incident was motivated by bias	There were no direct witnesses or suspects identified who could assist with determining how STOCKTON received his injuries. It is still unknown if the injuries that caused STOCKTON'S death was from an accident, assault, being hit by a car or a combination of the above.	

Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
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7. Motive of Offender/s	
Prompts	Comment
POI was previously involved in similar incident or is a member/associates with members of an OHG	No suspects were identified following STOCKTON'S admission to hospital, despite a thorough investigation and numerous media releases. The Coroner was unable to determine what caused the injuries to STOCKTON.
The victim was in company of a member of the targeted group	There is no evidence to suggest STOCKTON was in company of any other persons at the time he received his injuries.

The victim was perceived to be breaking from traditional conventions or working non-traditional employment The POL has a history of provious crimes with	STOCKTON lived a solitary life with only a few close friends, who all described him as a recluse. He did not appear to have many friends, however each of them believed that he would have no enemies nor be aggressive towards anyone. STOCKTON worked full time driving trains and spent his time off within a Rolls Royce owners club. He appeared to conform to society with traditional employment and lifestyle. No suspects were identified in this
The POI has a history of previous crimes with similar MO and involving other victims of the same group	investigation.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
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GENERAL COMMENT	
The causation of STOCKTON'S injuries that led to his death was never identified. Several motives including robbery were ruled out by investigators, with STOCKTON being found with all his possessions except his keys. His house and car were not broken into or stolen after the injuries were received. No offenders or motive was able to be established.	

8. Location of Incident	
Prompts	Comment
The victim was in or near an area or place commonly associated with or frequented by members of a particular group e.g. beat	The exact location STOCKTON received his injuries is not known, however it is believed to be in the near vicinity of Bar Cleveland located at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Bourke Street, Redfern. This area was not known to be frequented by members of any particular group. STOCKTON often drank at Bar Cleveland alone and spoke to few regulars there.
The location of an incident has specific significance to the victim or POI group e.g. cemetery, religious building, historical landmark, etc	STOCKTON drank at the Bar Cleveland on a regular basis, often alone. Other than this, it is not known to have any specific significance to him.
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Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	

The exact location STOCKTON received his injuries is not known, however it is believed to be in the near vicinity of Bar Cleveland located at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Bourke Street, Redfern. This pub did not appear to be frequented by any particular group. STOCKTON often drank at the Bar Cleveland alone and spoke to few regulars there. Other than being a regular, the bar did not appear to hold any significance to STOCKTON.

9. Lack of Motive	
Prompts	Comment
No clear economic or other motive for the incident exists The incident exists	When STOCKTON was found injured outside Bar Cleveland, he still had all his personal possessions on him except his car keys. Gavin JAMES assisted the bar manager Brent TOZER and Magda KOZ in helping STOCKTON and placed a cold pack over his blackened eye. It was noted by JAMES that STOCKTON had his mobile phone and was continually saying, "I want to die" (ST-667). A statement was taken from Naresh PARSHOTAM who worked at a pharmacy STOCKTON frequently visited. It was ascertained STOCKTON was prescribed to take six tablets containing 25 milligram of Anafranil per night due to depression, with the occasional 5 milligram Valium tablet as required. PARSHOTAM also stated that she never saw STOCKTON carrying large sums of money (ST-670). Mark LAMBRICK from Campbell House where STOCKTON was taken after he sustained the injuries, undressed STOCKTON and removed his wallet and mobile phone placing them with his property (ST-641). Investigators canvassed the idea for robbery as a motive however despite STOCKTON'S keys being the only items missing, no one had used them to break into his house or steal any of his three cars including a Rolls Royce. A large canvass was conducted between Bar Cleveland and STOCKTON'S home address; however his keys were not located. Robbery is not believed to have been a motive against STOCKTON if his injuries were attained from an assault. About 1.30am on 6 November, 1996 STOCKTON was seen to by Eric HOOSON from Sydney City Mission, a company that help drunk and homeless people to shelter and look after them. When he asked STOCKTON where and how he received his bruised eye, he replied, "I don't know." The other answers from STOCKTON appeared coherent (ST-671). Late on 6 November, 1996 Detective Senior Constable Tony MOSS and Plain Clothes Senior Constable Michael SPARKES spoke to STOCKTON was fully aware of his questions (ST-634). How STOCKTON denied he had been assaulted, however Detective MOSS noted that he did not believe STOCKTON so find in juries was never determined, and therefore a motiv

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No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

Investigators and the Coroner were unable to identify the cause of STOCKTON'S injuries that led to his death. The Coroner returned an open finding citing that the injuries could have come from an assault, a fall, or being hit by a motor vehicle, or a combination of the above three. Investigators canvassed the idea of robbery however this was ruled out with only STOCKTON'S keys missing but neither his house nor cars including a Rolls Royce having been stolen or broken into. No causation to the injuries or a motive if indeed an assault was established by Investigators.

10. Level of Violence	
Prompts	Comment
The level of violence and injuries sustained by the victim/s is greater than would be expected for a crime of that type a crime of that type	Government Medical Practitioner Dr. Christopher LAWRENCE conducted STOCKTON'S post mortem and described his cause of death from craniocerebral injuries. Dr. LAWRENCE stated STOCKTON had "massive head injuries with three apparent areas of impact on the right temporal, posterior parietal and left temporal regions. There is also bruising on the legs, on the chest and on the arms. Some of the injury appears to be older, for example, the old rib fractures and the right clavicle. The pattern of the injuries is odd. It appears to indicate three separate impact sites which would be inconsistent with a single fall. The sequence of events need to be further clarified, however, in my

	opinion the pattern of injuries could represent an assault. Alternatively, this severity of injuries could be caused by being struck by a motor vehicle. The pattern of the other injuries is not typical of a pedestrian motor vehicle collision, however the head injuries could be produced if the decedent [STOCKTON] were lying on the road when struck" (OD-475).
Weapons of opportunity are used in the incident	No suspects were identified during this investigation. It is not known if STOCKTON received his injuries from a weapon.
The number of POI's is greater than the number of victims and all POI's take an active role in the assault	No suspects were identified during this investigation. It is not known if STOCKTON was assaulted, and if he was, the number of offenders present or taking an active part in said assault.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Indicator: Insufficient Information (II)

having been stolen or broken into.

Comment: Carl STOCKTON identified as a homosexual male. He lived by himself at Mort Street, Surry Hills, a house owned by his devout Christian family. STOCKTON came out to two female friends however was not open about his sexuality to many people. He appeared to be a solitary person. STOCKTON often drank alone or socialised with very few people. He did not appear to have many friends, however those who knew him stated he would never make enemies nor be aggressive in any situation.

The exact location where STOCKTON received his injuries causing his eventual death was unable to be determined; however it is believed to be in the near vicinity of Bar Cleveland located at the intersection of Cleveland Street and Bourke Street, Redfern. Where STOCKTON was located outside Bar Cleveland, no bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were located. STOCKTON did not have any bias related injuries or markings on his body. There is no direct evidence of an OHG being active in or around Bar Cleveland, however in a statement from Eric HOOSON who worked for Sydney City Mission and assisted STOCKTON from Bar Cleveland to Campbell House, he stated that he had "...heard rumours from a co-worker Terry HUGO who stated that on the street, people believe that four Caucasian males who frequent the Bar Cleveland are responsible for a number of similar bashings in the vicinity of Bourke and Cleveland Street (intersection of Bar Cleveland). Apparently a deceased male named 'Champagne Charlie' was attacked by the same males." Police were unable to identify any historical events around the location to support this or any statements from Terry HUGO. There is no direct evidence to suggest that Bar Cleveland was an area that witnessed previous bias related incidents. Investigators and the Coroner were unable to identify the cause of STOCKTON'S injuries that led to his death. The Coroner returned an open finding citing that the injuries could have come from an assault, a fall, or being hit by a motor vehicle, or a combination of the above three. Investigators canvassed the idea of robbery however this was ruled out with only STOCKTON'S keys missing but neither his house nor cars including a Rolls Royce

Government Medical Practitioner Dr. Christopher LAWRENCE conducted STOCKTON'S post mortem and described his cause of death from craniocerebral injuries. Dr. LAWRENCE stated that STOCKTON had "massive head injuries with three apparent areas of impact on the right temporal, posterior parietal and left temporal regions. There is also bruising on the legs, on the chest and on the arms. The pattern of the injuries is odd. It appears to indicate three separate impact sites which would be inconsistent with a single fall. The sequence of events need to be further clarified, however, in my opinion the pattern of injuries could represent an assault. Alternatively, this severity of injuries could be caused by being struck by a motor vehicle. The pattern of the other injuries is not typical of a pedestrian motor vehicle collision, however the head injuries could be produced if the deceased [STOCKTON] were lying on the road when struck." Should these injuries have been caused from an assault, the level of violence would have been extreme to cause three separate fractures around STOCKTON'S skull. It is not known if it was caused from an assault, and if so, if any weapons were used and by how many offenders. As it is unknown how STOCKTON received his injuries, it is not known if someone was responsible, and if so, their sexuality.