



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

15 November 2022

Dr Isabel Brouwer
 Statewide Clinical Director
 c/o Anne Catanuto
 NSW Health Pathology – Forensic Medicine Sydney
 1A Main Avenue LIDCOMBE NSW 2141

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr Brouwer,

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes: Request for records

I assist the Commissioner, Justice John Sackar, in the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (“the Inquiry”).

The Inquiry

By way of background, on 13 April 2022, the Governor, by Letters Patent, issued a commission to his Honour to inquire into and report on historical LGBTIQ hate crimes. Specifically, the Letters Patent require his Honour to inquire into and report to the Governor and Premier on the following matters by 30 June 2023:

- 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.

A copy of the Letters Patent and other information about the Inquiry is available online at: www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au.

Summons to produce documents

One of the matters being considered by the Inquiry is the death of Peter Sheil (born 2 February 1953) between 27 and 29 April 1983 at Thompsons Bay (now known as Gordons Bay), Clovelly. On 3 May 1983, Dr Colin Goldschmidt performed an autopsy on Mr Sheil (Post Mortem No. 83/762). Dr Goldschmidt recorded the cause of death as “multiple injuries”.

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The Coroners Court of NSW has provided the Inquiry with the coronial file for Mr Lloyd-Williams, which includes the autopsy and toxicology reports. However, the coronial file unfortunately does not include any autopsy photographs or similar material taken at the time of the autopsy. Nor can I be certain whether the coronial file contains all relevant reports that may have been prepared in relation to this matter.

In light of this, please find **enclosed**, by way of service, a summons requiring the production of all records held by NSW Health Pathology – Forensic Medicine in relation to Mr Sheil (Summons DOFM3). In particular, I would be grateful to receive any report or other documents relating to an examination of Mr Sheil's spinal cord.

The summons is returnable on **28 November 2022** and the documents may be produced electronically. I note that due to the age of the files, they may be in archives. If further time is required to produce the material, please advise Caitlin Healey-Nash, Senior Solicitor, as soon as possible and indicate when you anticipate the files can be provided.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Healey-Nash on 0466 480 286 or at caitlin.healey-nash@specialcommission.nsw.gov.au should you wish to discuss this request further.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours faithfully,



Caitlin Healey-Nash
Senior Solicitor
for Crown Solicitor

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