

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Police Station NewcastleDate: 1st January, 1980.Name: BARRETT, Neville Alfred.

(Surname in capitals)

Address: [REDACTED] Glendale.Tel. No. [REDACTED]Occupation: Ambulance Paramedic.

STATES:-

1. I am an Ambulance Paramedic by occupation, and I am employed by the New South Wales Health Commission Ambulance Division, and I work from Ambulance Headquarters, Newcastle, situated in Dennison Street, Hamilton. I have been employed in the capacity of Paramedic for the past two years, and as an Ambulance Officer for the past five and a half years.
2. I am a married man and I reside with my wife and family at the above address.
3. In my employment as Ambulance Paramedic, I work from Newcastle Ambulance Headquarters, Hamilton, and we are rostered on in pairs to work a specific vehicle for each shift. On Friday the 19th December, 1980, I was rostered to work a 7am to 3.p.m. shift with Officer Bruce Varley, also an Ambulance Paramedic. On that date we operated ambulance unit No. 96, which is the intensive care unit, a Ford F100 Ambulance.
4. At 13.04 hours that date, the 19th December, 1980, a call was received at Ambulance Headquarters, to the effect that there had been a man apparently assaulted and was now injured in the public toilets in Birdwood Park. Officer Varley, who was the driver on that day, and myself, immediately went to Birdwood Park. Upon arrival at the park, we drove in from the Western end of King Street extended, and Bruce stopped the vehicle adjacent to the kerb on the Southern side of the street, just opposite the toilet block.
5. When the vehicle stopped, I got out and picked up the oxygen equipment which is carried between the front seats of the ambulance, and I commenced to walk towards the door of the male portion of the toilet block. As I did so, I was met by a man who was at that time standing outside the toilets, and he directed me into the toilet saying, "I have done nothing for him, and he is in there." As he said this he indicated the toilet.

Witness:

Signature: *N.A. Barrett*

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Page No.: TWOSTATEMENT (continued) in matter of: DEATH OF RICHARD SLATERName: BARRETT, Neville Alfred.

(Surname in capitals)

This man appeared to me to be well dressed in light coloured clothing, long trousers, I did not pay any attention to his appearance, but I noticed that there was a lady not far away from him.

6. I then went into the toilet, and I saw a man lying on his back with his feet in the urinal trough, closest to the Western wall, I noticed some blood on the floor near his head. I approached the man and I said to him, "What has happened." He said, "Nothing has happened.", I said, "Were you bashed." He said, "No.", I said, "Did you fall over." He said, "No". I had not touched the man at this time, and just then a Police Officer walked into the toilet. I then said to the injured man, "What has happened." He said, "Nothing." I said, "Did you fall over." He said, "No." I said, "Have you been bashed." He said, "No." The Police Officer then said, "What happened." the man then said, "Nothing happened.". At that time, both the Police Officer and myself went to have a look in the two toilet cubicles alongside the urinal, I then returned to where the man was lying.

7. I then said to the man, "What is your name," He clearly said, "Dick Slater." I said, "Where do you live." He said, nothing, and I then said again, "Where do you live." He could not answer me and seemed very confused. I said, "Where have you been." He said, "I am not sure." I said, "Who do you live with." He said, "with my daughter." I said, "What is her name." He said, "Julie Slater, and she is married." I said, "What is her married name." He said, "I don't know." He seemed very confused at this time. While I was talking to the patient Slater, I noticed swelling to the right side of his forehead, bruising and swelling to the left eye and left ear. I noticed slight bleeding near the left ear. Also I observed abrasion and swelling to the upper part of the centre of his chest.

8. I also noticed that his belt was unbuckled, and his trousers were opened at the front and were half way down his buttocks. His fly was completely undone, and his genitals were exposed. I checked Slater's pulse, and found it to be regular at the rate of sixty eight beats per minute, and had a respiration rate of 12 breaths per minute. His right eye pupil was normal size and reacting to torchlight, but difficulty was experienced in examining left eye pupil due to swelling. Pad and bandage was then applied to left ear area, and with the assistance of the Police

Witness: _____

Signature: N Barrett

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STATEMENT (continued) in matter of: Death of Richard Slater.

Name: BARRETT, Neville Alfred.

(Surname in capitals)

present, the patient Slater was placed on a stretcher and myself and Officer Varley then placed him in the ambulance, and Officer Varley then drove the Ambulance vehicle to the Royal Newcastle Hospital, Accident Reception Area, where I saw Sister Meskell, who was at that time in charge of that area. A resident Doctor then came to where the patient Slater had been placed in the accident reception area, and I had a conversation with him, and provided him with my examination report, which is endorsed on the official case sheet. I then left the Hospital with Officer Varley, as arrangements were being made to take the patient Slater to the X-Ray. I then returned to Ambulance Headquarters with Officer Varley.

Witness.....
M.K. Squires.

Signature.....
N.A. Barrett
N.A. Barrett.

Witness: _____ Signature: _____