



## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

### Statement of Tiffany Sutherland

21 August 2023

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (the **Inquiry**) as a witness. This statement has been prepared from my own knowledge and also from perusing the records of the Inquiry. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is Tiffany Sutherland. My address is known to the Inquiry.
2. I am employed as a Senior Investigator by the Inquiry.
3. In the course of my duties, I have reviewed and conducted inquiries in relation to the death of Walter Bedser (**Mr Bedser**), who died on 2 December 1980 at Parramatta Hospital in NSW following an assault that day at his antique shop at 4 Darcy St Parramatta. The information contained in this statement is true based on my own knowledge and work, and from documents in possession of the Inquiry relevant to Mr Bedser.

#### Witness statements

4. Following the public hearing and documentary tender of Mr Bedser's death, the Inquiry considered it appropriate to exhaust further lines of investigation by contacting additional witnesses. The Inquiry determined that Amani Youssef, Debbie Faye Smith, and I41 (a pseudonym) should be approached to ascertain their recollections of the matter, as each gave significant information to the original investigation. In particular, the Inquiry sought to establish if Ms Youssef had provided a written statement to the initial investigation and, if so, whether she retained a copy.
5. On 11 July 2023, myself and Darren Brown, another investigator assisting the Inquiry, made telephone contact with Ms Youssef. Ms Youssef advised that with the passage of time she could only vaguely remember the details of the event and had never provided a formal written statement.
6. On 11, 18 and 28 July 2023, Mr Brown and I attempted contact with I41 by telephone. The witness was unwilling to assist the Inquiry.

Statement of Tiffany Sutherland – 21 August 2023

7. On 18 and 28 July 2023, Mr Brown and I made contact with Debbie Faye Smith through telephone. Ms Smith was unwilling to assist the Inquiry.

Signature: 

Name: Tiffany Sutherland

Date: 21/08/23