

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:  
Murder of David Samuel ROSE.

Place: Pennant Hills Police  
Station

Date: 3 January 1998

Name: HALME, Elina

Tel No.: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Pennant Hills.

Occupation: Kitchen Hand

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 in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
2. My age is 49.
3. I am currently living in a de-facto relationship with Stephen BECKER at [REDACTED], Pennant Hills. I have been with Stephen for a period of nearly nine years.
4. During my relationship with Stephen he was working as a volunteer announcer and reader at radio station 2RPH. While at 2RPH he became acquainted with a person called David ROSE. David was an announcer with the same radio station on Saturday nights. Both Stephen and I knew David for a period of about five years mainly through Stephen's association with the radio station. Stephen went out socially with David and his work companions on two occasions and I went once.
5. On the 2nd of November 1997 David came over to our house for a barbecue. This is the only time he had been to our house and I think this was the last time I saw him. I did speak to David on the telephone after this time but I cannot recall when

Witness:

[Signature]

Signature:

Elina Halme

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that was. I did not know anything about his personal life as he did not talk about it. I basically only knew about his work at the radio station. I was aware that David dressed in female clothing and I thought this was because he was transsexual and because he had told me about his female hormone treatment. He was very interested in jewellery and other female things.

6. Between 10.00am and 11.00am on Saturday the 20th of December, 1997 I was at home with Stephen when he called David at his Kensington unit. It was only a short conversation and Stephen looked worried when he got off the phone. Stephen said to me that David had told him that he was too tired to talk as he was sick. Stephen had also told David to leave his answering machine on I assume so that David didn't have to get up to answer the phone if he wasn't feeling well.

7. Stephen and I talked about David and what might be wrong with him. Both of us had become quite close to David as he was a likeable and caring person. Stephen had said that David did not sound happy when he spoke to him on the phone on this morning but sounded tired and not his normal self.

8. Perhaps sometime around 4.00pm that afternoon Stephen left home to go to visit a friend at Hurstville to deliver some presents. He is god father to one of the daughters of Helene TOPP. He had earlier arranged to go to Helene's house for a barbecue but there was some problem between Helene and her ex-husband so he thought it was a good idea not to stay for a barbecue but to just deliver the presents. I think he had told me that he also planned to visit David's place and deliver his present as well. Stephen always bought David a Christmas present. He wanted to deliver them early and get them out of the way. I left home at about 5.00pm to go to work at Hornsby.

Witness:



Signature:



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9. Around midnight Stephen came to pick me up at work and he told me that he was concerned about David. He said that he had been to David's unit and there was no answer and he had left the present between the front door and the screen door. He had looked in the bread and milk box but decided to put it in between the doors. He had something to eat in the restaurant and then we both went home about 1.00am.

10. On Sunday morning the 21st of December, 1997 Stephen tried to ring David at his unit but again there was no answer. Stephen said that the telephone was engaged. Stephen and I had been talking a lot about what might have happened to David. Stephen was worried that because he sounded so tired on the phone that maybe he had taken some tablets or had done something stupid like that. Stephen then rang the local hospital to David to find out if he was there. I was concerned that we might be interfering but we didn't know what had happened to him. Stephen said that there was no one by David's name in the hospital.

11. We had visitors later in the day and they stayed till about 4.00pm that afternoon. I think Stephen tried to ring David again but the telephone was still engaged. He said that if he wasn't able to raise David he would contact David's parents on Monday morning.

12. On Monday morning the 22nd of December, 1997 Stephen had managed to contact David's mother and she told him that she was also concerned that they were not able to contact David. I went out shopping at Hornsby during the day and then went to work during the night. I received a telephone call from Stephen at work and he told me that they had found David dead in his unit. We didn't know how he had died but we assumed that he may have taken his own life.

Witness: 

Signature: 

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13. David was a very lonely person who kept to himself. Because of what he was and how he was I believed that he didn't have a sexual relationship with another person although I am not sure of this. He was normally a happy person but because he was so lonely it came to my mind that maybe he had taken his own life. That is what I thought.

14. To my knowledge David did not have any enemies or wasn't having problems with anyone. Everybody that I knew at the radio station seemed to have a high opinion of David and was well respected and liked. To my knowledge he did not drink alcohol or take drugs and did not have a gambling problem. I do not know anyone who would kill David.

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

  
P. Thornton  
Detective Senior Constable  
3 January 1998

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

