

New South Wales Police

P.190

v2.6

STATEMENT in the matter of:

Place: Mona Vale

Death of David Rose

Police Station

Date : 9 January 1998

Name: Fiona Kathryn FEARY

Address: [REDACTED]

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Typist

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 anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

2. I am 39 years of age. DOB: [REDACTED]/1958.

3. I am the sister of Sandra Durward. Sandra is currently 42 years of age and I know that she is living in the suburb of St Clair. I would usually see Sandra approximately once per month. Around christmas I would have seen Sandra about three times. Sandra has had a problem with alcohol addiction for the past fifteen to twenty years and has also had a problem with Heroin addiction. Sandra resided with a male person by the name of Paul Hilton in a de-facto relationship for a number of years in the 1980s.

4. I am aware that Sandra had a close relationship with a male person by the name of David Rose. That was a friendship and not intimate in anyway. Sandra met David at a community radio station called 2RPH. Sandra used to announce a number of programs on that radio station which included reading newspapers and magazines. David Rose was a presenter at the same station.

Witness:

*Matthew Stiller*  
Matthew Stiller  
Det Sen Cst  
9.1.98

Signature: -

*Fiona Feary*

STATEMENT (continued) in the matter of: David Rose  
Name: Fiona Kathryn FEARY

5. I met David Rose on two occasions that I can remember. The first time was about eight and a half years ago. The second time was at Sandra's fortieth birthday party about two and a half years ago. Over the last few months I had also spoken to David on the telephone in relation to Sandra's problems. I would have spoken to David on the phone ten to fifteen times and he would more than likely ring me.

6. From a physical appearance perspective I noticed that David might have been wearing a bit of makeup and nail polish. I found David to be a quiet sort of person but intelligent and friendly. From the recent phone calls with David I found him to be considerate as he was worried about my well-being i.e. how I was coping emotionally, as well as Sandra.

7. In late December 1997 I was contacted by my mother who told me that David had died. My mother told me that Steve Becker had informed her. I didn't know how David had actually died but my mother and I speculated that it may have been suicide.

8. On the afternoon of the 23rd of December 1997 I rang Sandra's housemate to notify her that David had died. At the time I was a bit concerned as to how Sandra would take the news of David's death due the emotional state she was in over the last few months. I spoke to the flatmate by the name of 'Diedre'. At first Diedre was under the misapprehension that another David had died, not David Rose. I then clarified that it was David Rose. Diedre informed me that she would pass the message onto Sandra at work.

9. Later that same evening I got a call from Sandra at home. Sandra sounded extremely upset on the phone and wanted to know

Witness: Matthew Stirton  
Dxt Sen rsf  
9.1.98

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

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more detail. She informed that she had spoken to Steve Becker. At that point we both knew that David had been murdered from news reports on the television. She was of the opinion that anyone that knew David couldn't have possibly murdered him. I am aware that my parents met with Sandra the next day at the funeral of David Rose.

10. On the afternoon of Christmas Day I saw Sandra at my parent's house at Bayview. There were passing comments made about David's death but we didn't mention it much because we knew that Sandra was upset about it. About 7pm or 8pm Sandra got a lift a nearby to Thornliegh railway station off my other sister Kate.

11. In the week following christmas I spoke to Sandra on the telephone and she was upset that she had been questioned by the police and that the police had visited her work. Sandra seemed more upset in that she had come to the police with information and had been put under the microscope as a suspect.

12. I am aware that about three to four months ago Sandra stayed at David Rose's unit at Kensington whilst she was having drinking problems. Sandra stayed at David's for a period of two weeks. After Sandra left David's place she moved to my house for a couple of days.

13. Whilst Sandra was staying at David's house I would have rung his unit on a number of occasions to see how Sandra was. I would have conversations on the phone with David about Sandra pertaining to her health. David was genuinely concerned for Sandra as I was.

Witness:



Matthew Stirton

Det Sen C/S

9.1.98

Signature:





STATEMENT (continued) in the matter of: David Rose

Name: Fiona Kathryn FEARY

14. As far as I am aware Sandra left David's place of her own accord as she didn't want to outstay her welcome. But David did tell me that if it got too much for me with Sandra then she could still stay at his place.

15. Whilst Sandra was staying at my place I received a phone call from David Rose. David said, "Sandy has got my keys." I said, "I will try and get them back for you." I further told him that my husband was working in town and I would get him to drop them off. David wanted for my husband to drop the keys off to him at work. I thought it would have been easier for my husband to drop them off after business hours rather than disrupt his work. David didn't want me to undertake that course of action and I got the feeling that as he had never met my husband (Peter) that he didn't want someone he didn't know bringing the house keys around to his address. For this reason I got the feeling that David was quite security conscious.

16. After that phone call with David I spoke to Sandra and told her that David needed the keys back. I think I would have told her that I would get Peter to drop them off to David but I think that Sandra replied that she would organise it herself. I have a vague memory that Sandra met David the next day for lunch and believe that is when she may have returned the keys to him. I have the strong feeling that if Sandra didn't return the keys to David then he would have rung me on the telephone about it. However, I can't be one hundred percent certain that Sandra did return the keys to David. At no stage do I recall having seen the keys in question.

17. I cannot recall what Sandra was doing around the 20th of December 1997.

Witness:



Matthew Striker

out Sun CSF

9.1.98

Signature:

