

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:
Death of David ROSE

Place: Sutherland Police Station
Date: 14 January, 1998

Name: KING, Elizabeth Ruth

Tel No.: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Dementure Support Worker

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 47 - [REDACTED]/1950

3. I am currently residing at [REDACTED] and have been residing at this address for about 8 years. I reside there with my husband Anthony KING, my 9 year old son [REDACTED] and a friend Brian HUTCHENS.

4. I first met Sandra DURWARD on the 27th October, 1997 at Jarrah House in the Prince Henry Hospital. This is a rehabilitation centre for people with addictions to drugs and alcohol.

5. I was at the rehabilitation centre for twenty two days. It was a course where we had to reside at the location. Sandra was also residing at the centre but I think she left about two days before I did.

6. At the beginning of the rehab course Sandra pretty much kept to herself, however as the course was progressing and more people were leaving Sandra and I became good friends.

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7. Initially Sandra wasn't very well liked as people on the rehab course were very wary of her. Sandra liked to find out about other peoples lives but would never really say much about herself. For this reason I and others didn't feel comfortable with her.

8. We would go to classes three times a day and Sandra used to dominate the group. She was very clever with words and the others in the group including myself felt inferior. To me Sandra appeared quite intelligent.

9. As Halloween approached in October 1997 Sandra was jokingly saying things which she would like to do to the staff. This included something to the effect of blowing them up. Sandra thought that this was very funny.

10. The following morning at a meeting Sandra made another comment this time directed at the counsellor. After the morning meeting concluded, Sandra was called into the staff's offices and I did not see her for the rest of that day.

11. After this incident and her meeting with the staff Sandra told us that she had been given an official warning. From this time on when there were no classes or meetings Sandra would be alone in her room. This incident occurred at the beginning of the rehabilitation course. She seemed to be a bit of a recluse.

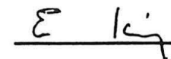
12. Each morning we would have to go for a walk after the first meeting. I would walk with De and Vicky who had been in the rehabilitation centre about a week before Sandra and I joined. At first it was just myself, De and Vicky who would walk but soon after Sandra began to come with us.

13. As the days passed, we still continued to walk in the

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morning. It was more often than not that De and Vicky would walk together ahead of Sandra and I. It was then that Sandra began to open up more to me. She told me how she had a drug problem and alcohol addiction and had been in rehabilitation all her life. When she wasn't in rehab she would spend her day going to A.A meetings. She also told me that she was into prostitution and prior to getting onto the rehab course had attempted to commit suicide. She said that she had to beg Jarrah House to take her onto the course.

14. Whilst on the course we were allowed to have visitors. The only person I can recall who visited Sandra was a male person by the name of Dave. All I can remember is that Dave seemed a bit queer because he used to wear these yellow and black tights.

15. Sandra introduced me to Dave the first time he visited her at the rehab course. She said that he was an old friend. I don't know where she met Dave or how long she had known him for. Sandra never really spoke about him. I think he visited her at least a couple of times. I can recall them sitting on the lounge talking but I never listened to their conversations.

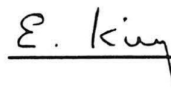
16. Sandra left Jarrah House before me as an opportunity apparently came up for her to have further rehabilitation at a place I know as DETOUR. Prior to her leaving Jarrah House she told me that she would like to keep in contact with me and gave me a contact number for the rehab place DETOUR. She also said that she would come over near where I lived and we would go to A.A meetings together. She said she knew people at the Sans Souci A.A meeting that took place on a Friday. I told her I would give her a call when I got out.

17. I left Jarrah House on the 18th November, 1997 and attempted to contact Sandra about one week later at DETOUR but

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she wasn't there. I left a message.

18. The next time I heard from Sandra was when she had just been to an A.A meeting. It was about 11.00pm in the evening and she was contacting me from Manly. She said that the refuge she was in being DETOUR, was very strict and she didn't know if she would be able to handle it because over Christmas she didn't know if she would be able to visit her family. I told her that I was trying to sort myself out and I would ring her after Christmas to meet up with her then. She said that she would like that. Whilst we spoke she never mentioned Dave or anyone else for that matter. She just expressed her concerns about Christmas.

19. I didn't hear from Sandra until the 3rd January, 1998 when she phoned me in the morning. She seemed to be happy. However, she did say that something bad had happened over Christmas. She said, "Remember Dave who came to visit me in Rehab?" I said, "Oh yeah we used to call him bumble bee." She laughed.

She said, "He was murdered over Christmas."

I said, "That's bad when was he murdered?"

She said, "The 22nd December. I've been staying at De's place and it's really good."

I said, "Are you drinking again?"

She said, "Yeah we're drinking but we've got it under control." We kept talking for a while.

She said, "The police keep hassling us. They came to search De's place."

I said, "What we're they looking for?"

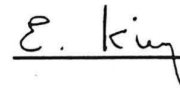
She said, "Dave's keys."

We didn't talk anymore about the police we just had general conversation. She was just saying how De had been really good to her taking her in and they were getting on well. I told her

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how I was happy for her. I could tell that Sandra had been drinking. I could also hear De in the background and knew that she had been drinking too. She was swearing and Sandra was laughing. I told her what I had been doing and who I had been talking to from rehab and that we were going to organise a get together in January. I said I was going on a holiday and would ring her when I got back so that we could get together. Sandra handed the phone to De and I started to speak with De.

20. De and I spoke for a short time and she said that it was working out well with Sandra. She said that she was stressed that the police were hassling her, as she didn't want anything to do with the police because she had had trouble with them before. I told De that I would call her when I got back from my holiday. The call was ended.

21. On Sunday the 11th January, 1998 De contacted me by telephone. De said that she needed to talk to someone because she was scared. I asked her what she was scared of. She told me that she was scared of Sandra because she had shot through with some of her money, house keys and clothes. I told her to change the locks but she said she hadn't any money because Sandra had taken it. I offered De some money but she didn't want it she only wanted me to ring the police because she was scared. She was telling me that Sandra had told her so many lies and she had found empty bottles of Vodka under her daughters bed.

22. I was saying to her that I couldn't understand how she was scared. She told me how Sandra had kicked her daughter in the back for no apparent reason and thought that it was funny. She said that her daughter was frightened of Sandra and she asked Sandra to leave but she wouldn't leave.

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23. She wanted me to tell the police that if anything happened to her or her daughter she felt that Sandra would be responsible. I asked her why she didn't tell the police herself and she said because she was supposed to meet a policeman but she didn't turn up because she was too drunk. She was scared because she was drinking again that DOCS might get involved. I told her to have Sandra charged for assaulting her daughter but she said she was too frightened to get involved. I told her I would ring the police for her.

24. For the brief time I have known Sandra I have seen that she can have a change in her personality very quickly. One moment she could be happy and the next moment she would be very quiet and withdrawn. She could also be sadistic in her actions. She tried to get me into trouble at rehab for no reason.

25. Sandra was never physically aggressive to me or anyone that I know of whilst I was in rehab. However, she was occasionally very abusive verbally to other patients in rehab.


26. I haven't seen Sandra since she left Jarrah House. I have only spoken to her over the phone on two occasions. I don't know where she is currently residing, but I am aware that she is still working at the brothel, because De rang them and they told her she was working that night.

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