

New South Wales Police

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v2.5

STATEMENT in the matter of:  
Death of David ROSE

Place: [REDACTED]

Date : 29 January 1998

Name: Irene Patricia BURROWS

Address: [REDACTED]

Tel. No.: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Receptionist

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 47 ([REDACTED]/49) years of age.

3. I am employed as a receptionist at The Final Touch Relaxation Centre, 249 Queen Street, St Marys. I have previously given the police a statement about my knowledge of a person Sandra DURWARD.

4. When Sandra first started work at The Final Touch, Sandra told me that she was in between houses and I told her that if she was ever stuck she could move in with me until she found somewhere to live.

5. About 20 past 9 on the 14th of January, 1998 I was at my home when the phone rang. I answered the phone,

I said, "Hello"

She said, "This is Sandra, can I take you up on your offer?"

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I knew that she was talking about moving in with me.

I said, "Yeh sure."

She said, "I've nowhere to go."

I said, "I'll come and pick you up at midnight."

I knew she was at work and that she couldn't speak for very long so I finished the call.

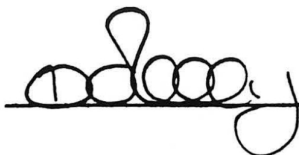
6. I met Sandra about 12.00pm at The Final Touch. She was carrying a handbag, a workbag that she keeps her makeup in and red, white and blue striped bag. I took her back to my house.

I said, "What's happened"

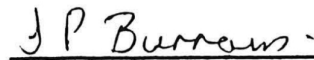
7. I can't remember exactly what she said but I know that she told me that the girl who she was living with before, Dee, had a cousin who kept trying to get into bed with her and she couldn't rest. She told me that she decided to leave Dee's place. We didn't really talk about much else because I had worked so much and I was bugged. I showed her where her room was and then I went to bed. We didn't discuss how long she could stay or anything. I had told her prior that she could stay as long as she liked until she got a bond together for a unit. I know she had looked at a couple of units close to work and was trying to save a bond.

8. While Sandra was staying here I very rarely saw her. I work long hours and I'm not home a lot. Sandra has not been working a lot at The Final Touch since she came here. This has been by her

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own choice. Before she moved in with me she had been working quite a few double shifts.

9. Sandra used to tell me when she going to A.A meetings. She would tell me that she would be in late, about 10.30am or 11.00am because the meetings started early. The meetings seemed to be all over the place. She has the mentioned the Rocks and George Street. She has mentioned the "GDAY cafe" as well. She seemed to be going every morning. At least that's what she was telling me. I'm not usually flexible with the girls working hours but I used to agree to let her come in late because I knew she had an alcohol problem.

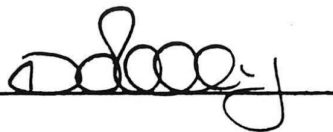
10. Since Sandra has been staying with me I don't think Sandra has gone to any A.A meetings and she has not told me that she has gone to any meetings.

11. About 9.45am on Tuesday the 27th of January, 1998 I got to work at The Final Touch and I met my boss Kate. She told me that she had found a needle in one the toilets. I went into one of the toilets and I found a needle and syringe in the toilet bowl. I threw the needle away.

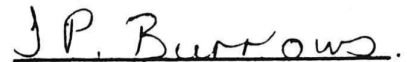
12. I am positive that all of the girls who work at The Final Touch are clean and are not using drugs. My first thought when I found the needle was "That bloody Sandra." I thought that because Sandra had told me two weeks prior, that her friend David had been a heavy heroin user. I didn't ask her Sandra about the needle because I haven't seen her since I found the needle.

13. Since Sandra started work at The Final Touch I have been

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finding empty bottles of vodka under the beds. While Sandra has been living with me I have found empty vodka bottles in the garbage and under her bed . From the amount of bottles that I have been finding I would say that Sandra is drinking about a bottle of Vodka a day. I am not drinking the vodka and I know none of the girls at work are.

14. Sandra has never given me the impression that she is drunk. She seems sober but she does sleep a hell of a lot. Since she has lived with me she been very quiet. She has had a few mood swings where she won't talk and she goes into her room. She might sit in the room with me and she won't talk to me. Sometimes she just sits and stares with me and it makes me feel uncomfortable.

15. Sandra bought a mobile telephone 2 days before she moved in with me. She showed me the mobile phone,

I said, "That's good, now if you're running late at one of your A.A meetings you can give me a call."

She said, "Now I can keep it private."

I said, "Keep what private"

She said, "My calls. I don't get a bill."

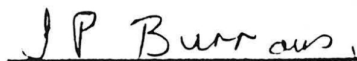
She showed me a pamphlet about a mobile phone.

16. Whenever she spoke on the telephone she always spoke on her mobile telephone. I never saw her talk on my phone at home. She spoke a lot on the telephone. As far as I know it was just to that David. David calls her a lot at work and she tells him

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she'll call him back. She rings him back on her mobile telephone.

17. Sandra has told me that she is in love with David. She has told me he lives at a halfway house and sometimes when she has phoned me she has told me that she is at Chatswood or on the North Shore. About a week ago Sandra didn't turn up to work. When she came home she said, "I spent half the day in the bedroom with David

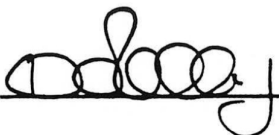
I said, "No bloody wonder you didn't come to work and to think you didn't get paid for it.

She said, "It was so embarrassing because his friends knocked on the door and they said 'we know you're in there because your bag is under the table. We finally got it together."

She told me a couple of weeks ago that her and David drove all around North Sydney for somewhere cheap where they could sleep together but they couldn't find anywhere. I said, "If you fancied him that much why didn't you do it in the car." Sandra didn't say anything.

18. Ever since I have known Sandra she has had bruises and they have become increasingly worse. When they first started she might have one on her arm or one her leg. Then the bruises started getting worse and twice in 6 weeks she has had black eyes which have been quite bad. I have asked her how she got the bruises and she says that she runs into a door handle or something.

19. After Detective O'REILLY first came and saw me Sandra came up to me and spoke to me.

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She said, "I'm sorry the police have been around hassling you?"

I said, "I don't mind, it doesn't worry me."

She said, "What did they ask you?"

I said, "They just wanted to know when you was at work."

She said, "What did you say?"

I said, "I told them when you worked."

She left it for a while and then she said to me,

"So on Friday I worked till midnight"

By Friday she was talking about the 20th of December, 1997.

I said, "No on Friday you left at 10 past 5."

She said, "No I didn't I worked until midnight."

I said, "No, you finished at 10 past 5."

She said, "No you're mistaken."

I know that on Friday the 19th of December, 1997 Sandra left work about 10 past 5 in the afternoon because we had a bit of trouble at the brothel and I was really annoyed with her for leaving so early because I wanted her to stay.

20. One day last week I put some towels on her bed in my house and I saw about 8 or 9 keys laying on her bed. All her stuff was on the bed and I saw them. The keys to my house weren't there because she wasn't home at that stage and later on she used her keys to get into the house. I didn't notice if the keys were on keys rings or anything.

21. One day last week, Sandra and I had been at work and I gave her a lift home. We got home about 12.25am and we sat down at the table. I made her a cup of tea and we were talking.

I said, "How did you do tonight."

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She said, "Alright."

Then she put her elbows on the table and she put her head in both of her hands.

She said, "Maybe I did kill him."

I said, "Well you either know whether you did or you didn't"

She didn't say anything. She got up and went to bed.

Earlier that night at work she had seemed quiet. When she talked about killing someone I am sure that she sober.

22. I had decided to sack Sandra from the Final Touch because she was messy and dirty at work. She used to sleep a lot and she didn't take care of her appearance. I was going to tell her on Wednesday night 28/1/98. On Wednesday the 28th of January, 1997 I got up about 9.40am. I found a note from Sandra on the table. She wasn't at home. Sandra didn't come home all day and I don't know where she was. I know that Sandra didn't work yesterday.

23. About 6.25pm I was in my bedroom when I heard the front door open. I knew it was Sandra coming home. I went out to the front door. The front door was open and Sandra was in the loungeroom.

I said, "Sandra are you all right."


She said, "I've fucking had enough. I've fucking had enough of it all."

She brushed past me and went into her bedroom.

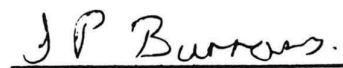
Sandra was bloody angry.

I followed her into her bedroom and she was shoving all her stuff in her bags.

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I said, "What's going on."

She was just swearing and kept saying fuck. She didn't tell me what was going on. I heard a car blow their horn out the front of the house.

She said, "I'm coming you fucking cunt."

While I was standing there she urinated on the carpet.

24. I was stunned by her because I had never ever heard her swear. She seemed very angry. She picked up her bags and walked towards the front door. She knocked over a plant on the way out.

I said, "What about the keys."

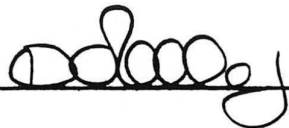
She had had a set of keys cut to my house and she used those to get in and out.

She said, "I paid to have them cut."

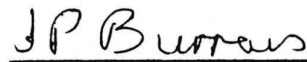
She didn't give me the keys back. By that time she was outside and she had gotten into a taxi which was waiting out the front. The taxi was white and was a station wagon. I don't know what company it was from. The taxi drove off and that is the last time I have heard or seen from her.

25. There was no reason why Sandra carried on the way she did. She was psycho as if she was a different person. I was shocked by her mood. I wasn't scared by her because I was so shocked. I didn't think she was capable of carrying on the way she did. If someone had sat down and told me that she had done this I would have said no way. If it had happened to me I wouldn't have believed it. She appeared to be in a rage and her eyes were black and glazed. I've seen some junkies in my time but this was complete rage. Alcohol does not do that to a person. If you ask me if I thought she was capable of murder in the mood she was in

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last night I would say yes.

26. I don't know why she moved out. I didn't ask her to leave and I we hadn't had a fight. I had no intention of asking her to leave because I knew she had nowhere to live. Even though I was sacking her, I wouldn't have asked her to leave. I had never asked her for money in the time that she was here because I knew that she was trying to get a bond together.

27. She never seemed short of money and she was always catching taxis and buying phone cards, cigarettes, vodka and takeaway food. I know recently she hasn't been working a lot so I don't know where she is getting her money from.

28. When Sandra was here she used to write notes to me. When I cleaning out her stuff I saved the notes she wrote and I gave them to Detective O'REILLY on Thursday the 29th of January, 1997 when she was at my house at [REDACTED].

Witness: [Signature]  
D O'REILLY  
DSC  
29/1/98.

Signature: J.P. Burrows