New South Wales Police

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STATEMENT in the matter of:

Death of Scott MILLER

Place: The Rocks Police Station

Date: 26 November 1997

Name:

Laurie POTENT

Address:

High St Millers Point

Occupation: Senior Storeman

Tel. No.:

STATES: -

- 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 38 years of age.
- Between midnight and 3am on Sunday morning the night after the gay mardi gras which was 2nd March, 1997 I was up late standing on the verandah of my terrace house at High St Millers Point. I was having a cigarette when two young blokes in their early 20s walked over to me from down High street which runs off Kent Street.
- 4. The guy with short hair said to me, "Do you know anyone who owns a big dog?" I said, "I know a lot of people with dogs, why?." He said, "We've hit large dog and we want to know where we can dump it." He was pointing towards north towards Millers Point. I said, "Yeah anywhere." I said, "Hows your car?" He said, It's pretty dinged." or something like that. I said, "Yeah it probably would be because you hear about people hitting animals and wrecking their car."

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Name: Laurie POTENT

- 5. The other guy with long hair said, "Yeah it was an accident." This guy appeared to be excited and gittery. I then pointed to Hickson Road under the bridges that runs at the bottom of The Rocks along the wharf front because it was a quiet area and there was no houses around there. I said, "I'm going to bed now, see you later." They said, "thanks see you later." The males then walked off along High Street but I don't know what direction. I then went to bed and that was the last I saw of them. I did not see a car as the young blokes were on foot.
- 6. I was a bit suspicious about the young blokes. I thought they were casing the area so the next morning I went for a drive around Millers Point to see if I could see the car they were in because they said it was pretty dinged up. I drove around and I saw a small red car with a big dent in the bonnet. It was parked unattended in Windmill Street near the Windmill Stairs. I just cruised past and I thought the car looked like it had hit something. It didn't appear to have any skin or blood on it and there was no one in or near the car. I hadn't seen the car before and I haven't seen it since. I know that this car was not a local car because I hadn't seen it before.
- 7. On Monday morning 3rd March, 1997 my neighbour and I noticed police looking at something on the ground in the wharf area on Hickson Road. I thought it might be a movie or Water Rats and I didn't think much of it. I later heard that a male was found under a cliff on the wharf area but I still didn't think much of it at the time.

Witness:

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- 8. A couple of weeks ago I read another article in the news papers about the death of Scott MILLER and I remembered about these guys on the mardi gras night saying they hit a dog and I thought that maybe this would be useful information for the police. I spoke to Detective ROGERSON at the local community meeting a few weeks ago and told him what I was thinking and he told me he would let the police know. I then later made this statement at The Rocks Detectives Office.
- 9. I would describe the male with short hair that first spoke to me, to be early 20s old, caucasian, about five foot five or six, with short brown wavy hair, light build, medium complexion, clean shaven, wearing a light coloured shirt and dark trousers. He appeared a bit nervous but didn't look drunk.
- 10. The second male was also in his early 20s, caucasian, about five foot seven, with light brown long straight hair past his collar, slight build, green eyes, medium complexion, clean shaven, wearing a light coloured TShirt. He was also a bit nervous but didn't look drunk.

Witness:

Signature: .

M.A.LANE Senior Constable