New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in the matter of: Death of James William MEEK

Place: Mt Druitt Police Station Date : 12 March, 1995

Name:Karen Loline FRANKSAddress:Cobar Pl, Erskine Park 2759Tel. No.:Occupation:Home DutiesSTATES:-

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 29 years of age.

3. I reside at Erskine Park with my husband Greg and my two children. My parents divorced when I was about 18 years old. Out of the three children, I was always checking up and keeping in contact with dad. I was also the oldest. After mum and dad divorced he moved into the city.

4. My father's full name is James William MEEK and he was born on the 5th of August, 1943. Dad resided at Belvoir Street, Surry Hills. Dad has lived there for approximately two years. Prior to that dad lived at Tusculum Street, Potts Point. Dad was very involved with the committee meetings with the housing commission, he was involved with the Gay Mardi Gras, he was involved with Clover MOORE's campaign. Dad was also involved with some selection committee where he made decisions in relation to the residents and he was also on the safety committee for the residents. Dad knew alot of the residents

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

Signature: Lasen. Hanks

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> because of his involvement with the different organisations. Dad didn't really talk about people much but he would tell me how busy he was and that he had to go to Doctor's appointments. He would generally tell me about his day.

> My contact with dad was every second day, sometimes two or 5. three times a day by phone. I saw dad when I could because I lived so far from him, its hard with my family to get into the City to see him. The City area is not a place that I like to frequent. The last time I saw dad was about three weeks ago when he came out to our place for a Barbecue. Dad was in good spirits and good health.

> 6. The last time I spoke to dad by phone was when dad phoned I can't remember if it was Sunday 5th March or Monday 6th me. March, 1995. Dad sounded fine and he was excited about the Mardi Gras and he told me he had met somebody. He said the quy was Mauritian and wanted him to go over to Mauritius and educate the people about Aids. The Mauritian guy told him that he had a shop over there where he employed people to make Rafia hats. He also said he had to make fifty hats to get his airfare over there. I didn't ask dad his name and dad didn't volunteer it. Dad told me that the guy was going to phone him the next day. I told him to be very cautious because its sounded suspicious and that he was promising him too much after only one night. Dad told me that it would cost him only fifty dollars a week to rent and buy food in Mauritius. I remember hearing an ambulance in the background and dad said, "I have to go there's an ambulance just pulled in." Dad's very Neighbourhood watch conscious and I told him to ring me back.

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: Jaren. Hanks.

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Dad didn't ring me back that day and I tried to ring dad on 7. Tuesday 7th March, 1995, it was just before lunch and his phone rang out. I thought he was out walking the dogs. I then rang him again around three o'clock and the phone rang out again. It worried me that he wasn't home. I phoned again on Wednesday morning and the phone rang out again which worried me and then about 3.30pm that afternoon it rang out and this really worried me even more because it was strange that I couldn't get him in the two days. If I hadn't rang him, he was sure to have rang I phoned again at 5.30pm that afternoon and I spoke to me. Constable HUMPHRIES and she asked me who I was and I told her, I was Karen. She told me to hang on and she came back and told me that dad had died. It upset me when I heard this and my husband Greg took over the phone and spoke to Constable HUMPHRIES.

8. On Thursday 9th March, 1994, myself and Greg went to dad's unit in Belvoir Street, Surry Hills. When we arrived my sister Wendy and her husband Alan were already there. I went into the unit and it looked disgusting from what I was used to seeing of Dad's place. Dad was a neat person and his house was always tidy. All the furniture didn't look out of place but dad had changed the furniture since I was there last. Dad usually had everything set in its place and there was stuff everywhere, there were tow bongs on the side table near the door, one had no water in it and the other had water in it and there was a bottle of with rush on the label, Three dirty cups on the dining table and a plate and it looked like dad had had a meal. I noticed newspaper in the hallway which I wouldn't expect it to be there. I did notice his cigarettes which were squashed against the wall near the open front door on the mat with his cigarette lighter lying next to the cigarettes and his carkeys lying next to the

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

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cigarettes and lighter. I saw the dry dog food neatly in a pile near the wall leading into the loungeroom with the broken bowl next to it. We decided to clean the place up so we could try and get a bit of organisation.

10. There was an incident in early 1994 where dad told me that he was walking the dogs in the Park and he said a young guy in the flats called him a gay bastard and a poofter etc. Dad told me that he was pushed to the ground and his glasses were broken and he couldn't see properly and the guy bashed him up. Dad told me that he stopped bashing him because someone came along and disturbed him. Dad told me that he reported this to the Police.

There was another incident and I remember the middle of 11. last year dad rang me and told me his car had been stolen. Dad told me that NP220 and 1374 who was his mother and they lived in the same units has spotted somebody taking his car which was the Datsun 200B registration number . Dad told me that he had phoned Surry Hills Police Station and he said the police came and stopped his car near the park. Dad told me he was on the scene when they caught the guys and they must of given him a mouthful because dad was so scared. Dad told me that these guys had threatened dad and they would come back and kill him. Dad told me it went to court but these guys didn't turn up for When dad told me all this he was very distraught and court. asked if we could come and get him and we went and got dad Dad believed that these guys would come back and immediately. Dad was so scared that he requested the housing kill him. commission to move him.

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12. Dad told me about another time at the units in Belvoir NP219 from the units was Street when drunk and reckoned dad owed her a hundred dollars and something about dad's fridge but I can't remember. Dad told me that NP219 had him hanging over the balcony on the 12th floor where dad's unit is and she was ready to let him go when dad grabbed on to the railing and pulled himself back. Dad was friendly up until this incident and severed all ties.

13. Dad spoke of a Security guard that came by and they went places together. The security guard would give dad money and help him out. Dad told me this guy was a security guard for the flats where he was living. Dad also talked about a person by the name of Mishka but I think his name was Michael and that he lived upstairs. He used to lend dad his car to get around and come and see me. They might of had a fight because he stopped talking about him and dad told me Mishka wouldn't lend him his car. Dad also had Mishka's answering machine for awhile.

14. I bought dad a silver Citizen watch about fifteen years ago for his birthday. I had it engraved on the back with the words 'To dad happy (with the year) birthday, love Karen.' The watch was all silver with the band and the face was numbered and it had a second hand. Whenever I saw dad he was wearing the watch. Dad recently bought a 18ct gold ring from Happy Hockers in Kings Cross for \$300.00. The ring was a solid gold ring with a stone, I can't remember the colour. Dad bought a lot of things from Happy Hockers because he would tell me about it. Dad also received \$21,000.00 in December last year for compensation from a crime when he was a Security guard. Dad also bought a new car in January of this year and it was a 'Daewoo' from Rick Damelian

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Motors and he paid approximately \$16,000.00 cash for it.

15. Dad used to go to the Rex Hotel in Kings Cross but I was told it had been pulled down. Dad also told me that he went to the Shakespeare Hotel quite regularly. Dad also said that he went to some club to play the pokies but I can't remember the name. Aunty Mary would know which club because he used to go there with her.

Signature: Jaren Hank landy Witness: