New South Wales Police

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STATEMENT in the matter of:

Place: Mount Druitt

James William MEEK

Police Station

Date: 12 March, 1995

Name: Wendy Elizabeth GRIFFIN

Address: Huntley Dr, Blacktown

Tel. No.:

Occupation: Sales Consultant

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 25 years of age.
- 3. James William MEEK is my father and resided at Northcote Units, Belvoir Street, Surry Hills. He and my mother Barbara divorced about thirteen years ago and my sister Karen, brother James and myself lived with my mum. I did lived with dad for about a month, probably about 9 years ago and he was living somewhere in Sans Souci.
- 4. It wasn't until about two or three years after their divorce that Dad told me that he was gay and that was the reason that mum and he divorced. Dad would come and visit us kids a couple of times a week after the divorce and then the visits started to dwindle and then I rarely heard from dad. That would have been after mum and dad had been divorced for about five years. I tried to keep in touch with dad but I felt that he wasn't interested in keeping in touch and eventually I gave on him. Although sometimes dad would ring me out of the blue for no reason, just to say hello.

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- The last I actually saw dad was last year, probably around January, I couldn't be sure. I last spoke with Dad over the phone about the time he bought his new car, in January, 1995. He rang me to see how I was and told me that he had bought the new car and inquired about getting an alarm fitted through the car dealership I work for. I know he gat an alarm fitted to the car, but it was through Rick Damelian and not Lander Toyota with whom I work. I hadn't spoken to him again.
- On Wednesday the 8th of March, 1995, I had been in hospital for the day and when I got home my husband Alan told me that Dad had died. He died of a heart attack. My sister Karen had rung to tell me when I was at the hospital and she told Alan who told me. I rang Karen as soon as Alan had told me, to see if she had any further details about dad's death that she hadn't Alan.
- The next day I rang Surry Hills Police and inquired about 7. picking up dad's personal effects. I spoke with Constable HUMPHREYS and she said that there were no personal effects. I told her that dad always wore a watch and two gold rings and his wallet was missing and did she know where they were. Constable HUMPHREYS thought I was accusing her of taking them and seemed to be defensive. I wasn't accusing her, I was just concerned where they were, because dad never used to take his watch or rings off. I then made some inquiries with the morque and spoke with one of the counsellors, Gina, about dad's belongings. She told me that whatever he was wearing at the time he was found by the Police would stay with him and go to the morgue. Gina told me that all that he had one was a t shirt his, shorts and a handkerchief. Then I told her about dad's watch, rings and wallet being missing and she told me that when she hung up she would ring Surry Hills and let them know also about the missing jewellery.
- After that, Karen rang me in the morning and said that the Police said she could go to Dad's unit and collect some of his

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belongings, but she didn't think she could go on her own so she asked me if I would go with her. Alan and I met Karen and her husband Greg at the Forest lawns Cemetery to arrange Dad's funeral and that was about 11.00am. Then Alan and I got the keys to the Dad's unit off Karen and we went to the unit and Karen and greg followed. Alan and I arrived first and went up to Dad's unit and it was in a mess, which from what I remember, was unusual for dad. He used to keep his place as clean as a man could possibly keep a place. When Karen and Greg arrived about ten minutes later they had their children with them and I told Karen when they got there not to let the children come into the unit and Greg waited outside for about ten minutes and then he took the kids home.

- After Greg had left I went into the unit and had a look 9. around, I didn't touch anything. Then Karen came in and she gave me a pair of latex rubber gloves to wear that mum had given We were aware that dad was HIV positive and the style of life he led, but we were still not satisfied that dad had died of a heart attack and wore the gloves for those reasons. It was also pretty dirty inside the unit.
- Karen, Alan and I had a look through dad's things and tidied the unit up, but we put everything into bags and left it in the unit. I particular a brown ceramic bowl that was smashed on the floor. Karen and I were concerned about this having been smashed on the floor and didn't believe that it would had smashed if he had dropped it if he had a heart attack. picked all the pieces into a white plastic shopping bag along with a plastic bowl that was on the floor near it. newspaper on the floor in the kitchen and I picked it up and put

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it into another white plastic shopping bag. There was also tea bags in the kitchen sink, which I don't believe were dad's. as long as I can remember dad has always been a coffee drinker and I don't think he would of changed.

- 11. In the kitchen cupboard above the sink, I found a quantity of drugs in bottles and blister packs. I put them in a bag and intended to take them to a chemist and find out what they were for, what treatment they were used in or if they were just street drugs.
- I also made a number of telephone calls from dad's unit and arranged for his furniture to be picked up by the SMITH FAMILY and the T.V, fridge and any other electrical items were being picked up by the BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION. I also phoned the numbers programmed into dad's phone that I didn't know and spoke to the person named on the directory and asked if they knew dad and let them know that dad had died. I also received two telephone calls from a guy who said he knew dad. The first time he rang he asked for dad and when I told him that dad was dead he got all upset and cut the call short. Then about five minutes later he rang back and for a few minutes and he told me that he knew dad, only for a night and how generous he was. He asked me when the funeral would be and I told him it would be advertised.
- 13. After the phone calls I went back to tidying things up and then my husband Alan left to pick our children up from day care. When he left he took dad's video, a new vacuum cleaner that was still in the box, one of his irons and about a dozen video tapes, six gay movies and the others were of T.V programs or

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movies. I stayed at the unit with Karen and finished tidying When Karen and I left we were going to take the bags of garbage with us, but for some reason we left them there.

- As we were leaving, I picked up the mat that was near the front door and blood dripped out of it onto the carpet. I just dropped it back down on the ground and left with Karen. and I went down to where dad's car was parked in the car park and I unlocked the club lock from the steering wheel and drove it to my place then Karen drove it back to her place.
- When I left dad's unit I took with me some photographs and the drugs I had found in the kitchen cupboard. I showed Alan the drugs I had found when I got home and then put them back into the bag and put them on the kitchen bench at home until I had time to get to a chemist.
- Over the course of the next day, Friday, I rand\g and spoke to Gina from the morgue a few times about the missing wallet and jewellery. I also told her that I wasn't prepared to wait until Monday for a death certificate to be issued and asked that an autopsy be conducted, so that we knew exactly how dad died and could have his body released so funeral arrangements could be Later that day I rang Surry Hills Police Station and spoke with Sergeant WALLIS about the way things were progressing and reinforced my concerns about dad's belongings being missing. Then on Friday night I went to the morgue and viewed dad's body with Alan.
- 17. On Saturday the 11th of March, 1995, I went with Karen and her husband Greg to the Surry Hills Police Station and spoke

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with Detective Sergeant KASSIS and Detective WALKER. Then they took us to dad's unit and some other Police examined the unit and took photographs. When they were finished, Karen and I showed Detective KASSIS and Detective HARDY where thing were and what we had moved and put things when we had been and cleaned up dad's unit.

18. On Sunday the 12th of March, 1995, I went with Karen and Greg to Mount Druitt Police Station, where we were met by Detectives WALKER and HARDY. I drove dad's car to the Police Station for the Police to examine. Whilst at the Police Station I made a statement and I also handed the plastic bag containing the drugs I had taken from dad's unit to Detective WALKER.

Witness:

Signature: