



## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

### Statement of Mercedes McMahon

19 June 2023

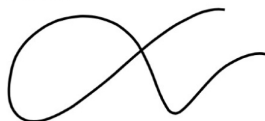
1. My name is Mercedes McMahon. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry.
2. I am one of James Meek's daughters. I previously used the name Wendy Elizabeth Griffin.
3. I believe that Michael John Heatley murdered my father.
4. To my understanding Mr Heatley was gay and was a prostitute on the Wall. I would not be surprised if my father had used him.
5. I do not believe that my father's murder is unsolved. Mr Heatley was acquitted at trial because one of the witnesses made a mistake.
6. After he was acquitted, Mr Heatley was selling drugs and had a drug dealer after him. I was told by a detective that Mr Heatley had admitted to the Police that he killed my father so that he could get protection. I do not remember the name of the detective.
7. Originally, the Police had treated my father's death as a heart attack. On the day after he died my sister, Karen Franks, and I cleaned the flat. I found a used condom in his bedroom which I threw out. We had been told by Police that our father died of a heart attack, so I didn't think anything of it.
8. I asked for an autopsy, because I did not believe this was the cause of his death. At the time, my father was the longest surviving AIDS patient on drugs.

## Statement of Mercedes McMahon – 5 June 2023

9. I saw my father's body when I was asked to identify it. His face was bruised and bashed, and he was missing his tiger's eye ring. He wore that ring on his wedding ring finger (the ring finger of his left hand) and never took that ring off for any reason. The Police had not checked my father's pockets either.

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary, to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**Signature:**



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**Name:**

Mercedes McMahon

**Date:**

19/06/2023

**Witness Signature:**



\_\_\_\_\_

**Witness Name:**

Tom Allchurch

**Date:**

19/06/2023