## New South Wales Police

P.190

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STATEMENT in the matter of:

Death of Kenneth BRENNAN

Occupation: Manager

Place: Byron Bay Police

Station

Date: 6 January 1996

Name:

Robert Terence IVEY

Address:

BYRON BAY

Tel. No.:

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 24 years of age.

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- 3. I am the Manager of the Cape Byron Lodge Backpackers Hostel, at 78 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. I have held this position and lived at Cape Byron Lodge since July, 1995. The hostel is situated on Bangalow Road, which is the main road which enters Byron Bay from the South, or in the direction of Ballina.
- 4. The hostel has 14 rooms. Room 1 is the staff room, to accommodate staff only. Rooms 2,3,4,5 & 6 are shared dormitories consisting of 10 beds, 5 bunk beds. Rooms 7,8,9 & 10 are 4 share rooms consisting of 2 bunks in each. Rooms 11,12 & 13 are family rooms which can accommodate up to 4 people. Room 14 is a double room. A loungeroom and kitchen are situated at the front of the building, on the right as you enter. It is similar to a common room where people can relax, socialise and watch television. A courtyard is situated between the dormitory rooms and the 4 shared rooms. A swimming pool is situated to the left of the driveway as you enter the hostel. There is a basketball hoop and cement area

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Name: Robert Terence IVEY

at the rear of the main building. The reception area consists of a front counter with a safe to the right as you serve people and a fridge to the left. I have recently erected a screen to divide the kitchen from the reception area. Before this if standing at the counter guests could see the kitchen behind the desk. There are six bathrooms one in room 6, three in the hallway opposite rooms 1,2,3,4 & 5, and two off the courtyard.

- 5. The majority of our guests are international tourists with a percentage of Australian tourists. We do not cater for local people seeking accommodation. Majority of the people are 18 to 30 years old of both sexes and 95% are backpackers. We take telephone bookings, people walk in off the street and we also tout for guests from coaches which arrive daily from all destinations. The buses stop by the Tourist Information Centre which is in the centre of Byron Bay in Johnson Street.
- 6. In June, 1995, the four share rooms and dormitories were \$10.00 a night, and the double rooms were \$30.00. The prices have since increased to \$14.00 for a dorm room and \$17.00 for a four share and \$60.00 for a double. The price includes free breakfast and use of the hostels facilities.
- 7. When a guest books into the hostel, a check is made to see if they have made an advance booking, if this is negative, they are asked to supply a name, usually a christian name. They are asked what type of accommodation they would prefer and what accommodation is available and they are given general information. They are given an option of paying for the night they are sleeping and then every day after that they can pay on the day. Or if they wish to pay in advance this can be done. They are asked to pay a \$10.00 key deposit and this if refunded when they return the key

Witness: Signature: Dit Try

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on there departure. I then given them the room key and a clean sheet and direct them to there room. The guests name is entered into the Cape Byron Lodge log book corresponding with the room and date or dates of stay.

ANNEXURE A - Hand drawing on A4 paper of layout of Cape Byron Lodge Backpackers Hostel by Robert IVEY on 6 January, 1995.

- 8. On 10 & 11 June, 1995, an Irish girl by the name of Kelly, I do not know her surname, was working on the front desk. Kelly is now somewhere in New Zealand. Kelly is a backpacker and only worked at the hostel for a short period.
- 9. According to the Cape Byron Lodge log book dated from August, 1994 to November, 1994 April 1995 to July 1995 the names NP188 and NP207 appear on Saturday, 10 June, 1995 and Sunday, 11 June, 1995 for Room 10, for Bunk Bed No. 1 & No. 2. Another name Stephen also appears on Sunday, 11 June, 1995 to Thursday, 15 June, 1995 occupying Bunk No. 3. The of stay for this room would have been \$10.00 a night per person.

ANNEXURE B - Photocopies of Cape Byron Lodge log book for August 1994 to November, 1994 - April, 1995 to July 1995, for the month of June, 1995.

- 10. I have made enquiries with Staff who were working at this time and they have told me that the Irish backpacker, Kelly, would have been responsible for those entries.
- 11. The hostel safe which is situated behind the reception desk is padlocked. When items are handed to staff for safe keeping a note is attached to the item with the guests name and room number.

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Name: Robert Terence IVEY

There is no other record kept in any other part of the office. The mainly used by guests to store passports, wallets and cameras and other valuable items.

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