

New South Wales Police

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v2.6STATEMENT in the matter of:
Death of Kenneth BRENNANPlace: Marrickville
Police Station
Date : 14 January 1998

Name:

NP218

Address:

Marrickville

Tel. No.:

Occupation: Teacher

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.

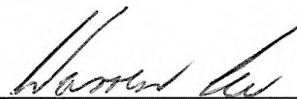
2. I am 49 years of age.

3. I am a teacher with the Open High School, at Lawson Square, Redfern. This school caters for distant education students. I have been employed with the Department of Education and Training since 1971.

4. I have worked at the Open High School since 1988 and Ken BRENNAN joined the staff about three years prior to his death. He was on the staff of the Faculty of History, English and Visual Arts. As I was head teacher of one of the four language faculties we did not actually work together. There are about 120 teachers at the school.

5. I have been the school's NSW Teachers Federation representative from 1993 to 1995 inclusive. This was the only representative position at the school, as there is only one in every school.

Witness:



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6. Our closest association was when Ken BRENNAN stood against me in 1995, I think it was 1995. He was the only other candidate. The election was held at a branch meeting, that is in public in the presence of a union organiser from head office and I was elected by a public show of hands. After that result Ken and I shook hands in public.

7. At no time was there any animosity between us, I was aware that Ken was gay and had a partner, NP215 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8. I am gay myself and have a strong interest in the gay and lesbian community including serving for two years on the management board of the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby. I was supportive of Ken and NP215 in principal, because they were gay. I have done a lot of work in the gay and lesbian community, regarding gay and lesbian rights.

9. The only dealings I had with Ken have been at school on a professional level and these have been very brief and rare in any case. At no time have we associated socially or sexually, nor have I been to his home. In fact I did not know where he lived, until some time after his death when NP215 mentioned the flat in Elizabeth Bay. As the investigation went on after Ken's death, NP215 would come and talk to me about the stresses and development in the investigation.

10. On police attending my premises this morning I checked my school diary regarding my activities on the Queens Birthday weekend 1995 which police nominated as the time Ken was murdered. Although I have no notes made of my whereabouts, I recall that on Saturday 10 June, 1995 I would have been making

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preparations to help run the cloak room at the ACOM (Aids Council of NSW) Hand in Hand Party with other members of the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, to raise funds for the Lobby. This party I think was at the Sydney Showground with 5 to 10 thousand people attending.

11. These preparations took up Saturday afternoon and all of Saturday night and early Sunday morning till I think 6 o'clock. I was running the cloak room with other members of the lobby or at the party. I cannot recall precisely, but I expect for the rest of Sunday morning we packed the cloak room up and I would have gone home to recovering and get some sleep at my home in Marrickville.

12. At the time of hearing of Ken's death I was shocked and saddened to hear that a fellow gay person had met his death in a violent way. I had an interest through the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby in violence against gay and lesbians and had taken an interest in the Lobby's anti-violence project and its campaign against homosexual advance defence. This is a defence used in a number of court cases by the accused who has killed a gay man. I was shocked that Ken's death may be part of this same problem .

13. I am quite willing to assist police in any of their further investigations.

Witness: 

Signature:

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