



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

22 May 2023

Patrick Hodgetts
Senior Lawyer
Office of the General Counsel, NSW Police Force
Locked Bag 5102
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Hodgetts

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes: exhibits relating to death of Kenneth Brennan

As you are aware, the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (“the Inquiry”) is investigating the death of Kenneth Brennan (born 6 October 1941), which occurred on or around 11 June 1995.

The Inquiry is in the process of determining whether any additional investigative steps ought to be taken by the Inquiry in relation to Mr Brennan’s death, including possible further forensic testing and analysis. I would be grateful for the assistance of the NSW Police Force, and in particular the Unsolved Homicide Team, in undertaking enquiries to identify and locate the physical exhibits in this matter.

Background

The NSW Police Force investigative file for Mr Brennan’s matter includes a statement of [REDACTED] dated 6 March 1996 (**enclosed**, for reference). [REDACTED] was a friend of Mr Brennan’s partner, [REDACTED] NP215.

In his statement, [REDACTED] states that two detectives from Malabar Detectives Office attended his residence at [REDACTED] Little Bay on 1 March 1996 after being notified that [REDACTED] and his mother, [REDACTED] 1281, had located a green and white handled knife (with the blade wrapped in toilet paper) inside the front pocket of [REDACTED]’s black leather suit bag in the bedroom of his apartment. [REDACTED] states that police seized the following physical exhibits from his apartment:

1. the green and white handled knife; and
2. the black leather suit bag.

Summons to Produce

Please find **enclosed**, by way of service, a summons to produce documentation relating to the physical exhibits (summons NSWPF109).

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Timeframe for response

The summons is returnable on **26 May 2023** and the documents may be produced electronically.

In the event that you anticipate any difficulty with this timeframe, please forward a request for an extension of time in writing. To assist his Honour in considering the application for an extension, please provide a brief outline of the reasons an extension is sought and the date by which you anticipate being in a position to produce the material sought.

Thank you for your ongoing assistance to the Inquiry.

Please do not hesitate to contact Hermione Nicholls on [REDACTED], or by email at [REDACTED], if you have any queries in relation to this matter.



Enzo Camporeale
Director, Legal
for Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry

Encl. (2)