



NSW POLICE

P190A

Version 4.01 (02/05)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

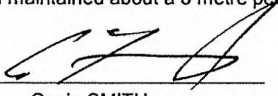
In the matter of:	Discovery of deceased male in Centennial Park
Place:	Maroubra Police Station
Date:	26 th September 2009

Name:	Rodney Gibson LONG
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STATES:

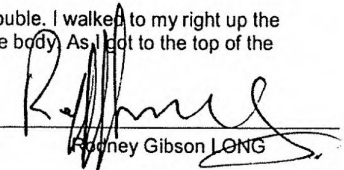
1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 59 years of age.
3. I have been living in the suburb of Kingsford in Sydney's eastern beaches for the last 12 years. I live with my wife and daughter. We have a dog as well, called Maggie.
4. I have had the routine for about the last 10 years where I take the dog for a walk around Centennial park on a Saturday morning. I always go by myself.
5. Around 5:30am on Saturday 26th September 2009 I left my home in Kingsford with Maggie. I drove my vehicle a Blue 1999 Mercedes C180 sedan, registration [REDACTED] (NSW). I drove North on Anzac Parade and turned right into Doncaster Avenue, right into Alison Road, and left into Darley Road. I drove through the gates of Centennial Park and left onto Grand Drive. It was about 5:45am and I was surprised the gates were open because they are often not open until 6am and I have to park on Darley Road. Grand Drive is a one way loop around the park, going clockwise. I parked my car on the right hand side of Grand Drive. I parked in a 45 degree angle park, nose in. There were no other cars parked that I could see. I saw a few joggers, who were running along Grand Drive. It was daylight, and there was a lot of dust around that made it dull.
6. Around 5:50am I got Maggie out of the car, she was not on a lead. I have drawn on Annexure 'A', the letter 'A' to indicate where I parked my vehicle. I have drawn a continuous line through the park showing the route I walked. I walked across the playing fields, a line of tree's were on my right, I crossed a small wooden bridge that goes over a little creek. I turned left after the little bridge and followed a line of tree's on my left across another playing field. As I approached the tree line before the dirt path at Busby pond, I looked up the embankment. The embankment is about 3 metre high and form the path around the pond and the retaining wall of the pond. As I looked up I noticed a body. I have drawn the letter 'B' on Annexure A indicating where I saw the body.
7. Maggie was by my side. Often when I am walking in the park I see homeless people sleeping in the park, I initially thought of this, however I then thought it was very unusual to see someone sleeping out in the open. I saw the body was lying on its stomach. The head of the body was closest to me, and its feet were closest to the pond. I have drawn a map titled Annexure 'B', indicating where I was when I first noticed the body and the position of the body. I could only see the head and shoulder's of the body due to the elevation of the path.
8. I begin to think that something was wrong, that someone was in trouble. I walked to my right up the embankment and maintained about a 3 metre perimeter around the body. As I got to the top of the

Witness:



Gavin SMITH

Signature:



Rodney Gibson LONG

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