



NSW POLICE FORCE

P190A

Version 4.2 (07/05)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of:	Murder of Anthony CAWSEY – Strike Force ANNAND
Place:	Bowral Police Station
Date:	20 th November 2015

Name:	David NELSON
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STATES:

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that 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 will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything that I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
2. I am 36 years of age.
3. I used to be a qualified Security Guard having obtained my 1AC licence around 2004. Currently I am a Traffic Controller and am also qualified in First Aid, Responsible Service of Alcohol, Traffic Control as well as other qualifications in the security and traffic control industry. I have since let my security licence lapse.
4. In November 2007 I commenced full-time employment with 'ACES' (Australian Concert & Entertainment Security) as a Ranger and security officer. Due to the employment I had with another company at the time I was employed by ACES I was unable to commence working for them until the start of January 2008. I worked full time as a Ranger and security officer solely at Centennial Park during this time. This type of work involved rotational shift work of day shifts, afternoon shifts and night shifts. I ceased employment with ACES at Centennial Park in September 2014.
5. My duties involved as a Ranger and Security officer were varied. Most of my duties involved patrolling the areas of the Centennial Parklands and enforcing park regulations. Centennial Parklands has its own offences prescribed by the Centennial Parklands Act so that the infringements and offences were specific to the Park.
6. During my employment for ACES in Centennial Park my shift there work was broken down into different shift times, locations and responsibilities. Each shift had a designated call sign. P100 commenced work at 0600-1800, P200 at 0700-1500, P300 at 0700-1800 was for weekends only, P200 (afternoon shift) at

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 Julia BRADLEY
 Detective Senior Constable
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1500-2230 and P100 (night shift) at 1800-0600. The vehicles driven were Suzuki Jimmy vehicles fitted with 'Ranger' signs, amber flashing lights and writing. Each shift had set duties to follow that were set out by the Centennial Parklands management. The duties of P100 (day and night shift) were to patrol inside the grounds and streets within Centennial Park and P200 (day and night shift) were to be outside of Centennial Park with a focus on the other parks (such as Moore Park, EQ, Fox Studios, Queens Park etc) and the other areas as set by management.

7. At the start of each shift I was issued with a mobile phone, a radio, a vehicle, keys, paperwork for writing down the days taskings and an infringement book. On each shift the Rangers were required to complete both foot patrols and car patrols. These patrols were to be completed at the discretion of each Ranger however the locking of gates were at times and locations set by the Centennial Parklands Management.
8. Lachlan Swamp was an area within Centennial Park that I was told was known for public sexual activity. Our Rangers were tasked to regularly patrol the Lachlan Swamp area and the surrounding bush area to be a visible presence of this area. However I never really saw any of this activity at Lachlan Swamp. The area where I most saw this type of activity was the Moore Park driving range car park when P100 night shift were tasked to lock the gates.
9. Centennial Park was constantly busy and held lots of large events and they always seemed to have something going on there. There were also regular groups and activities in the Park such as the Educational Rangers that sometimes brought groups through and sub-contractors who attended the park for maintenance work. Occasionally on night shift I would double up with the other Ranger on duty due to safety reasons whilst patrolling.
10. During our shifts we were required to record any incidents, observations, infringement statistics onto that day's 'End of Shift Report' on the computer at the security office within Centennial Park. My routine was to pop into the office every few hours and update the daily report so that I wasn't doing it all at the end of our shift.
11. My recollections of the murder of Anthony CAWSEY in 2009 recollections are that I turned up for work on the afternoon his body was located and I saw a lot of Police around the Busby Pond area. I was told that a man had been stabbed on Snake Bank and was found with his pants around his ankles. I think the Police were at the Park for most of the day and left during the night, but given they were busy I left that area alone and maintained my P200 patrols outside the Centennial Park grounds.
12. There were a few homeless persons who frequented Centennial Park. Occasionally during the day we moved these persons on from the Park but left them alone during the night. I remember I was attacked only on one occasion by a homeless man whilst I was moving him on near the Superintendents

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residence up near Paddington Gates. I dropped my guard whilst I was picking up his stuff and he snapped and had a go at me and tried to push me but I did the same back to me and he jumped through the fence and never came back. I think this was around 2010 but since it was so long ago I can't remember exactly when. This man was about 6 foot tall, had red hair, caucasian, was about my age who looked liked a typical junkie you would see around Sydney.

13. Whilst making this statement Detective BRADLEY showed me the 'Centennial Parklands End of Shift Security Summary Report' for the date of Saturday 24th October 2009. From reviewing this document I can see that my shift that day was night shift from 1800 to 0600 and I was working as 'P100'. All the entries that had the P100 (night shift) call sign I completed on that record and I performed the duties at the times according in the report. Now that I have read this End of Shift Report I recall the shift and specifically the entry I made at 2017hrs.
14. I remember seeing this African homeless man around Centennial Park about three weeks before this incident but only during the day time. This man stood out due to his dark skinned African appearance which was quiet unusual to see around that area. Prior to my interaction with this man on the 24th October 2009 I had not come into direct contact with him rather had just seen him around Centennial Park. My impression at the time was that he was either homeless or a refugee but didn't appear to be doing much harm wandering around the Park during the daytime.
15. I remember a couple of weeks after the murder an email had been sent around the Rangers staff by Dave CAPLE about this homeless male of African appearance that if we came across him in our duties that we were to contact the Police as he was a suspect in the murder in Centennial Park in September.
16. On 24th October 2009 I can see that my shift crossed over with ranger Lee DOULL who worked the P200 afternoon shift from 1500-2230. The 'End of Shift Report' records at 2017hrs that DOULL and I had an interaction with a homeless man of African appearance. My memory of this incident is that during my patrols within the park that night I spotted this man of African appearance riding a pushbike around the grounds of the park for about an hour. I basically followed him for this time (about an hour) watching him observing where he was going. For memory he didn't really stop and he was riding pretty slow and it appeared he knew I was following him and he wasn't trying to get away. I think I saw him stop once at a toilet block at Federation Valley which is on Grand Drive which is about 200 metres past the cafe. I think all of the vehicle gates were locked at this time except for the Paddington Gates which were locked later.
17. As soon as I spotted this African man I asked Lee DOULL via radio to call the Police or the Homicide Squad officer from the email we received advising I had spotted the person of interest. I was expecting the Police to come immediately that is why I continued to follow this man around the park until it was

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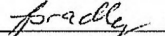
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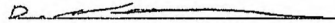
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obvious the Police were not coming. I remember Lee got back to me eventually with information that the Police were not coming and that they would be coming to Centennial Park to locate this man.

I PRODUCE 'CENTENNIAL PARKLANDS END OF SHIFT SECURITY SUMMARY REPORT' DATED 24th OCTOBER 2009

18. I have a clear memory of locating this homeless African man's campsite in a drain pipe on Snake Bank. Ranger Peter MAYNARD and I were working a weekend day shift together (I was P300) and we were patrolling Snake Bank in our Suzuki ~~Swift~~ ^{Swift}. I remember seeing a Blue coloured wire running through the trees along the bank of Busby's Pond. I got out of the car, followed the wires down to a campsite that had been made in the drain pipe area. It was a typical storm water drain of about half a metre diameter and the entry was covered by a lot of bush and scrub at the time. There was a lot of rubbish around, a case of beer and some porno magazines. Peter and I didn't touch anything in this campsite but we notified the Police immediately and two detectives came down. We showed the detectives to the drain campsite and while the detectives were going through the stuff the African homeless man appeared, having walked from the direction of the toilet block near the playing field. The African man then spoke with the detectives.
19. I recall hearing of an encounter that Lee DOULL and Ernie BENNETT had with this same African homeless man in Centennial Park where they located this man and sat with him in their Ranger patrol car up near Paddington Gates while they waited for the Police to come. I remember this because I told Lee and Ernie they were both idiots for doing this from a safety issue.
20. It wasn't long after my interaction with the African homeless man that I was informed he had been arrested and was in gaol.

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