

## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

22 December 2022

Medicare Disclosures Team Services Australia GPO Box 9822 SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email:

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes: Peter Baumann

I assist the Honourable Justice John Sackar in the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes ("the Inquiry").

On 13 April 2022 the Governor, by Letters Patent, issued a commission to his Honour to inquire into and report on historical LGBTIQ hate crimes. Specifically, the Letters Patent require his Honour to inquire into and report to the Governor and Premier on the following matters by 30 June 2023:

- A. The manner and cause of death in all cases that remain unsolved from the 88 deaths or suspected deaths of men potentially motivated by gay hate bias that were considered by Strike Force Parrabell; and
- B. The manner and cause of death in all unsolved suspected hate crime deaths in New South Wales that occurred between 1970 and 2010 where:
  - i) The victim was a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community; and
  - ii) The death was the subject of a previous investigation by the NSW Police Force.

A full copy of the Letters Patent and other information about the Inquiry is available on the Inquiry's website: www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au.

## **Request for information**

One of the matters being considered by the Inquiry is the disappearance and suspected death of Peter Baumann. Mr Baumann disappeared on or around 26 October 1983 from his residence in Waverley, Sydney. At inquest, the Coroner made an open finding as to date, place, manner and cause of death. According to one witness, the word "AIDS" had been written on a mirror in Mr Baumann's residence. There is currently before the Inquiry no evidence in relation to Mr Baumann's HIV/AIDS status.

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Accordingly, the Commissioner would be assisted to receive all Medicare records in relation to Peter Baumann, born 20 April 1957, including:

- 1. An itemised list of all attendances on doctors and other specialists for which a Medicate benefit has been claimed for the period 1 December 1981 to 31 October 1983, inclusive; and
- 2. A list of pharmaceutical items that have been recorded on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme database for the period 1 December 1981 to 31 October 1983, inclusive.

I would be most grateful if the records could be retrieved at your earliest convenience and by no later than **30 January 2022**.

Please do not hesitate to Caitlin Healey-Nash on **Exercise 1** if you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Caitlin Healey-Nash Senior Solicitor For Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry