



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes
Statement of Aleksandra Jez
26 June 2023

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes (“the Inquiry”) as a witness. This statement has been prepared from my own knowledge and also from perusing the records of the Inquiry. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is Aleksandra Jez. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry.
2. I am employed as a Senior Solicitor by the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes.
3. In the course of my duties, I have reviewed and conducted inquiries in relation to the suspected death of Peter Baumann, who disappeared in around October 1983. The information contained in this statement is true based on my own knowledge, and from documents in the possession of the Inquiry relevant to Mr Baumann.

Request for coronial file

4. On 15 June 2022, the Inquiry issued a written request to the Registrar of the Coroners Court of NSW (**Coroners Court**) at Lidcombe to obtain the coronial file in relation to the death of Mr Baumann.
5. On 1 August 2022, the Coroners Court provided Mr Baumann’s coronial file to the Inquiry.

Summons for police files and documents

6. On 21 July 2023, a summons to the NSW Police Force (**NSWPF**) was issued for, *inter alia*, the investigative file in relation to the death of Mr Baumann (**summons NSWPF3**). Material in relation to Mr Baumann was produced in three tranches on 9 August 2022, 12 August 2022 and 22 June 2023, respectively.
7. On 5 June 2023, a summons to the NSWPF (**summons NSWPF119**) was issued seeking intelligence material in relation to various witnesses. That material was produced on 8 June 2023.

Other requests/summonses

8. On 20 December 2022, the Inquiry made a request to Services Australia for Medicare and Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme records in relation to Mr Baumann. A response was received from Services Australia on 17 January 2023.

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9. On 21 December 2022, the Inquiry issued a summons to the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (**BDM**) for records in relation to Mr Baumann (**summons BDM8**). BDM produced records in response to the summons on 22 December 2022.
10. On 10 March 2023 and 19 June 2023, further summonses were issued to the Western Australia Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, for the records of various witnesses (**summonses WBDM4 and WBDM6**). These records were produced on 16 March 2023 and 20 June 2023 respectively.
11. On 1 June 2023, a summons was issued to the Western Australia Police Force (**summons WAP3**) seeking records in relation to various witnesses. Those records were produced in two tranches, on 7 June 2023 and 19 June 2023 respectively.

Steps taken to contact family members

12. The Inquiry sought to locate Mr Baumann's family. All of Mr Baumann's family members reside overseas.
13. On 19 June 2023, the Inquiry sent a letter to Mr Baumann's sister, Anne-Christa Baumann-Serr, requesting any information she may hold in relation to Mr Baumann's death. On 22 June 2023, the Inquiry was contacted by Ms Baumann-Serr.

Contact with witnesses

14. On 13 March 2023, the Inquiry wrote to Ruth Binney, Mr Baumann's former landlord, requesting any information that may assist the Inquiry in more fully understanding the circumstances surrounding Mr Baumann's disappearance.
15. On 13 March 2023, the Inquiry wrote to Sharmalie Kotoga (nee Seneviratne), Mr Baumann's former girlfriend, requesting any information that may assist the Inquiry in more fully understanding the circumstances surrounding Mr Baumann's disappearance.
16. On 14 April 2023, telephone contact was made with Ms Binney who advised that she was elderly and not in a position to assist the Inquiry.
17. On 5 June 2023, telephone contact was made with Ms Kotoga who acknowledged receipt of the Inquiry's correspondence. Ms Kotoga advised that she did not have any further information and did not want to be involved in the Inquiry.
18. On 5 June 2023, the Inquiry wrote to Cherie Foster, Mr Baumann's ex-wife, requesting any information that may assist the Inquiry in more fully understanding the circumstances surrounding Mr Baumann's disappearance. The Inquiry has not received a response from Ms Foster.

Signature:**Name:** Aleksandra Jez**Date:** 26 June 2023