NSW POLICE FORCE

Amanda Jane EVANS

P190A

Version 4.5 (05/2015)

STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of:	Disappearance of Ross Bradley WARREN – S/F NEIWAND	
Place:		
Date:	2 nd June 2017	

STATES:

Name:

- 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 50 years of age.
- 3. I was born in Auckland, New Zealand on Auckland. I did my primary schooling in Auckland. I commenced secondary schooling at Kings College High School. It was at high school that I met Craig Ellis. Craig was in the same year as me and we became good friends.
- 4. I was a friend of Craig Ellis's from High School, we both attended Kings College; Auckland. We were in the same years together for 1983 and 1984. (Final 2 Years, years 12 & 13). We also were enrolled in the same Bachelor of Commerce program in 1985 at the University of Auckland.
- 5. In the beginning of 1988 I moved to Sydney, Australia from Auckland, New Zealand to commence my Certificate in Interior Design. This was a two year program at Randwick School of Design. During this time I lived in two different flats in the suburb of Randwick, this was so I could be close to the course. I would return to New Zealand for Christmas.

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- 6. When I first moved to Australia I lived with my aunt and uncle at Hebersham. This was for about month or two. But due to the distance of travelling to Randwick, I moved closer to Randwick. In my first 3 months (term 1) of doing my course I lived around Coogee with a female flat mate. In the first 3 months (term 1) of me doing my course because I was so busy I would have seen him a couple of times. During this period of time Craig and I would see each other casually. We would catch up at bars and restaurants. In the second term I saw Craig more as I had settled in by that stage. I also had a car at this stage so it made it easy for me to get around. I do remember in the second part of the year (terms 3 and 4) I lived in Botany with a roommate.
- 7. I didn't know much about Craig's relationships because I wasn't living with him. Once I moved in I got to know more about Craig's relationships. Craig and I had a number of collective friends and remained in touch casually when I changed track to not purse commerce and began working in furniture and design. The friends I referred to were friends from school back in New Zealand. One friend was Lucy POWELL, she currently resides in Christchurch. These were friends that had girlfriends and boyfriends. Craig didn't 'come out' to his group of school friends as he felt ashamed. When I say come out I refer to him being gay.
- 8. Craig and I would talk about lots of things as we were flatting together. Craig wasn't one to sit and watch TV. He was either out or reading. Craig knew about my relationship struggles. Craig would discuss with me his difficulties at school and when he first moved to Sydney and how difficult he found it living there. I know Craig's father didn't want much to do with him after Craig came out. I would discuss things with Craig about Paul and how we didn't get along. It was quite volatile. Craig would defend Paul's behaviour, I found Craig to be protective of Paul.
- 9. To the best of my memory Craig was a keen swimmer so he would regularly go swimming. Craig would go mostly to the lower end of Oxford Street, around Taylor Square, he would go to all the bars there. I have gone to some of the gay bars with Craig. If we went out to dinner it would be around the Paddington and Glebe areas.
- 10. In 1989 I commenced my second year of my Certificate in Interior Design at Randwick School of Design. It was around March or April 1989 I had to move out of my flat and Craig suggested I move in with him in Redfern. To the best of my memory Craig was living, at Number Albert

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Street, Redfern. I cannot be exactly sure about the street name but am sure about the number. I have been advised by Detective Senior Constable CHEBL that Craig was in fact living at Redfern in July 1989.

- 11. While living with Craig I paid the rent to him. While living in the flat with Craig I had my own room.
- 12. I have provided Detective Senior Constable CHEBL with a photograph I took of the front door of Craig's flat. It would have been taken at the time I was living there. The reason I took it is because it had a green door.
- 13. I have also drawn a floorplan of the flat Craig and I shared. I refer to this floor plan later in this statement when I mark out where Ross' bag was left.
- 14. It was an old fashioned course that was full time. It would run from 9pm to 5pm. There may have been times when on Wednesday you finished earlier but I cannot remember this exactly. During this time I worked part time in retail for a store named Hatmania, this was located at Darling Harbour. When I worked at Hatmania it was on a casual basis. It was at Darling Harbour. I worked Thursday or Friday nights. This would have been from about 6pm to 10pm. I would also try to pick up Saturday or Sunday shifts. It would change from week to week. I would be called when I was needed.
- 15. When I moved in with Craig no one else was living there. At the time Craig was in a relationship with Paul. When I refer to Paul, this was Craig's boyfriend. I don't know Paul's surname. I do recall it being a Greek surname.
- 16. During this time I was pretty busy with my study, this involved a lot of my time drawing and model making. As I was a student I had somewhat limited finances, as a result I did not socialise a lot. If I did go out it was on my own or with my on again off again boyfriend. He only came to Australia from New Zealand after my second year of living in Sydney. I went out with people I was doing my course with or with Craig, usually to restaurants, bars and clubs. During my time of living with Craig he did not host any social functions at his flat.

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- 17. When I did go out with Craig, and if Paul wasn't with us, Paul would get quite narky. By this, I mean he would question what we did.
- 18. Craig was working full time and successful in his role. He was working as an accountant in finance. He was pretty committed. Craig would bring friends around occasionally but mostly go out as there were so many places to go and eat/socialise. The friends Craig would have were in separate groups, this being his work and gay friends. I would see Craig more with his gay friends. I can't remember if they were all males, I remember one female but she was not a frequent associate of his gay friends. Typically, we all hung around Redfern, Oxford St and Paddington.
- 19. As I have previously mentioned, during the time I lived with Craig he was in a relationship with Paul. Although Paul lived elsewhere with other people (whom I've never met) he was always popping in and out of Craig's flat. I endeavored to get on with Paul, however we honestly did clash. Paul was a prima-donna. As I said Craig was very protective of Paul. Paul was very sneaky and a liar. My evidence of that was I remember saving money to buy a pair of red coloured converse shoes, after saving enough money and buying these shoes after about 2 weeks they went missing. I'm an organized person I know where my things are. I asked Craig about this and Craig didn't know where they could be. I did an extensive search and could not find them. About 3 weeks after this Paul has come to visit wearing a pair of red coloured converse shoes. I accused Paul of stealing my shoes.
- 20. During this argument, Craig defended Paul, saying that I lost my shoes and Paul wasn't that type of person to steal the shoes. We argued about this. I felt very strongly about this event because I worked so hard to save money and buy these shoes only for them to be stolen. As I continued to argue with Paul about this, Craig took Paul and they left the flat. It bothered me how Craig defended Paul and said that Paul had bought the shoes. I remember Paul never had money. Craig would have to buy him dinners and other things. My arguments with Paul didn't get resolved.
- 21. Paul would drag Craig to go out to parties a lot, where Craig would rather enjoy going out to get meals and come home rather than go out and dance. I found Paul controlling and possessive of Craig's time. Paul did not like me because I stood up to him.

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- 22. I don't remember when I met Paul, but it was through Craig as the pair were in a relationship. In the early days of meeting Paul, I remember him being quite charming, this was before I moved in. After I moved in we started to clash. I think it may have been because I moved into his domain by living at the flat with Craig. Paul made it known he did not want me living there. Paul was very critical of me and would give me grief for my work things being everywhere. I observed arguments between Paul and Craig. It would be about money or anything else they could argue about. Paul would always want the last word. The most volatile of arguments in the flat was the shoes going missing. I never witnessed any physical violence, I would see Paul push Craig but Craig would button down and walk away. Paul knew how far he could push and manipulate Craig. Craig never spoke to me about any dramas he had with Paul. Like I said if they had any issues Craig would button down and not make an issue of it.
- 23. I had met Ross WARREN a couple of times with Craig and really enjoyed his company. Ross was a very charming guy with a very lovely way of being around people, he was calm and a good listener, he was always interested in what was going on for people.
- 24. I can't remember when I first met Ross. It would have been at a nightclub or bar in the first instance and maybe after I moved in with Craig. I enjoyed talking to Ross, we had only met 3 or 4 times but I connected really well with him and loved being around him. I know Ross told me he wanted to get out of Wollongong and get into the media in Sydney. Ross knew he had to get out of Wollongong I got the impression he wasn't happy there, he wanted to move to Sydney as he was a lot more relaxed. When I met Ross, Craig and Ross were friends but I knew they had some intimacy before but stayed friends. I know Paul was titchy, by this I mean snappy when he knew Ross was coming over to stay. While I was living with Craig, Ross had never stayed over. I can't remember if the weekend of Ross' disappearance was the first time Ross he was going to stay over Craig's flat.
- 25. I know we had arranged to all go out together when Ross was coming up for the weekend but Paul arranged to have something else to do so Craig and Ross wouldn't be together. This appeared to me to be the case. The weekend that Ross came up was planned in advanced. Ross would have arranged to come up and stay at Craig's with Craig himself. I don't remember

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Ross staying prior to this weekend, but at times I would spend the weekend away with my exboyfriend.

- 26. In an attempt to refresh my memory, Detective CHEBL has provided me with a print out of a July 1989 calendar. From looking at this calendar I can see that the 21st July 1989 was a Friday, 22nd July 1989 was a Saturday, 23rd July 1989 was a Sunday and 24th July 1989 was a Monday.
- 27. As far I can say about my routines, I am a morning person, I would be up early. On school days I would be out the door by 8am. So Friday 21st July 1989 I would have had classes and would have been at them all day. Can I also say I was quite emotional during this time because I was having dramas with my on again off again boyfriend (Bruce). I know during this period Bruce and I weren't together.
- 28. To the best of my memory my movements for these days were as follows -
- 29. On Friday 21st July 1989, I would have left home at 8am and gone to class. If I worked that night it at Darling Harbour I would have been there from 6pm to 10pm. If I wasn't working I would have been at home.
- 30. On Saturday 22nd July 1989 I remember Ross arriving at the flat late morning. I remember opening the door and greeting Ross. Craig and Paul were home and downstairs. I'm sure Paul had spent the night as he was there or he may have turned up that morning but I know he was there when Ross turned up. I knew Ross drove a car but did not see it on this day. I remember Ross was wearing a checked dress shirt. It was a pinky orange on white or blue. I remember he had his top button being done up. I remember commenting on it. I remember when Ross walked in he put his bag down near the TV. I have marked the location of where Ross put his bag on the floor plan I have drawn.
- 31. I would describe Ross' bag as brown in colour, a canvass material and was like a duffle/sports bag.
- 32. It was exciting to have Ross come over for the weekend as we were expecting him to come over and it had been arranged a week or two in advanced. So it made it odd when later in the

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day we couldn't all go out that night as we had planned because Paul had made other plans for them to attend to. I remember questioning Craig about this and he said *"it's really important."*

- 33. I was going to question Craig about what he had on that been so important but by the Sunday as Ross hadn't returned it wasn't important to push this further.
- 34. I remember it was around lunch time that Craig, Paul and Ross all went out together. I know Craig and Ross went for lunch but I'm not sure if Paul went with them. I don't recall clearly if Paul went with Craig and Ross to lunch, I think he did because Paul did not like having Craig not with him and they all left together. I was very pleased to see Ross, and was looking forward to them coming back in the afternoon to catch up.
- 35. I remember them coming back in the mid/late afternoon. I had been drawing all day with an assignment due on the Monday. Detective CHEBL has provided me with my transcript of record of my interior design course. From looking at this I believe the project I was working on over this weekend was the Design II module. I believe it was this course because it was time consuming and was very labour intensive.
- 36. I remember around 4:00pm I was sitting around our lounge chatting for a while with Ross and Craig and I think Paul. I remember the mood being pretty relaxed and happy. It was general conversation about how my studies were going and how things were for Ross in Wollongong. I remember Ross was excited about him reading the news. It was at this time when we discussed our arrangements for the night. It was here that Paul said he had other plans for him and Craig. I challenged this and Paul got a bit 'ancy' about it, but then Craig stepped in and said that Paul made other plans, and they were going with that.
- 37. I remember it was after sunset when Craig and Paul left the flat. I didn't know where or who they went out with. I remember in the absence Craig and Paul I told Ross I didn't enjoy Paul's company, when I said this I remember Ross saying that Paul was different from Craig.
- 38. Ross and I sat for a while talking, about an hour or so, at that point I was going to go out with Ross but decided to stay in. We were discussing about going out to a bar, Ross was telling me about it but I cannot remember the names of those places. Ross didn't tell me who he was going out with. The reason I choose to stay in was that if I went out with Ross I believed I would

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end up alone as Ross would socialise with his gay friends, I weighed things up that I had work to do, I didn't want to get all dressed up only to sit alone. Also staying out all night would impact my Sunday for working.

- 39. I think Ross would have gone out about 7:30pm/8pm. I base this time frame on me working on my project and the reason for not going out. I also remember that after Craig and Paul left we sat around talking for an hour or so before Ross decided to go out.
- 40. Typically I would be asleep by midnight. I find by about 10:30pm/11pm I'd stop working and start unwinding. I remember when I went to sleep no one was home. I am a light sleeper. Despite our flat having creaky steps Paul and Craig were really good to come in unheard, so I wouldn't wake up to them. On this particular night, I later realised Paul did not spend the night at the house as when I spoke to Craig the following morning he was alone and Paul turned up to the flat later in the day.
- 41. During the time Ross was at Craig's flat he did not make or receive any phone calls that I could remember.
- 42. I know Ross was expecting to sleep on the couch when he would return from his night out. I am only assuming Ross would have had a key to Craig's flat so he could get in later in the night.
- 43. The next morning Sunday 23rd July 1989, as usual I woke generally with the light and went downstairs to start the day and my work again. As I said I had my work station set up downstairs I would have gone straight downstairs. I remember as I went down the stairs Craig's bedroom door was closed. As I got downstairs I noticed no one else was awake. I don't remember having work that day but remember working on my project. I also noted that Ross's bag was not touched near the TV and he was not on the couch or in the house.
- 44. It would have been about 9am when Craig came downstairs. I base this on that I remember having breakfast by the time Craig came downstairs. I mentioned to Craig if he had heard from Ross at all, I remember Craig saying no. We discussed things but felt that Ross was a grown man and we didn't weigh on it as we thought he would turn up soon.

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- 45. I remember it was around lunch time, Craig had returned home from being out somewhere, I wasn't sure where he went. I began to get worried as I knew Ross had work on the Sunday night as he had to travel to Wollongong. When I expressed my concerns to Craig he was not concerned and low key about it, I remember him saying he'll be fine, he will be back soon to pick up his bag. I then left the topic and returned to my work. Craig left the flat shortly after this.
- 46. It was around lunch time when Craig returned to the flat with Paul. Both Craig and I were starting to feel anxious, I knew that Ross should have turned up by now, or maybe phoned as his bag was still here, and he still had a long drive, a couple of hours to get back and get ready for his news reading that night. I was more worried then Craig. Craig seemed concerned but believed Ross would turn up, whereas Paul had no input in it all, because of my relationship with Paul I didn't engage with Paul or take notice of him.
- 47. By around 2:00pm we (Craig and I) were both wondering around the flat thinking that this was odd, I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary around the flat. I can't remember if Craig went out briefly and then came back, but I do recall that by around 4:00pm we were feeling very concerned, but then Craig thinking that maybe Ross just drove directly home to Wollongong to make the news, and would make contact after as his time had been pushed, and collect his bag another weekend. Craig expressed this by showing he was worried but I was anxious and uncomfortable. Craig's demeanor is quite calm, so he would keep any concern to himself.
- 48. I do remember us watching the news and seeing someone else, which then had us worried. I remember we could pick up WIN4, it was a hazy picture but we could watch it. It was not our usual practice to watch WIN4; we switched it on for the reasons to see Ross. By now we were both worried, I felt sick when I saw it wasn't Ross on TV, it was quite upsetting. I remember thinking about different theories that could have happened to Ross, one of my theories was because Wollongong was a long drive I was worried if Ross had a car accident. At this stage Paul was not at the flat.
- 49. I don't remember any phone calls being received that day. I remember the flat had 2 phones, I had a phone in my bedroom and we had a phone downstairs. As it was the same number if the phone downstairs would ring I would hear it. But we didn't really get many phone calls at the house, I can't remember us making too many phones calls either.

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- 50. I remember feeling quite removed as I wondered why wasn't anyone calling up to check on Ross. I think Craig could see I was quite anxious, I asked him do we ring up WIN4 and check with them about Ross turning up to work.
- 51. I remember it was only Craig and I at the flat. After the news we hung out for a while and had dinner. I don't remember hanging out with Craig much that night but I remember going to bed early. I can't remember where Craig's movements were that night.
- 52. On the morning of Monday 24th July 1989, I rose early to attend my course, with my presentation due. I remember driving to class as I had to take my project with me. I believe I was presenting something on the Monday. I remember prior to leaving home Craig and I had a discussion about what we could do to find out more about where Ross is and if he is ok. I again relayed my theory about Ross having a car accident, as his bag was still at the flat and we hadn't heard anything. I remember Craig did say that he would call the Police the following day (Tuesday).
- 53. My memory from Tuesday 25th July 1989 is not quite clear. I do remember the Tuesday was weird; I had study and went off early to class. I remember coming home, it would have been in the afternoon that Craig had told me that he had spoken with the Police and that they had found Ross' car, I vaguely recall that his keys were found somewhere else and that it was all very weird. Craig mentioned to me he and Paul had gone down to Bondi.
- 54. I do remember that I was incredibly frustrated as there seemed no sense of urgency. This was more from Craig, but I felt he didn't know what to do, so because I kept on asking who could we call, Wollongong TV, his mother anyone that could help us find Ross. I was frustrated at Craig and didn't understand how to deal with this situation. I could of made calls to Wollongong TV but I didn't feel I close enough to Ross to make those calls and I didn't have any phone numbers, so that's why I was frustrated with Craig as I thought being friends of Ross he would have contacted numbers. Even the calling of Police on the Tuesday I found it odd.
- 55. From this time on I didn't really get much information from Craig, I found it strange that the car and keys were found at separate locations. Whenever I asked Craig had told me that the Police were looking into it, and it was from this point in time we just seemed in limbo and waited. I

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remember whenever I questioned Craig about what happened to Ross he would not give me much about it or what Police were doing.

- 56. I don't remember the particular day that Craig told me that he had taken Ross' bag to the Police. I never looked inside Ross' bag.
- 57. I felt very removed from everything, with the whole situation feeling extremely distressing with no information to hang onto, I felt this way because I wasn't part of the circle of friends. I didn't feel it was my place to make phone calls to Wollongong TV, Police, Ross' mother. I got the impression that Craig didn't know Ross' mother and that he felt like he couldn't do anything either.
- 58. As I was emotional, whenever I would bring up the topic of what was happening with the search for Ross, when I asked Craig about any developments he was vague and showed no emotion. I felt it was strange for Craig to respond the way he did. I thought Craig couldn't be proactive about it all.
- 59. I think it was by the end of this week that Ross's apartment had been looked into, by this stage I had shut down and just concentrated on my school work and go through my days as I found it too hard to deal with. The information about Ross' apartment being searched was told to me by Craig. I can't be sure what day it was. I remember Craig said there were bags of rubbish and litter all over the place. This really distressed me as this was completely out of character of the man that I had known and pictured how he lived.
- 60. I think Craig protected me from some information, I think he did not want to upset me further about what was going on. The topic of Ross was avoided and if it was brought up by me Craig would shut it down. If it was mentioned around Paul the only words he would use he would say it was 'weird'.
- 61. Overall I think I was very young and naive to understanding the darker side of the gay culture during this time. I knew of Craig using cocaine but never saw this, as I hung around the fringe and enjoyed the frivolity but was not really immersed in the scene at the time.

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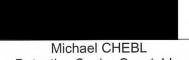
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- 62. I did not know of Craig using cocaine. I knew it was around the bars and clubs but never saw evidence of this at home or with Craig.
- 63. I do remember Craig telling me the Police thought that Ross must have gone for a walk and fallen from the cliffs, but this seemed strange and did not add up for me. This conversation would have taken place in the week following Ross' disappearance.
- 64. I recall a couple of weeks had then gone by and nothing seemed to have happened, Craig and I began to speak less of Ross, me feeling awkward and checking in if he had heard anything, but it all seemed very quiet and vague.
- 65. I remember talking about Ross' mother to Craig and how she was feeling, and what was going on for her. Craig gave me the impression that he didn't know her.
- 66. Now a couple of months have passed and some weird things happen, I recall Craig telling me that the Police had been contacted with Ross's wallet from 'the outback/desert' being found, and then there was some strange phone call that was also made. I recall Craig and I talking about how this was too strange and not consistent with the thought then, that Ross had had an accident and fallen from the cliffs. It became uncomfortable to talk about and very removed from reality. There was literally nothing we could do except hope to hear some news out of the blue that was positive, but of course that did not happen.
- 67. Time went on and we stopped talking about it the uncomfortableness was awful. I felt like I could not bring up the topic with Craig as he was not forthcoming with information and if I did question him about thing he would tell me, like Ross' apartment being messy Craig would say he did not want to talk about it.
- 68. I ended up leaving this flat, things were uncomfortable with Craig's partner Paul and I, and I knew that my relationship with Craig was being pushed. Although I was being civil with Paul I could not live with Craig anymore. I want to recall that I left around November 1989, once I'd finished my course and found a place in Purves Street, Glebe.

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- 69. In 1990 I worked part-time on an off, and could not find full time employment in the design industry. During this period of time there was a recession and little commercial design/building work, hence I returned back to NZ circa end of October 1990.
- 70. Craig and I stayed in touch, but when I returned to NZ, less so in the early 1990's with me trying to get my career on track and then starting my degree in Architecture and having my family.
- 71. The last time I spoke to Craig about Ross' disappearance was on the 2nd April 2017, when I sent him a text following my telephone call with Detective Senior Constable Tamer KILANI. The text merely mentioned that the Police wanted to speak with me about Ross' disappearance but did not go into any detail.
- 72. Craig and I had the odd call over the years on his mobile phone number and with LinkedIN we kept in touch.
- 73. On Saturday 5th April 2014 I was in Sydney and caught up for a coffee with Craig. We chatted about the old days, kids, partners and Ross. It was at this time that Craig told me that a TV program was being made and that he had received some contact about the proposed theory around the deliberate 'bashings' of Ross and a number of others. I had not known about this theory and was deeply saddened. Craig had nothing further to say and spoke about other things. I did not know that it was confirmed as theory only a summation
- 74. On the 30th March 2017 I received an email from Detective Senior Constable Tamer KILANI ((disappearance. When I received this email I did quickly text Craig to see if he had heard from the Police and to let him know that I had been contacted. This contact was the first time since March 2015 that I had contacted Craig. Back then we exchanged a number of text messages but did not physically catch up.
- 75. After my call with Detective Senior Constable KILANI, Craig replied to my text and I then returned back that I had spoken with someone and that I had been advised to not speak of the events during this time. I updated Craig on my new job and the kids and said to keep in touch and take care. I have not spoken to Craig about this case or me providing this statement.

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- 76. I would describe Craig as being a soft, gentle and private type of personality. With regard to Craig's partner in 1989, Paul I would describe him as not a nice person, aggressive, dominant and controlling of Craig. Craig kept his sexuality a secret. I attend one work function with Craig as his date so no one would know he is gay. I don't believe Craig had a car, I'm not sure if Paul had one, but I can say I never saw it.
- 77. Craig made an effort to not let anyone know his sexuality. Although I never witnessed Paul physically harm Craig nor did Craig tell me of ever such incident. Paul knew of Craig and Ross' previous relationship and was very jealous of this. Paul and Ross were not friends. Years later Craig told me he hand eventually ended his relationship with Paul as it became "too hard" for him. Craig didn't elaborate on that.
- 78. I don't know of any of Craig's friends in his gay group or work friends. If I did meet any I can't remember them.
- 79. I don't know of any of Ross' friends. I don't know how often Ross would visit Sydney. It was through Craig I would know when Ross was coming to visit.
- 80. On the 2nd April 2017 I emailed Detective Senior Constable KILANI a document I typed outlining my recollection and comments about the disappearance of Ross WARREN. This document was typed by me and was done so to the best of my knowledge.
- 81. Ross, in my experience was not necessarily conservative, but polite/punctual and it seemed out of character that he had not turned up. Craig was not too worried at first and we both expected that we would turn up mid-morning to catch up, change and then head back down to Wollongong, as we both knew he was reading the news on Sunday evening. Ross was always immaculate, in his dress, his hair cut/shave, I had always noted that he took great pride in how he looked, which for that time was still quite conservative; but then his desire to be on TV/news reading etc, this made sense. He generally wore a checked/plain shirt, always done up at the collar he stood out in being well groomed.

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