



STATEMENT OF A WITNESS

In the matter of: Disappearance of Ross WARREN
Place: Broadbeach Police Station
Date: 28 June 2017

Name: Craig Alan WARREN

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 49 years of age.
3. My parents are Alan and Kay WARREN. My brother Ross Bradley WARREN was the eldest followed by my sister Kelli-Marie and then myself. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
4. I was born in Brisbane but my family moved to Casino, New South Wales when I was two or three and moved to the Gold Coast approximately eight, nine or ten years old when I was in Grade Four at school. After that we lived at two different places at Broadbeach and Surfers Paradise. We moved to Surfers Paradise when I was 16 or 17. I finished school at the beginning of Year 11 and I got a trade in plumbing and went to TAFE at Benowa and the second was in Brisbane at a campus I can't recall. After this I moved out of home when I was 19 but I would come and go from home at Surfers Paradise until I was 25 for work. With this work I would travel various periods of time, some weeks being 4 weeks away and others 6 months away. I went to different places such as Denman, near the Hunter Valley, Adelaide area in South Australia, Albury-Wodonga area, Tasmania, central Queensland. The type of work I did in these areas was roofing. The company I worked for would put us in accommodation in these places.

Witness: [REDACTED]

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5. Growing up my family were not rich but we were comfortable. Dad was a contract builder and my mother was a house-mum.
6. I would describe when I was growing up that there were no major problems or arguments between my parents and siblings. I would have the odd squirmish with my sister Kelli-Marie which was not major. With my brother I had no problems with as he was a very mellow guy. To be honest, I can't picture him having any confrontation with anyone. I never saw Ross have any problems with mum and dad or Kelli-Marie. I can't recall any other type of family pressures occurring within our family.
7. As far as I can remember Ross was pretty good at school. He was always in his room studying and reading books. In his past time he would always read books. Ross used to help me with my homework and I can remember that Ross would correct my parents if they were wrong on a subject. My brother Ross went to Miami High School when we moved to the Gold Coast. He went to Year 12 and did very well at school. After school he went to a university in Brisbane, that I can't recall, and I think it was law that he was studying. I'm pretty sure he didn't complete it as he did not like it. I remember he began to have an interest camera work and I think he did a course for this. I think he started to do camera work at Mount Isa but I'm not sure as I was still in my teens when he started to do his working life. I believe this is how he started to get into the television side of things.
8. The friends Ross had at school was Phillip BLACK, who I know later became a police officer up on the Gold Coast. I have no idea if he kept in touch with him after school. The other person was his girlfriend, whose name I do not remember. I'm pretty sure they broke up when they were at school and didn't keep in touch after.
9. I don't remember how Ross progressed through the media industry. I recall he got a news reading job in Mount Isa.
10. When Ross left home to work in the media industry after finishing school I have zero knowledge of friends he had.
11. I moved to Sydney when I was 20 in 1988 when I living with my girlfriend at the time Sue AULD in Bondi Junction. I can't remember the month I moved down. I lived in two different places at

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Bondi. I'm pretty sure I lived in Jackman Street in which we lived in a granny flat. We then moved into a share house in Bondi Junction. I can't remember the street name but it was next to an expressway and it was a terrace house which we were renting with two English couples. Their names were Daryl HADLEY and his partner Linda OXLEY, and the other couple were Dan and Helen but I can't remember their surnames but even then I don't think I knew what it was. Sue was also from the Gold Coast. We moved to Sydney because Sue and I wanted to move somewhere a bit more busier. When I was in Sydney I was doing work as a maintenance plumber. I worked for a man named Lionel BELL. He was just a single operator. Ross did not visit me in Sydney when I was staying at these addresses. I never invited Ross to my place in Sydney as I was not there that long really. When I moved to Sydney I did not have any family or relatives that were living there or in the Wollongong.

12. When in Sydney I did not have much interest in surfing or going to the beach much simply because of the party lifestyle I was living. I did however go to Bronte beach about three or four times to go surfing. I may have gone to Bondi Beach a couple of times to buy something to eat but I really can't remember to be honest.
13. When I was living in the Bondi area I was not aware of Marks Park being a gay beat. It is only something since I have learned after reading about my brother's disappearance on line.
14. I think I only stayed in Sydney for about one year, perhaps a little less or a little more. I moved back to the Gold Coast in 1989 perhaps months before Ross' disappearance in July 1989. I moved back to the Gold Coast for financial reasons as work was sparse. My girlfriend and I moved back to Queensland where she went to her house and I went back with my parents at our Surfers Paradise home. I remember this clearly as my 21st birthday party was celebrated later back when I was in the Gold coast as I had a good friend also having a 21st and we made it a double party. I'm pretty sure the birthday was celebrated on the 22nd of July 1989 as my friend Carl MARTIN's birthday was on the [REDACTED] and we chose the 22 of July as the date to celebrate both our birthdays as mine was in [REDACTED].
15. When I was living in Sydney I did not meet up with Ross. At this time I was young and focused about hanging around with my friends. I'm pretty sure at this time that he was living in

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Wollongong at this time. I'm pretty sure he was doing news reading there at a network that was not big and I think it was called WIN TV.

16. When I was living in Sydney I would describe my relationship with Ross as the same as when I was younger. We always got on pretty well. I don't think I had any landline phone conversations with him as I didn't have a phone in the house I was living in. We just didn't communicate a lot from when I was kid through to adulthood. There was no problems or issues I had with Ross but from a young age I would just always go out surfing and this carried on to when I was older where I went to Rave parties. Apart from Rave parties I would sometimes have gone on rare occasions to a local pub but I can't remember what it was called but it was next to Bondi Road. But again I mainly went to Rave parties which were held in warehouses. Ross was just the opposite and had different interests to me. When Ross finished High School I did not see much of him. If he was in Sydney I would not have known because we didn't have the communication lines between us.

17. With regard to relationships I remember Ross had a girlfriend at High School but I can't remember her name. After school I don't remember him having any girlfriend. I can remember when I was about 19 or 20 years old Ross and I were at home and he spoke.

Ross said, "Kiddo, I've got something to tell you."

I said something like, "What?"

Ross said something like, "Let's go for a walk".


We went for walk along Cavill Avenue, at Surfers Paradise near an overpass bridge. I can remember we stopped, looked out at the ocean and Ross spoke.

Ross said something like "I'm gay" or "I like men."

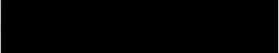
I had no major reaction to hearing this. I was expecting something more shocking as it was no big deal to me and I had no issue with him being gay.

18. With regard to my family, I think they already knew that Ross was gay before I found out. I think Ross may have mentioned to me that he did tell them. I don't remember it being a topic of discussion at home.

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19. After he told me this I was not aware of his gay lifestyle. He never told me anything about this. I remember seeing him at a New Year's Party at Surfers Paradise, I'm pretty sure it was Cavill Avenue when I saw Ross with another man. At this time I did not know he was gay. I was not introduced to this guy he was with. I was only young at the time being about 17 but at the time I believe I had a bit to drink. He could have been with other friends also at the time but I'm not sure.
20. With Ross' health I can remember when we were living in Broadbeach, that Ross was sick. I can't remember the illness that he had but it made him lethargic and I recall he was still in High School. I'm not aware of any other health issues that Ross had from childhood to the time of his disappearance.
21. With Ross I never saw him angry or depressed and never had mental health issues. I admired the way he was cool and never had extremes and was just mellow.
22. Places that Ross lived after he finished school were at Brisbane when he went to university, but I'm not sure where. When he went to work for the media he lived at Mount Isa but I do not know where he was living there and who with. The next recollection of him living elsewhere was Wollongong but I do not know where and I don't know if he was living with anyone. As far as I can remember, my mum and dad always helped him set up for his home.
23. As to times when Ross would come home, it would normally be once, twice or three times a year. It was usually Christmas time that I saw him at my parents place. There were no problems within the family after Ross moved away and I would imagine the only reason he would only come back this amount of time was because he was busy with work.
24. As to when Ross was in Wollongong, my parents perhaps would visit him but I'm not sure but definitely I did not go and my sister Kelli-Marie did not go. With where Ross was staying in Wollongong, I'm not sure if he just stayed at the one place or if stayed at more places.

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25. With regard to Ross being tidy, I can remember when he was living at home I don't think he was extremely messy but I wouldn't say he was not tidy. Every time I would go into his bedroom to get something it was a little bit messy.
26. Ross would dress in a smart casual style. He always wore nice shirts, trousers and cologne. I don't think he was a brand follower. He was never extreme about his appearance. I'm pretty sure Ross was right handed but I don't remember which wrist he would wear his watch. I don't recall what brand or colour watch he had. I can't recall Ross wearing a necklace, bracelet or earrings. To be honest I don't think he was a jewellery wearing kind of guy.
27. As to interests, Ross was not a sports kind of guy but I remember when he was young he played tennis. I remember when we were very young back in Casino doing swimming club and I'm pretty sure he wasn't a bad swimmer. I remember Ross didn't mind going to the beach. To my knowledge he never went to the beach at night time. Ross was not an athletic person but he was not a weak person either. I can remember he would perhaps go occasionally to the beach because he would use coconut oil. In terms of music he liked all types of music as he had a wide collection of LP's and records.
28. I am not aware of Ross ever going to gay beats in Sydney. When I did meet him at my parents house he may have mentioned on occasions that he would go out in Sydney. He never mentioned where he would go there. I remember him telling me on one occasion after he told me that he was gay that he mentioned about the gay mardi gras and that it was fun. I am not aware of Ross ever using chat lines.
29. I think before he went to Mount Isa, I believe my parents bought a Nissan Pulsar which was gold in colour. I don't think he used any other cars. His first car may have been an old Holden Gemini but I can't remember the colour but I do remember it was old bomb. I imagine he had this not long after he got his licence.
30. In the time that I knew Ross from when I was little to his disappearance he was always tight with his money. He would though lend me ten dollars here and there but he was a saver. I don't have any understanding of how he did save his money but in his room he would always have a bit of money around that was not too much. Leading up to the time Ross

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disappeared I did not owe or borrow any money from. I did not communicate much with him at this time.

31. Leading up to Ross' disappearance I have no idea if he owed any money to anyone or to any bank.
32. Up to the time of Ross disappearance I did not have any disputes or problems with Ross. He was just a mellow guy.
33. In terms of Ross punctuality in going to places, I really don't know. When I was a kid, Ross was at home a lot so I did not have much to gauge this on but in later life I really didn't know what he was doing or where he was going so I had less knowledge in this regard.
34. I have not heard of any plans that Ross had before he disappeared.
35. Ross was not a smoker. I knew he did drink but I would imagine he was a social drinker. When he did come home for Christmas and so on, I don't think he would drink. As far as I know Ross did not use drugs. I don't think Ross was a gambler either.
36. Leading up to the time he disappeared, I am not aware of Ross applying for any jobs.
37. Growing up I never saw Ross have any attempts at suicide or self harm or was told of any of these things. Ross was never a suicidal person as he was never depressed or sad when I saw him.
38. I don't think Ross was taking any medication before he disappeared but I really don't have any idea to be honest. Growing up again that time he was very lethargic I don't think he was treated for anything.
39. Ross was never reported missing growing up. He had never gone missing.
40. I don't remember there being anything significant that Ross spoke about growing up or hearing about in his later life from other family members. To be honest it would have been not necessary for me to know if there was. The reason for this is that my parents would not have wanted me to worry about my brother. I don't remember hearing about anything that

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Ross expressed any fear or problems. The times I did have a chance to meet him, he was always happy.

41. I am not aware if Ross was in a personal relationship with anyone at the time of his disappearance.

42. Detective RULLO asked me about if I knew the following names.

Craig ELLIS-"This is a name of someone that was in my sister's year at High school and I think was in the same rugby club as well, if it is the same Craig ELLIS. This Craig ELLIS had red hair. As far as I can recall he was Australian. I remember he was a guy with a bit of attitude.

Paul SAUCIS-"This name does not ring a bell."

Michael MATHISON-"I do not know any Michael MATHISON."

Ken or Kingi MARSH-"Never heard of him."

NP250-"No."

I413-"No."

43. Detective RULLO asked me if I was aware if Ross had any involvement with Police in Queensland or New South Wales or any court matters. I definitely don't know.

44. Detective RULLO asked me if I was aware of a lude conduct charge and the sentencing for this that Ross had in Queensland? I am not aware of this. I have never heard about this before and am shocked to hear this as this was not the Ross I knew. I am not aware of Ross having any psychiatric treatment.

45. The last time I physically saw Ross would have been around Christmas time in 1988. The last time I'm pretty sure I spoke to Ross was on the phone when he would have wished me a happy birthday for my 21st in [REDACTED] 1989. I just don't have a clear recollection of this last conversation as to whether I answered the phone or my mum handed me the phone, I just don't remember.

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46. Leading up to the disappearance of Ross, I am not aware of any appointments he had, we just did not communicate.
47. The weekend of Friday 21 July 1989 to Sunday 23rd July 1989. On the 21st of July I would have been preparing at my friend Carl's place for the [REDACTED] birthday party [REDACTED]. On Saturday [REDACTED] I would have again being preparing for the party and then we had the party into the night. This would have finished the early hours the next day but I can't remember exactly. I remember the police did come for a noise complaint. The Sunday 23rd July 1989 I really don't recollect but would have been hung over and recovering. Ross was not invited to this 21st birthday. Naturally Ross was welcome to my 21st but I never actually invited him.
48. I remember hearing about Ross' disappearance from parents. I would imagine I found them upset and it would have been at home. I probably remember that I was hopeful as I did not want to think about the worst scenario.
49. I did not speak to police after it was reported Ross was missing. I am not aware of Ross ever being reported by my family as missing here to Queensland police.
50. I did not travel to Sydney or Wollongong to try and find out what happened with Ross. I know my father and mother both went.
51. I know some of Ross's belongings came back to Queensland. I imagine these were taken by my parents which included records and clothes. My parents never spoke to me about going through Ross' unit at all.
52. I have not provided a statement before about the disappearance of my brother Ross. I have not been to any inquest relating to my brothers disappearance.
53. With regard to Ross' Nissan Pulsar, I believe my parents brought that back to Queensland at some stage but when I am not sure. I think they then sold it.
54. Detective RULLO showed me 4 photographs of persons. I do not recognise or know any of the persons in the photos. I signed each page.

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55. About 4.15pm Wednesday 28 July 2017 I attended Broadbeach Police Station and made this statement.

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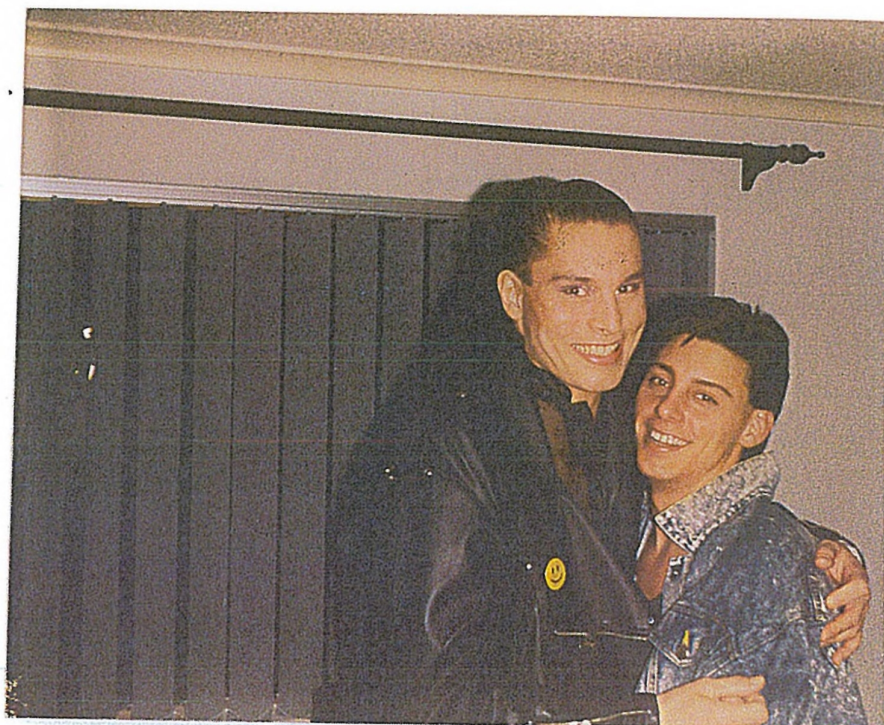


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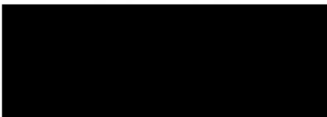


6/1/99/87
CHRIS MANN





CRIG WARREN
28/06/14



CRAIG WARREN
28/66/17

