



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

13 June 2023

Brian Saunders



By Express Post

Dear Mr Saunders,

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

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

The Inquiry

On 13 April 2022 the Governor of NSW authorised the Commissioner to inquire into and report on historical LGBTIQ hate crimes. Specifically, the Commissioner is required to inquire into and report to the Governor and Premier on the following matters by 30 August 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.

Further information in relation to the conduct of the Inquiry is available on the Inquiry’s website: www.specialcommission.nsw.gov.au.

Death of William Allen

One of the cases the Inquiry is looking into is the death of William Allen. Mr Allen died on 29 December 1988 at his home in Alexandria after being attacked by persons unknown in Alexandria Park. Mr Allen’s death is being considered pursuant to Category A of the Inquiry’s terms of reference.

Records available to the Inquiry indicate that you were the officer in charge of the investigation into Mr Allen’s death. The documents also indicate that your conduct in connection with the investigation was the subject of a review by the Internal Police Security Branch (“IPSB”) in 1991.

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Case Hearing

Counsel Assisting will present the case of William Allen in public proceedings of the Inquiry on a date to be fixed in the **week commencing 19 June 2023**. This will involve the tender of a bundle of evidentiary material followed by a short address from Counsel Assisting in relation to the circumstances of the death, the investigations conducted by the Inquiry and Counsel Assisting's submissions as to the manner and cause of death. Counsel Assisting will also hand up written submissions addressing these points.

The proceedings will be public and livestreamed on the Inquiry's website, and the tender bundle and written submissions of Counsel Assisting will be uploaded to the Inquiry's website once tendered.

You will be named in some of the documents that will be tendered and referred to in the course of Counsel Assisting's submissions both in relation to the original investigation in 1988/1989 and also likely in relation to the IPSB investigation.

Your involvement

Having regard to the circumstances of Mr Allen's death and your role in the investigation, you are considered to have an interest in the upcoming public hearing and may wish to be involved, such as by attending the hearing or having someone attend the hearing on your behalf, or by seeking leave to appear as a party to the hearing and be represented by legal representatives.

If you would like to receive further information regarding the upcoming hearing, please contact Kate Lockery, Principal Solicitor, on [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED].

Yours faithfully,



Kate Lockery
Principal Solicitor
Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry