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NSW Police Force

3 April 2023

Mr Enzo Camporeale  
 Director, Legal  
 Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes  
 121 Macquarie St  
 SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email ONLY: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Camporeale

**Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes – Exhibits relating to death of Crispin Dye**

We refer to your letter dated 23 March 2023 in respect of the above matter. We have responded to each of your questions in that letter under separate headings below on instructions from the NSW Police Unsolved Homicide Team (UHT).

- 1. Were the pieces of paper photocopied in Annexure E the “personal papers” identified by Detective Sergeant Knight in his statement of 27 September 1994 and in the summary for the Coroner, as being found in Mr Dye’s clothing?**

Based on the description provided by Detective Sergeant Knight at paragraph [9] in his statement dated 27 September 1994 (**Statement**), and there being no other evidence of Detective Sergeant Knight conducting any other search or examination of Mr Dye’s clothing, it is likely that the material referenced by the Inquiry in Annexure E are the personal papers identified in the Statement.

- 2. Were these pieces of paper filed as exhibits in the matter?**

All NSWPF holdings in respect of Mr Dye (including any relevant exhibit books and logs) were provided to the Inquiry in response to summons NSWPF1. Without access to this material, the NSWPF is not able to provide an answer to this question.

- 3. Where are these pieces of paper located now?**

We refer to the response in answer to question 2 above. If held by NSWPF, it is likely that the pieces of paper would currently be in the possession of the Inquiry.

For completeness, it is noted that a number of searches were conducted of locations including: the Surry Hills Police Area Command, the Exhibits Forensic Information and Miscellaneous Property Systems, NSWPF investigative holdings, Forensic Evidence and Technical Services, NSW Forensic and Analytical Science Service, the Department of Forensic Medicine, NSWPF Archives and the Metropolitan Exhibit and Property Centre however, the pieces of paper were not located.

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**4. Where were they removed from?**

We refer to the response in answer to question 2 above. Without access to this material, the NSWPF is not able to provide an answer to this question.

We further note our understanding that it is common practice for NSW Ambulance personnel and hospital medical staff to carry out searches of unidentified individuals and their clothing in an attempt to ascertain their identify. It is likely NSW Ambulance personnel and hospital staff at St Vincent's Hospital undertook a search of Mr Dye and his clothing in this case. The summary provided to the Coroner dated 12 October 1994 by Detective Sergeant Knight notes that Mr Dye's property was "taken possession of, which consisted of clothing and some papers containing phone numbers, however no form of identification was found, which gave rise to the suspicion at the time that he had been the subject of a robbery".

Without further information from Detective Sergeant Knight and or Detective Taylor, it cannot be determined whether the "examination" Detective Sergeant Knight is referring to at paragraph [9] of the Statement, is a reference to a search of the deceased's clothing (for example, emptying/searching the contents of pockets) or Detective Sergeant Knight locating the "personal papers" which had been loosely placed back with Mr Dye's clothing after NSW Ambulance or hospital staff had attempted to locate documents to assist in confirming Mr Dye's identity. As the Inquiry is aware, Detective Sergeant Knight and Detective Taylor are no longer members of the NSWPF.

If the "personal papers" were found by Detective Sergeant Knight as being loosely packed with Mr Dye's other items rather than during a search of Mr Dye's clothing, this may also provide an explanation as to why the Forensic and Analytical Science Service has recently located two pieces of paper in the pocket of Mr Dye's long sleeve shirt.

**5. Were these pieces of paper ever subjected to DNA or fingerprint testing?**

We refer to the response in answer to question 2 above. Without access to this material, the NSWPF is not able to provide an answer to this question.

**6. Who was contacted by the NSWPF as part of "the inquiries carried out in respect of the telephone numbers contained on papers found on the deceased" detailed in Detective Sergeant Knight's statement?**

We refer to the response in answer to question 2 above. Without access to this material, the NSWPF is not able to provide an answer to this question.

For completeness, we anticipate that former Detective Sergeant Knight and former Detective Taylor may be able to answer this.

**7. Are there any other additional records about what happened to these papers and what they were used for?**

We refer to the response in answer to questions 2 and 3 above. No additional records were located following the searches noted in response to question 3.

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- 8. Can you confirm that the NSWPF did not find the other papers in Mr Dye's top left shirt pocket, which were the subject of my latter of 10 March 2023?**

We refer to the response in answer to questions 3 and 4 above.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



Katherine Garaty  
Director – Crime Disruption and Special Inquiry Law  
Office of the General Counsel  
NSW Police Force