



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

14 June 2023

Katherine Garaty
 Director, Crime Disruption and Special Inquiries Law
 Office of the General Counsel, NSW Police Force
 Locked Bag 5102
 PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Garaty,

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

I refer to the above Inquiry, and to the death of Ernest Head. Mr Head was found deceased in his apartment in Summer Hill on 22 June 1976.

On 31 May 2023 NSWPF provided to the Inquiry the expert certificate of Kate Reid dated 30 May 2023. This document noted that following further testing, as requested by the Inquiry, of a palmprint in blood found at the scene of Mr Head's death, a match was found with an individual named Engin Simsek.

Information requested in relation to the death of Ernest Head

The Inquiry would be grateful if an appropriate staff member of NSWPF could prepare a formal statement setting out, in detail:

- All occasions on which testing of the palmprint/ fingerprints found at the scene of Mr Head's death has been requested or recommended to be tested;
- All occasions on which testing of the palmprint/ fingerprints found at the scene of Mr Head's death has been conducted and the results of said testing;
- The date and circumstances of the fingerprints of Engin Simsek being obtained by NSWPF;
- Any advancements in fingerprint comparison technology or techniques that have made matching the prints on record of Engin Simsek to those found at the scene of Mr Head's death possible.

Timeframe

The Inquiry would be grateful if a statement addressing the above matters could be provided by no later than **Tuesday, 20 June 2023**. In the event that you anticipate any difficulty with this timeframe, please advise me in writing, noting the reasons why further time is required and when it is anticipated that the statement will be completed.

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Confidentiality

Having regard to the short timeframe to produce the statement requested above, the Inquiry does not require the Commissioner of the NSWPF to comply with Part B Point [6] of Practice Guideline 2 on this particular occasion.

In the event that the Inquiry proposes to tender the requested statement in a public hearing, the Commissioner of the NSWPF will be given two clear business days to make any relevant application.

Thank you for your ongoing assistance to the Inquiry.

Please do not hesitate to contact Francesca Lilly at [REDACTED] or on [REDACTED] if you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully,



Enzo Camporeale
Director, Legal
Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry

Encl. (1)