2022 Special Commission of Inquiry

into LGBTIQ hate crimes

Before: The Commissioner, The Honourable Justice John Sackar

At Level 2, 121 Macquarie Street, Sydney, New South Wales

On Tuesday, 21 February 2023 at 10.12am

(Day 24)

Mr Peter Gray SC	(Senior Counsel Assisting)
Ms Meg O'Brien	(Counsel Assisting)
Mr Enzo Camporeale	(Director Legal)
Ms Caitlin Healey-Nash	(Senior Solicitor)

Also Present:

Mr Mark Tedeschi KC with Mr Anders Mykkeltvedt and Ms Amber Richards for NSW Police

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Before you resume with Mr Willing, can 2 I make these orders in relation to the documents, and the 3 short minute of order, Mr Tedeschi, that was handed around 4 yesterday - is that in agreement now? 5 6 MR TEDESCHI: As I understand it, yes. 7 8 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Let me make that order, 9 thank you. 10 MR TEDESCHI: Would your Honour pardon me just for 11 12 a moment? 13 14 THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly. 15 16 MR TEDESCHI: Apparently there is one matter that was raised this morning which concerns a redaction to annexure 17 A in the documents. I'm not aware of what it is. 18 19 20 I'm certainly not aware of what it is. THE COMMISSIONER: 21 I've signed the orders, but it doesn't mean that they are 22 in stone. You can tell me at some point whether the order that I've got, which has four paragraphs together with some 23 24 schedule, is the appropriate schedule, and if it isn't, can you just tell me in the course of the morning whether the 25 one matter that might be of some concern is either resolved 26 27 or needs to be? 28 29 MR TEDESCHI: I will. 30 Mr Tedeschi, before you sit down, 31 THE COMMISSIONER: 32 I should just indicate for your purposes and Mr Willing's 33 that as a result of certain matters that arose yesterday, 34 partly matters that you raised with me but also additional 35 matters which I don't propose to dilate upon at the moment, 36 there is a significant degree of likelihood that Mr Willing 37 will be asked to come back at some point. 38 I know that he's in the private sector and I know that 39 40 there are complications always with the activities that he 41 is undertaking and what he might be doing. We will be as prompt as we can in letting him know, and of course we will 42 43 work around his commitments as best we can. I can't give 44 you or him for the moment an indication of when that might 45 be, but we will certainly be in touch as quickly as I am 46 able, or Mr Gray or someone else is able, to let you know and Mr Willing know when that is likely to happen. 47

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1 2 MR TEDESCHI: I've already notified Mr Willing of that 3 likelihood. 4 5 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Thank you very much. The 6 reason I'm raising it this morning is so that - and you 7 will take whatever course you think is appropriate at the 8 end of the current series of questions - I will leave it 9 for you to tell me what you would like me to do as a result 10 of what I have said and as a result of what you hear and that's entirely a matter for you, but I just wanted you and 11 him to hear it formally from me so that you can make 12 a fully informed choice about what course you may wish to 13 14 take. Thank you. 15 16 Yes, Mr Gray. 17 <MICHAEL JOHN WILLING, on former oath:</pre> 18 [10.15am] 19 20 <EXAMINATION BY MR GRAY: 21 22 MR GRAY: Q. Mr Willing, yesterday I asked you some 23 questions about some emails on 7 February 2012 between 24 Pamela Young and I think Chris Olen. You may remember? 25 Yes. Α. 26 27 I wonder if Mr Willing could have again volume 14, Q. 28 I just need to ask a couple of supplementary please. 29 questions about that topic before we move on? 30 Α. Sure. 31 32 Q. If you go to tab 312, [NPL.3000.0016.0014,0001] 33 Α. Yes, Mr Gray. 34 Q. You remember we went through these yesterday? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 Literally starting with the one from Chris Olen on the 38 Q. second and third pages but then focusing on the one from 39 40 Pamela Young at the bottom of the first page? 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 And then on Christopher Olen's response at the top of Q. 44 that page. I won't repeat what we did yesterday. 45 Α. Sure. 46 Q. But you will recall that you accepted yesterday that 47

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1 following the zero solvability assessment of this Scott 2 Johnson matter --3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. -- in approximately late 2012, a decision was indeed made, as Pamela Young said, not to proceed with further 6 7 active investigation. We went through that yesterday? 8 Α. Yes. 9 And then Mr Olen said what he said in the third 10 Q. paragraph of his email referring to John Lehmann in a soon 11 to be broadcast interview having already indicated that the 12 case was open. We went through this? 13 14 Yes, that's right. Α. 15 16 Q. You agreed yesterday that if Mr Lehmann did say that, 17 that was false? 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Right. Can I just take you to the transcript of the Q. 21 Australian Story program. It will be shown to you. This 22 is Australian Story, you may recall, which was broadcast on the Monday, 11 February? 23 24 The 11th, thank you. Α. 25 26 Q. 2013. Yes. 27 Α. 28 29 Q. For the moment, I don't need to ask you about anything 30 except one passage in it. Sure. 31 Α. 32 33 Q. I need to hand one up so that the Commissioner can 34 Speaking as a TV watcher, you would be aware follow this. that Australian Story, I imagine, is generally speaking not 35 a live program, it's a pre-recorded program? 36 37 Α. Yes, yes. 38 It is apparent, even from the transcript, that 39 Q. 40 excerpts from interviews with various people are spliced together to make the program? 41 42 Yes, yes. Α. 43 44 Q. One of them is Detective Inspector Lehmann? 45 Α. Yes. 46 And on the last page of the transcript, you see at 47 Q.

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1 2 3 4	about 10 lines down from the top, Detective Chief Inspector John Lehmann? A. Yes.							
5	Q. He says on the program:							
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	The case is with the unsolved homicide team having been referred to by the Coroner. I won't comment on what stage the investigation is at. Certainly we haven't closed the books on this case, it's an open case.							
14 15	A. That's right, yep.							
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	Q. Now, is it your understanding, you tell us, that that is what Mr Olen was referring to in his email on the 7th? A. I'm assuming that that is, having looked at this transcript for the first time and the email obviously again this morning.							
	Q. Now, in any event, for Mr Lehmann to say that, whenever he said it in the course of an interview some time prior to 11 February, it wasn't true, was it, for the reasons that we went through yesterday? A. The comment about it being on the books as an open case is quite true with Unsolved Homicide matters; they sit there and if something changes - they are never really closed.							
	Q. I see. A. And that's what is generally the case with all unsolved homicide matters.							
	Q. I see, so the language A. He's referring to that, I'm assuming.							
38 39 40	Q. Sorry? A. He's referring to that.							
41 42 43 44 45	Q. Yes. All right. So literally it's not untrue? A. In the context of that paragraph and what he's saying there around it being an open case, because that's what unsolved homicides are, that's not an untrue statement.							
46 47	Q. No. But to the extent that it conveyed the impression that the Unsolved Homicide Team were actively working on							

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1 it, if it did convey that impression --2 That's not right. Α. 3 4 Q. -- that was not right? 5 Α. Correct, yeah. 6 7 Q. Thank you. 8 9 MR GRAY: I tender that document, your Honour. It will 10 become tab 319 of exhibit 6. 11 12 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 13 I take it, Mr Willing, as far as you are aware, 14 Q. Mr Lehmann is still in the Police Force? 15 16 No, he left, Commissioner, in 2016. Α. 17 18 Q. Do you know where he is? 19 Α. I don't. I haven't had any contact with him since he 20 left. 21 22 MR GRAY: Q. He left in 2016? 23 Α. He went off sick and never returned, yes. 24 25 Q. Do you know when in 2016? From recollection, around October 2016, thereabouts. 26 Α. I might be wrong on the exact sort of time but around then, 27 28 yes. 29 30 THE COMMISSIONER: I take it from what you have said, Q. 31 you haven't heard from him nor about him, is that fair, 32 since at or about the time he left? 33 Α. That's right. 34 THE COMMISSIONER: 35 All right. Thank you. 36 MR GRAY: 37 Q. Moving now to Strike Force Neiwand. Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. As you agreed yesterday, it was created in October 41 2015, initially? Initially, yes. 42 Α. 43 44 In your statement at paragraphs 74 and 75 you say that Q. 45 you were not directly involved, and I asked you some 46 questions yesterday about what that expression meant. Yes, and about the administrative versus direct 47 Α.

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1 involvement, yes. 2 3 This is right, I take it, just confirm if you could, Q. 4 that this reinvestigation under Neiwand from October 2015 and subsequently was the first time that these three 5 Taradale cases were to be investigated again since Taradale 6 7 itself back in the early 2000s; correct? 8 Α. Correct. 9 10 Q. And you may have said this yesterday but in case you didn't --11 Α. Sure. 12 13 -- were you aware yourself, as at October 2015, of the 14 Q. review that Alicia Taylor had written in October 2012? 15 16 Α. I think I was. 17 18 Q. When do you think you became aware of that? 19 Α. I don't know. I don't know. It would be part and 20 parcel of the conduct of the Macnamir investigation, 21 probably 2013. 22 Why would it be part and parcel of the Macnamir 23 Q. 24 investigation? 25 Α. Because part of what Macnamir was looking at were 26 allegations that there was a similarity between what happened in Bondi and what happened to Scott Johnson over 27 28 at Manly. 29 So, at least as you understand matters now, was the 30 Q. Alicia Taylor exercise done under the umbrella of Macnamir? 31 32 No, it was beforehand. Α. 33 34 Q. Pardon? It was beforehand. 2012. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. I see. Just help me with the dates, then. I thought you said a minute ago that her investigation was prompted 38 by Macnamir because of the Taradale factor? 39 Her review was conducted in October of 2012. 40 Α. No. 41 Macnamir didn't start until 2013, as we know. 42 43 Q. So what prompted it, the Taylor exercise? No. 44 Α. The "Taylor exercise", as you put it, would have been 45 a normal process of reviewing matters that were sitting on 46 the Unsolved Homicide database. There was also obviously the referral from the Coroner in 2012 as well. 47

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1 2 Well, when you say the Coroner in 2012, you mean the Q. Scott Johnson Coroner? 3 4 Yes, sorry. My mistake. Two separate matters. So Α. 5 yes, there was - it was sitting on the Unsolved Homicide database and that would be the reason that it was reviewed, 6 7 as part of the normal procedures. 8 9 Q. So nothing to do with --10 Α. Yes, sorry, I made a mistake there. 11 Q. -- the 2012 Coroner? 12 13 Α. Correct, yes. 14 THE COMMISSIONER: 15 Q. So the review was prompted by, 16 what, you say some systematic review that would apply to 17 each of the 700 cases? 18 That's correct, Commissioner. Α. 19 20 And what is this systematic review that would, for Q. 21 example, cause a review of the kind that Ms Taylor 22 performed in 2012, just the fact that it was sitting there, the fact that there was new information? You tell me what 23 24 it is that would prompt a review in 2012, if you know. 25 From recollection, the fact that it was sitting on the Α. 26 database. 27 28 Q. And I can assume, can I, that each of the 700 I see. 29 cases are subject to systematic reviews of the kind performed by Ms Taylor; is that right? 30 31 They could and would be if we had the resources at Α. 32 Homicide to do that. 33 34 When you say "could" or "would be", it's not correct, Q. then, to suggest that each of those cases would be the 35 36 subject of such a review as performed by Ms Taylor, is it, unless there was some new information or a prompt from 37 perhaps a Coroner in some other context? 38 That would be correct. 39 Α. 40 41 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 42 43 MR GRAY: Was there a prompt in the case of the Q. 44 Alicia Taylor exercise? 45 Α. I'm not aware of one. 46 And you're still not aware now? 47 Q.

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Α. 1 No. 2 3 So when you requested the reinvestigation of the three Q. 4 cases in October 2015, as we established yesterday, that 5 wasn't because of anything Alicia Taylor had written back 6 in 2012, I take it? 7 Not particularly, but I note in her review that she Α. 8 thought there may be an opportunity to conduct a covert 9 investigation into it, into those matters. I was of - I 10 knew that Penny Brown, in particular, was interested in pursuing an investigation into those matters. 11 I thought it 12 appropriate to conduct an investigation into those matters and requested the Director of Serious Crime to form that 13 14 strike force. 15 16 Q. Just to clarify the sequence, she writes her document 17 in October 2012, she makes various recommendations, including the ones you've just mentioned? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. But as I understand it - tell me if this is right -22 those recommendations are not adopted or implemented or 23 anything at all done with them between then and October 2015? 24 That's correct. 25 Α. 26 So up to October 2015, there was not actually any 27 Q. 28 investigating going on of these three Taradale cases; 29 correct? That's correct, yes. 30 Α. 31 32 Q. Do you still have volume 14 there? 33 Α. Yes. 34 Could you just have a look at tab 281 35 Q. [NPL.0115.0002.0757]. It is an email chain, most of which 36 I don't need to ask you about, but if you need to get 37 a sense of it, by all means do so. 38 39 Α. Sure. 40 41 Q. It's an email chain on various dates from 42 late November to other dates in December 2015. Α. Yes. 43 44 45 I will try to say this in broad terms. It begins with Q. 46 an approach from a film company who are interested in doing a program about some of these topics? 47

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Α. Yes. 1 2 3 And there are various emails back and forth among Q. 4 various people about what the best response would be to 5 that approach? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Then on the second page of the chain there is one from 9 you? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. Roughly in the middle of the page, on 8 December. 13 Α. Yes, to JT. 14 Yes, where you are addressing JT, who is evidently 15 Q. 16 someone called John Thompson? 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 And you suggest caution is a good idea. Q. But then in 20 the third paragraph, which is the one I want to ask you 21 about, you say - well, first of all, in the second 22 paragraph you say: 23 The Johnson matter is before the State 24 25 Coroner ... 26 27 You say: 28 29 ... we are in the midst of battle with lawyers [about some matters] ... 30 31 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 Q. Then in the next paragraph you say: 35 36 In addition to that, my Unsolved Homicide Team have also commenced --37 38 this is December --39 40 41 ... a fresh look at the Taradale matters 42 under Detective Sergeant Penny Brown. 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 And that's consistent with what you have been saying Q. to date? 47

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Α. 1 Yes. 2 3 Q. And you go on, though: 4 5 ... on the back of information received through the Johnson case. 6 7 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. Now, what is that a reference to? So during the course of Macnamir, Penny Brown and 11 Α. 12 those that were investigating looked at a number of hypotheses including the fact that obviously there were 13 14 people involved in gay hate assaults, and part of that, part of the review, was to review what occurred during the 15 16 Taradale matters, as Pamela Young outlines in her 17 statement, and that's what I refer to in that, information that had been provided by the Johnson family which -18 throughout the course of the investigation. So there was 19 20 nothing specific about anything, but it was certainly the 21 hypotheses that were being used. 22 23 Q. So does that mean, among other things, that a prompt, 24 perhaps the main prompt, for you in October 2015 to set up Neiwand was the realisation that in the course of the 25 26 Macnamir exercise, some work was being done on the Taradale 27 topics? 28 That was part of it, and there was a view, Α. particularly from Penny Brown, that it was worth pursuing 29 30 and if there was a chance of identifying or uncovering 31 further evidence, we should pursue it. 32 33 Q. And basically - no doubt there's more to it than this, 34 but basically - she was talking about, and you understood her to be talking about, doing some more work on the 35 36 persons of interest? 37 Α. Correct. 38 Namely, the many persons of interest that Taradale 39 Q. 40 had --41 Α. That's correct, yes. 42 43 Q. -- turned up? 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 Could we just turn to tab 285 in that volume, Q. [NPL.0115.0004.3512]. This is a couple of months later. 47

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1 This is February 2016? 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 This is Steve Morgan, who at this point was a member Q. 5 of the Macnamir team, but I think was about to be also a member of Neiwand? 6 Mmm-hmm. 7 Α. 8 9 Q. And if you just read that to yourself. 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Now, according to Mr Morgan, known as Chad, which is Q. self-deprecating, I imagine, on his part? 13 Yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. He says apparently "It" - that is Neiwand -17 18 is going to be a political and media-driven 19 hot potato later this year and the Boss 20 wants to be able to say that his squad are 21 further investigating the matter. 22 Now, first of all, is "the Boss" you? 23 That's me, yes. 24 Α. 25 26 Q. And was that the case? No, it was - that may well be his view and opinion of 27 Α. 28 it but it was about identifying and seeing whether or not 29 we could effect an arrest for those matters. 30 31 And did you expect, in February 2016, that Neiwand was Q. 32 going to be a political and media-driven hot potato? 33 Α. It could well have been. It had received a lot of 34 media to that point. 35 36 Neiwand had --Q. 37 Α. It was certainly a political - sorry, the Taradale matters. 38 39 40 Q. The Taradale matters had, yes? 41 Α. And it could well have been, but the intent behind Neiwand was to investigate it, and again if there was 42 43 a chance of uncovering evidence that led to an arrest or 44 arrests, that was the desired outcome. 45 46 Then if you turn to tab 287 [NPL.0115.0002.5404]]? Q. 47 Α. Yes.

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1 2 Q. This is a couple of months later again, this is 3 now April 2016. You are sending to Mr Olen - this is at 4 the top of the page - for his benefit, some emails that had 5 passed between you and some other people? 6 Α. Mmm-hmm. 7 8 Q. You say - the only paragraph that I want to ask you 9 about is the one beginning "Firstly". Do you see that? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Q. 12 This is April 2016. You say: 13 ... the Unsolved Homicide Team is actively 14 involvement in reinvestigating [the three 15 16 Taradale deaths]. 17 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Q. Then you say: 21 22 That reinvestigation was self initiated by 23 the UHT ... 24 25 Is that right? It would be - yes, I mean, it's a discussion that 26 Α. I don't request a strike force to be formed 27 occurs. 28 It's a discussion that would occur with unilaterally. 29 members of the Unsolved Homicide Team, given the limited 30 resources and what it was they were focused on at 31 a particular time. So that is right. 32 33 And does it mean - and this is not meant critically, Q. 34 it's just meant to find out --Sure. 35 Α. 36 -- presumably, that means Penny Brown, does it? She's 37 Q. the one who seems, on your account, to have been keen to do 38 39 something in this area? 40 Α. She was keen, but it would involve, I'm assuming, 41 Chris Olen, who was there at that time; it may well have involved John Lehmann at that time as well, who was still 42 43 But it's a decision that's taken in consideration there. 44 with what is currently being investigated, what they have 45 on their books and what their priorities are. 46 47 Q. You also say, then, in the next sentence:

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2 3	I would submit that the UHT doing that
4	ie, investigating these three deaths
5 6 7 8 9	quite clearly shows that there is no homophobic bias (otherwise it wouldn't have occurred).
10	A. Yes.
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Q. Was that part of your reason for setting this strike force up, so as to make a show of not being homophobic? A. Not to make a show. I thought that, you know - I thought that that would be demonstrable, but at the end of the day, the reason for it being set up was to try and effect an arrest and get fresh evidence.
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q. So just go back to tab 285 [NPL.0115.0004.3512] where Mr Morgan expresses his understanding, which is that you were setting this up because you wanted to be able to say that the squad was investigating? A. Yes.
25 26	Q. And you said, no, that wasn't the reason? A. No.
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44	 Q. If it wasn't the reason, tell us exactly what was the reason in October 2015? A. The reason was because the possibility of uncovering further evidence that would lead to an arrest or the cases being solved. Q. Yes. But what was the catalyst for suddenly doing it in October 2015? A. The Macnamir matters were before the Coroner. There was a time when the resources could have been available to have a look at those matters. At the time, there had been a lot of resources from Unsolved Homicide put into another significant matter that had resulted in an arrest. Most of the Unsolved Homicide Team was involved in that particular matter. And it was - yes, the timing was right, and Penny Brown, in particular, wanted to do it and I supported her.
45 46 47	Q. You say something about this in your statement [SCOI.82369.00001_0001]. A. Yes.

1 2 Q. If we could turn to paragraph 89 and following --3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. I don't want to take you to every line of these but could you just glance over paragraphs 89 to 94 to remind 6 7 yourself of what you have said there. 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 So, in perhaps incomplete summary, you're saying that Q. it's not surprising, just normal practice, for the UHT to 11 review matters where the Coroner refers them? 12 13 That is absolutely fundamental to what they do. Α. 14 15 But in this instance, the three Taradale cases, the Q. 16 Coroner, Deputy State Coroner Milledge, had not actually 17 referred these cases to the UHT, had she? 18 Α. No. 19 20 Q. So that's not the explanation? 21 Α. I don't think it existed at the time. I'm not sure it 22 existed at the time. 23 24 No, it may not have. But in any event, the kind of Q. referral that you refer to in paragraph 91 hadn't happened 25 26 either, had it - you know, using phrases like "in 27 accordance with usual protocols and procedures"? 28 Α. Yes. 29 30 Q. She hadn't made such a reference, had she? 31 Α. No. 32 33 Q. So that's not the explanation, namely, a reference 34 from the Coroner. So it was a self-initiated decision from somewhere within the UHT? 35 36 That's right, and that - you know, the Unsolved Α. Homicide Team, and myself as the Commander Homicide, had 37 that authority to do that. 38 39 40 Q. So you say it wasn't just to be able to say that 41 something was being done? 42 Α. No. 43 44 Was it because the Taradale work and the Milledge Q. 45 findings flowing from that work were of significance in the 46 Johnson case, such that if the suicide theory in the 47 Johnson case was to be supported, the Taradale findings

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needed to be undermined? 1 2 Α. No. 3 4 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. And as far as you're aware, there 5 was not a jot, was there, of new information in relation to the three Taradale cases, which provoked the review? 6 7 Α. No. 8 9 MR GRAY: Could Mr Willing have volume 6, please. 10 Could you turn to tab 163, please, 11 Q. [SCOI.76862.00014_0001]. Take a minute to orient yourself, 12 but this is June 2015, some four months before Neiwand is 13 14 actually initiated. Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. It is talking about a press release, which, if you flip over the pages, is there to be seen, about the deaths 18 of Mattaini, Warren and Russell, and in particular, about 19 20 the fact that rewards have now been offered? 21 Α. Yes. 22 23 Q. And you are quoted or words are attributed to you 24 about halfway down the press release? Mmm-hmm. 25 Α. 26 The press release, which is a police press release, 27 Q. 28 says: 29 30 The circumstances surrounding the three 31 incidents have been the subject of a review 32 by the ... Unsolved Homicide Team in recent 33 years. 34 What was that a reference to? 35 36 It's either a reference to the Alicia Taylor review Α. by that point, the work that was done in Macnamir, 37 or, looking at the possibilities of the similarities between 38 what happened at Bondi and in Scott Johnson's death. 39 40 41 And then you are attributed, not in quotes but Q. attributed with saying that the matters had been reviewed 42 "based on the Coroner's findings that they were suspicious 43 44 in nature and possibly the result of gay hate related 45 crimes"; now, is that correct? 46 Α. Yes. 47

1 Q. And you went on in next couple of paragraphs where you 2 are quoted saying what you can see there --3 Α. Yep. 4 5 Q. -- which is directed. I take it, to the notion that what you had in mind, at least that's what you were 6 7 actually saying, was actually chasing down the 8 perpetrators? 9 Α. Yes. 10 That was trying to find out who killed these men? 11 Q. Α. Yes. 12 13 14 Now, what was the sequence of events that made that by Q. some lead-up process there were rewards issued and then 15 16 four months later Neiwand instituted? What was happening? 17 Α. I can't recall the sequence of events but the rewards 18 are - there was a process in place where an independent panel within the Police Force decided to allocate rewards 19 20 upon application by investigators or commands within the 21 NSW Police Force. 22 Q. 23 Let me move slightly on --Α. 24 Sure. 25 26 -- but still on the same ballpark. As you have Q. 27 accepted earlier today, up to the initiation of Neiwand 28 in October 2015, there was no actual investigation going on 29 vet of the Taradale cases. That's right. 30 Α. 31 32 Since Taradale, Milledge, in the early 2000s? Q. 33 Α. Yes. 34 That being so, could you just help us with something 35 Q. 36 that appears in a newspaper article in volume 8. 37 THE COMMISSIONER: 38 Just before you go there, Mr Gray, can 39 I ask this question. 40 41 Mr Willing, would you go back to the top of that press Q. 42 release. In the second paragraph, you will see: 43 44 Gilles Mattaini, a 27-year-old French 45 national living in Bondi, was last seen 46 walking along the coastal walking track at 47 Tamarama ...

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1 2 Have you got any idea where that information is likely to have come from? 3 4 No, Commissioner. That would be a matter for the Α. 5 journalist. 6 7 Q. I'm sorry? 8 Α. The journalist - I - that would be a question for the journalist. I don't know where that came from. 9 10 But the journalist is issuing or preparing a press 11 Q. release on behalf of the Police Force. 12 13 Α. Sorry. 14 Surely, the journalist wouldn't just make that up; the 15 Q. 16 journalist would presumably want to check the accuracy of that assertion with someone at NSW Police, wouldn't they? 17 18 Sorry, that's my mistake there. That came from us. Α. 19 I don't know where the content of that came from, in terms 20 of --21 22 All right. Where would it likely come from, though? Q. Who would have knowledge at the time, someone of Unsolved 23 Homicide. I would assume? 24 I would assume so. 25 Α. 26 27 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Thank you. 28 29 MR GRAY: Q. In volume 8, could you turn to tab 214 [SCOI.82026_0001] here we have a Sydney Morning Herald 30 31 article on 9 August 2013? 32 Sorry, what tab was that, Mr Gray? Α. 33 34 Q. 214. 214. Yes. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. Again, orienting you time-wise, the Rick Feneley series of articles had come out in July 2013? 38 39 Α. Yes. 40 And then this is another Rick Feneley article about 41 Q. a month after the main suite of them. 42 Α. Mmm-hmm. 43 44 45 Q. If you recall? 46 Α. Yes. 47

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1 Q. Now, according to this article, you are said to have said that - well, I'll start that question again. 2 The third paragraph of the article by Mr Feneley says: 3 4 5 After a Fairfax Media investigation --6 7 which is basically the July articles, I think --8 9 pointed to as many as 80 gay-hate murders 10 between the late 1970s and late '90s almost 30 of which remain unsolved -11 12 Superintendent Willing agreed to an 13 interview this week ... 14 15 Now, pausing there; is that right? Were you approached for 16 an interview by Mr Feneley? Yes, I'm assuming that's right. 17 Α. 18 19 Q. Then you are quoted as saying, in August 2013: 20 21 I know I've been quiet until this point and 22 there is a reason for that - and that's because we're quietly working away on it. 23 24 25 Meaning the three Taradale cases? Yes. 26 Α. 27 28 Q. But you weren't? 29 Α. As part of the Macnamir review. 30 Q. I see. So although there was no investigation --31 32 Α. They were reviewing them and there was --33 Q. As you've agreed several times? 34 Correct. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. You're saying that that statement was justified because, in the Macnamir exercise, some work was being done 38 in seeing whether the Taradale persons of interest had 39 40 something to do with the Johnson death? 41 Α. Whether or not there were similarities between the Bondi matters and what happened to Scott Johnson. 42 That's 43 what I'm referring to. 44 45 But that exercise, assuming that it happened Q. Right. 46 as you say --47 Α. Yes.

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1 2 -- wasn't in any way reinvestigating or reviewing the Q. 3 three Taradale deaths themselves, was it? 4 No, that's right. That's correct. Α. 5 So when you said here, "we're quietly working away on 6 Q. it", being the three Taradale deaths, that's stretching the 7 8 truth, isn't it? I think it's a broad term. 9 Α. Well, I don't think so. 10 I'm not going to give the journalist details of exactly what we're doing in relation to those matters. 11 It would be inappropriate for me to do that, so --12 13 14 Q. Well, you apparently told him, I assume from the next 15 paragraph, that the police were reviewing the three cases 16 covered by Taradale? 17 Α. As part of the Macnamir investigation. 18 19 Q. Did you tell him that? 20 Α. I can't recall it but if it's inferred there, 21 I probably did. 22 But the cases under review, according to the article -23 Q. 24 at least that seems to be the impression having been left with Mr Feneley - were the murder of Russell and the 25 disappearance of Warren and Mattaini. That's not what was 26 27 happening, was it? 28 They were being reviewed as part of --Α. 29 To see whether they shed any the light on the Johnson 30 Q. 31 case? 32 Α. That's right, yes. 33 34 But not being reviewed to see who killed those three Q. men. at all? 35 36 Not specifically, no, that's correct. Α. 37 Would it be fair to say that in August 2013, in the 38 Q. wake of the Rick Feneley articles of July 2013, that you 39 40 wanted the public to think that something was actually 41 being done about these three cases, when in truth, it wasn't? 42 43 No, I don't think that's a fair assertion. Α. I could 44 have proactively come out and talked about it. I wanted 45 the Macnamir investigation to have the freedom to conduct 46 the inquiries that they needed to conduct. Journalists 47 come to you all the time and ask questions. There was no

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1 way that I was going to get into detail with Mr Feneley 2 about what was going on. 3 4 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Why did you bother speaking to him 5 at all then? Because he - it was a public matter, he made a request 6 Α. to speak to me. Yeah, I could have said no, but as part 7 8 and parcel of my role as the Commander Homicide, it 9 involved talking to journalists on almost a daily basis. 10 11 MR GRAY: Q. In your statement at paragraph 73, you say that Neiwand was established to look at the available 12 13 evidence and, if at all possible, to bring any person or 14 persons who might have been involved in the deaths to 15 justice? 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 And in paragraph 72 you give some evidence which is Q. 19 along the same theme? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 Indeed, you've said similar things yesterday and Q. 23 today. 24 Α. Yes. 25 Now, in the early stages of Neiwand - that is, 26 Q. in February 2016 - Penny Brown sent an email to the other 27 28 Neiwand people, and I just want to show it to you. It's in 29 volume 14, if you still have that. No, I don't think you 30 do. Mr Willing needs number 14. 31 Α. Which tab, Mr Gray? 32 It is tab 306, [NPL.3000.0001.0026_0001]. So you see 33 Q. 34 it's 1 February 2016? Yes. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. And Miss Brown, or Ms Brown, is attaching a spreadsheet of the Taradale suspects and victims? 38 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 Q. And she sends that to various people who are in the Neiwand team, including Mr Chebl and Mr Rullo and others? 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 45 And she copies it to Mr Olen and Mr Lehmann and she Q. 46 blind copies it to you? 47 Α. Yes.

1 2 Q. Now, the spreadsheet itself is behind tab 306A? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 MR GRAY: Commissioner, this document won't come up on the screen because it contains numerous names of persons which 6 7 it is inappropriate to put on the screen, at least at this 8 stage. 9 10 Q. Do you have it in your folder, Mr Willing? Yes, I do. 11 Α. 12 Q. 306A? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 16 Q. It's lengthy, as you can see, it's about four or five 17 pages? 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Q. Of lists of persons of interest, for the most part? 21 Α. Many of them. 22 Many, many of them. I haven't counted them, but 23 Q. perhaps 100 or so? 24 25 Α. Perhaps, yes. 26 27 Fifty at least? Q. 28 Α. Yes. 29 Q. 30 The covering email, tab 305? 306? 31 Α. 32 33 Q. Sorry, 306, thank you. From Penny Brown says on 34 1 February in the third paragraph: 35 36 I'm anticipating that we all get together next Monday to kick off [Strike Force] 37 Neiwand. 38 39 40 So it sounds like - and again I'm not saying this 41 critically - Neiwand was only seriously getting under way in early 2016? 42 Yeah, that's right. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. The spreadsheet, in its length and detail, would 46 indicate, would it, that Penny Brown thought that what Neiwand was going to be doing was pursuing the persons of 47

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interest that Taradale had identified? 1 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. And is that what you thought was going to be done? 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 And indeed, it seems that that's more or less Q. 8 consistent with what Alicia Taylor had thought should be 9 done? 10 Α. Yes, that's right. 11 12 Q. I'm sure you have seen the three Neiwand summaries 13 that were written then at the end of the Neiwand process? 14 Α. I have, yes. Some weeks ago, yes. But ves. 15 16 Q. You've seen them I imagine only relatively recently? 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 Q. And you had never seen them before --20 Α. No. 21 22 Q. -- until getting ready for this Inquiry? That's correct. 23 Α. 24 Q. 25 But you have read them now? Yes. 26 Α. 27 28 Q. It's obvious, isn't it, from those summaries that in 29 fact Neiwand did not pursue all those persons of interest at all; in fact, it seems probably none of them? 30 31 The summaries are quite brief so I don't - I can't Α. 32 tell whether or not --33 34 Q. There's no mention of any of those people, any of 35 them? 36 Α. But I certainly know Penny Brown did, and interviewed people in custody and other places. 37 38 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Mr Willing, I wonder if you would 39 40 be kind enough to answer the question: is there any mention in the summaries you've read of any of the persons 41 here having been interviewed or any covert operations 42 43 undertaken in relation to any of these people? 44 Α. No. 45 46 It's a remarkable omission if those things had been Q. done, isn't it? 47

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Yes. 1 Α. 2 3 Indeed, Mr Willing, it's clear - and I'll MR GRAY: Q. 4 take you to some of this later - from those summaries that 5 a deliberate decision was made not to do so? I can't comment on that. I don't know. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. You don't recall that? I wasn't involved in that. 9 Α. I don't know. 10 But you've read the summaries now? 11 Q. Α. 12 I've read the summaries, yes. 13 Isn't it obvious that a deliberate decision was made 14 Q. not to focus on persons of interest at all but to pursue 15 16 other approaches altogether? 17 Α. I can't say one way or the other. 18 Q. 19 Really? 20 Yeah, because the summaries may not have included the Α. 21 interviews of persons of interest. I know Penny Brown 22 spoke to people in custody. 23 24 No, no, you're not perhaps grasping the question. Q. The summaries make it clear, don't they, that there was 25 a deliberate decision not to pursue chasing up the persons 26 of interest? 27 28 That's an inference that can be drawn but I don't know Α. 29 whether or not that occurred, or not. 30 31 Well, I'm putting - I'm going to suggest to you it is Q. 32 not an inference but it actually says as much when we read 33 them but you don't recall that? 34 I wasn't at the Homicide Squad at the time. Α. 35 36 No, but you've read them? Q. 37 Α. I've read them, yes. 38 39 Q. Isn't that what they say? 40 Α. That could be an inference that's drawn from that, 41 yes. 42 THE COMMISSIONER: 43 Q. Could I just ask while this is 44 happening, in the middle of this email from Ms Brown, she 45 says she has a meeting with OGC at their chambers. Who is 46 OGC? Office of General Counsel. 47 Α.

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1 2 MR GRAY: Q. You are not aware from reading the summaries in recent times that a deliberate decision was 3 4 made, rather than pursuing the Taradale persons of 5 interest, to do essentially two other things - one, focusing on victimology --6 Mmm-hmm. 7 Α. 8 9 Q. -- learning more about the deceased person from some 10 of his associates --11 Α. Yep. 12 13 Q. -- and, secondly, focusing not on possible homicide 14 but much more on the possibilities of suicide or Isn't that apparent from the summaries? 15 misadventure. 16 Again, it's an inference that can be drawn from those Α. 17 summaries that that's what occurred. I don't have any 18 direct knowledge about that. 19 20 Q. I'm asking you about the summaries. 21 Α. I know. 22 23 Q. Isn't it apparent from the summaries that that's what 24 happened? 25 Α. I believe I've answered it and said yes --26 27 No, you keep saying you could draw an inference. Q. My 28 question is isn't it actually apparent that that's what 29 they did? 30 I believe it's an inference that can be drawn and Α. 31 that's as high as it goes. 32 33 Q. It's also apparent from the summaries, isn't it, that 34 what Neiwand increasingly focused on was finding fault with how Taradale had been conducted? 35 36 That's - are you suggesting that's what is inferred in Α. 37 those summaries? 38 Q. Not inferred, apparent? 39 40 Α. Again, the same question - same answer I provided to 41 the previous question. That's an inference --42 43 THE COMMISSIONER: What, you can't remember, or what Q. 44 is it that you're saying? 45 Α. Not that I can't remember. I wasn't involved in --46 47 Q. I didn't ask you whether you were involved. We're

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1 talking about the summaries. So what Mr Gray is asking you 2 is the effect - your perception, when you read the 3 summaries recently, was that one of the things they 4 directed themselves to was the inadequacy of the original 5 Taradale investigation? Yes. 6 Yes. Α. 7 8 MR GRAY: Q. And on finding fault with it? 9 Α. Inadequacy, finding fault. 10 Now, to some extent, although perhaps not to the same 11 Q. extent, I want to suggest to you that some of what I have 12 just been suggesting to you, although not all, is apparent 13 14 from the progress reports in Neiwand, some of which you did see at the time, didn't you, when you were Commander 15 16 Homicide? 17 Α. Yes, some of them I did. 18 19 Q. Could we go to volume 6, please. 20 Α. Which tab, sir? 21 22 Could you turn to tab 164a, [SCOI.82054_0001]. You Q. will see that 164a through to 164i are a total of nine 23 24 progress reports? 25 Α. Mmm-hmm, yes. 26 27 The last few are on dates after you've moved on, after Q. 28 April 2017, but the first however many, four or five, 29 I think, are while you are still in the position of Commander Homicide? 30 Yes. 31 Α. 32 33 Q. So the first one at 164a is for the period ending, you 34 can see on the top of the first page, 12 July 2016? 35 Α. Yes. 36 37 Q. And there is an operation summary - by the way, at the bottom of that page there's a little heading that says 38 "Progress report compliance issues"; do you see that? The 39 40 front page, down the bottom? 41 Α. Yes. 42 And then there is a box "Terms of Reference: 43 Yes." Q. 44 "Investigation Plan: N", for "No". 45 Α. Mmm-hmm. 46 47 Q. So there was at that point, July 2016, still no .21/02/2023 (24) M J WILLING (Mr Gray) 1774

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1 investigation plan; correct? 2 Α. That's what it suggests, yes. 3 4 Q. Then under the heading "Operation Summary" on the next 5 page, which goes for a few pages, there's a summary, as suggested, of what had happened up to the Milledge stage, 6 2005? 7 8 Α. Yes. 9 Q. 10 Then on the next page, page 4, I think, there's a heading "Status of Investigation"? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 I wanted to mention a couple of those bullet points. 14 Q. The first one is to say that, at this point, they had 15 16 reviewed 42 boxes from Strike Force Taradale. The second 17 one was to say that a number of products, predominantly statements, from Taradale were being got on to the Neiwand 18 system for review? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 The third one says that through those documents, Q. a number of persons of interest are being identified and 23 24 will be looked at further when the investigation moves into the next phase? 25 Α. Yes. 26 27 28 And then the fourth one refers to a meeting on Q. 29 14 April between you, Superintendent Crandell, who was running Parrabell --30 31 Parrabell, yes. Α. 32 33 Q. -- and Detective Chief Inspector Olen from Unsolved 34 Homicide? Yes. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. And according to the bullet point, that meeting was: 38 ... to discuss alleged "gay-hate" death 39 40 investigations (Strike Force Parrabell) ... 41 and any relevance to [Unsolved Homicide Team] investigations? 42 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 Now, I will come back to that a bit later, but the Q. topic for discussion was interrelationship between 47

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Parrabell and Neiwand; correct? 1 2 It was - that was the meeting where - I think someone Α. 3 else was present as well from Tony Crandell's office, where 4 we discussed what Parrabell's intention was and what they 5 were doing, including the academic review that was proposed, yes. 6 7 8 And the interrelationship or crossover between Q. 9 Parrabell and Neiwand; correct? 10 Α. Yes, naturally, yes. 11 On the bottom bullet point on that page, it says that 12 Q. on 27 May 2016, Parrabell detectives handed over to Neiwand 13 documents relating to investigations, I presume it means 14 being conducted under Neiwand, presumably meaning the three 15 16 Taradale deaths I suppose; is that right? 17 Α. So Parrabell detectives attended headquarters to hand 18 over documents conducted under - yes, that's correct, yes. 19 20 So it looks like Parrabell was giving Neiwand material Q. 21 that they had relating to the three Taradale cases? 22 That's what it looks like, yes. Α. 23 24 Q. Because at that point, is this right, the arrangement was that Parrabell would not look at the three Taradale 25 26 cases? 27 Α. At that point, yes, that's correct, yes. 28 29 Q. And was that because you told Mr Crandell that Neiwand was doing that? 30 31 Yes, that Neiwand was looking at those matters. Α. 32 33 And so he said, in effect - I'm paraphrasing - "All Q. 34 right, then, fine, you do that, and we won't include them"? 35 Α. At this point - at that point in time, yes, that's 36 correct. 37 Under the heading "Future Directions" - perhaps I'll 38 Q. just ask you, under the heading "Individual case actions", 39 40 there are various bullet points for Mattaini and Russell 41 and Warren respectively; you can see that? 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 Q. The fourth bullet point under Mattaini says that on 45 18 May you were informed of the media's intention to 46 publish articles in the Saturday and Sunday papers in relation to Taradale and Parrabell and Neiwand; is that 47

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1 correct? Yes. I believe so. 2 Α. 3 4 And it says the decision was taken to contact the next Q. 5 of kin or family of Mattaini and so on, but did you participate in interview or interviews with the journalists 6 7 in relation to that intended publication? 8 I can't recall which one it was. From recollection, Α. 9 it might have been articles from Ava Benny-Morrison, who 10 was at the Sydney Morning Herald at the time, who I knew 11 quite well. 12 13 Q. Now, none of those bullet points in relation to 14 Mattaini mentioned anything about persons of interest or doing anything in that line, do they? 15 16 Not that I can see at that point, no. Α. 17 18 Under "Warren", there is a person of interest, Q. 19 namely - I'm not sure if this name is redacted, it may well 20 be, but you can see there is a person of interest noted in 21 the first bullet point under "Warren"? 22 Α. Yes. 23 24 Q. That's one. Other than that one. there doesn't seem 25 to be any reference to any attempt to pursue any of the 50 26 to 100 Taradale persons of interest, does there? 27 Α. Not at that point, no. 28 29 Q. And under "Russell", again, there is no mention of 30 doing anything in relation to persons of interest, is there? 31 32 Α. No. 33 34 Under "Future Directions", what's going to happen Q. apparently is continue uploading material, complete an 35 36 investigation plan, complete victimology of the three men and do a few other things, none of which, with the possible 37 exception of the second-last bullet point, mentions 38 anything about persons of interest, does it? 39 40 Α. Are you referring to the second-last point on page 6, 41 the Crime Commission reference? 42 43 No, the second-last point on the whole list, on Q. 44 page 7 - namely, "Continual review of intelligence reports being received"? 45 46 The request to the NSW Crime Commission for their Α. holdings in relation to Taradale under their reference 47

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1 "Wellington" related to persons of interest. 2 3 I see. At any rate, this report doesn't have - this Q. 4 progress report doesn't have your signature on it. 5 Somebody else has signed as squad commander? Yes. I can just make out Grant Taylor, I think. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Grant Taylor, he must have been in your place for the 9 moment on that date? 10 Α. Correct. 11 12 All right. Then the next one that I want to take you Q. 13 to - I will skip over the second one for my purposes and 14 move to the third one, which is tab 164c, [SCOI.82053_0001]. Now, this one is - perhaps one brief 15 thing on the second one, 164b, [SCOI.82049_0001] in the box 16 17 at the top of page 1 and the bottom of page 2, you will see 18 that the investigation plan apparently still didn't exist? 19 The investigation plan? Α. 20 21 Q. Yes. 22 Α. Yes, that's what it infers, yes. 23 Q. 24 Pardon? 25 Α. That's what it infers, yes. 26 So there still was no investigation plan? 27 Q. 28 Α. That looks like it's correct. 29 And then when we get to 164c, [SCOI.82053_0001], which 30 Q. is now the end of October 2016, that box is now ticked "Y", 31 32 so it seems that an investigation plan had eventually come 33 into existence? 34 Yes. Α. 35 36 Now, in this third one, the one for 28 October 2016? Q. 37 Α. Sorry, which one was that, Mr Gray? 38 Q. It's 164c. 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 42 I don't want to make your task logistically too Q. difficult but if you could just keep that open and could 43 44 Mr Willing also have volume 14, please, and turn to tab 295A, [NPL.0015.0003.1501]. 45 46 Α. 295? 47

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Q. 295A. 1 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. That's a document headed "State Crime Command", 5 et cetera? "Operational Legal Support"? 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Yes. 9 Α. Yes. 10 Now, it bears a date 17 August 2016? 11 Q. Α. Yes. 12 13 It describes you at number 7 as the strike force 14 Q. detective superintendent? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 Q. And that's, I presume, simply because you were Commander Homicide? 19 20 Α. That's correct, yes. 21 22 And then the strike force team leader is said to be Q. John Lehmann? 23 24 Α. Yes. 25 26 Q. That was correct, I take it? 27 Yes. Yes. Α. 28 29 Q. And resources are listed, in terms of personnel, and then at 15, on the second page under the heading "Persons 30 of interest", we see the words, "None known at this stage"? 31 32 Α. Yes, well, that's incorrect. 33 34 Q. That's not exactly right, is it? No, that's not right. 35 Α. 36 There were 50 to 100 persons of interest at least 37 Q. known, weren't there? 38 Yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. That can be put away, please. So that's August. Then at 164c, which is where we were a minute ago --42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 -- this is the third progress report, as at Q. 46 28 October? Yes. 47 Α.

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1 2 Under "Status of Investigation" at the bottom of Q. 3 page 3 --4 Α. Yes. 5 -- nothing seems to be noted that refers to pursuing 6 Q. 7 persons of interest? 8 Except for the top point, as referenced before, around Α. 9 the Crime Commission and Wellington. 10 11 Q. Getting what the Crime Commission might have? Α. 12 Yes. 13 And then under "Individual case actions" again, with 14 Q. one exception in the case of Warren, no persons of interest 15 16 are referred to as being tasks pursued? 17 Α. Sorry, under who? 18 19 Warren, in the third bullet point for Warren, a person Q. 20 is said to have been identified as a person of interest? 21 Α. Yes, that's correct. 22 But with that one exception, there's no mention of any 23 Q. pursuing of persons of interest? 24 That's correct. 25 Α. 26 Nor is there under the heading, "Future Directions"; 27 Q. is that right? 28 29 Α. No, that's correct. 30 Now, under the heading on the next page, 31 Q. 32 "Investigation coordinator" - do you see that? 33 Α. Yes, I do. 34 This is apparently a comment by someone called Matthew 35 Q. or Mathieu Russell? 36 Mathieu. 37 Α. 38 Q. 39 Who was he? 40 Α. He was a detective senior sergeant or sergeant within 41 the Unsolved Homicide Team. He, in that position, was relieving into one of the investigation coordinator's roles 42 at the time. 43 44 45 Q. So he apparently records this comment: 46 Meeting held with ... Neiwand on Tuesday, 47

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1 25/10/2016. Advice provided to target POIs with CCRs --2 3 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. 6 - -7 8 around recent "gay hate" media events and 9 to consider patterns of behaviour and 10 movement. 11 Yes. 12 Α. 13 Now, "CCRs", I believe, stands for call charge 14 Q. records? 15 16 That's correct. Α. 17 18 And that is a reference to something that can record Q. the phone numbers of all outgoing calls made from 19 20 a particular phone? 21 Α. Yes, and incoming calls, yes. 22 And incoming calls. Now, so someone was advising 23 Q. 24 Neiwand that they should be targeting persons of interest 25 by the use of call charge records? 26 Yes. Α. 27 28 Q. And was that someone Mr Russell or was that someone 29 else? It appears to be Mr Russell by the look of the 30 Α. 31 document. 32 33 Q. And you have signed this one on the next page. 34 Α. Mmm-hmm. 35 Q. As squad commander. 36 37 Α. Yes. 38 So you would have expected some targeting of POIs or 39 Q. 40 persons of interest to have ensued? 41 Α. Yes. 42 Q. Did it? 43 44 Α. I haven't - I don't know. My understanding was that 45 the entire time they were looking at persons of interest, 46 but that comment from Russell reads to me like he's giving them advice around a particular investigative strategy that 47

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1 might reveal evidence at that time around those media 2 events. 3 4 Q. Yes, that because there were recent media events, that 5 there might be some phone activity? Yes, that's right. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. And that the POIs - presumably the ones on the lengthy 9 spreadsheet provided by Penny Brown --10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. -- should be targeted? 13 Α. Yes. 14 If we turn to 164d [SCOI.82050_0001], the next one, 15 Q. 16 which is the fourth progress report, for the period ending 17 23 January --18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Q. -- it doesn't look as if any such targeting has been 21 done, does it? 22 No, with again the exception of reviewing material Α. 23 from the Wellington reference from the Crime Commission. 24 25 Q. No, but as you have explained already, that's quite 26 a different thing, isn't it? That's getting material from the Crime Commission? 27 28 Yes, that's right. Α. 29 30 Q. From their holdings from times past? 31 Relating to persons of interest, that's right. Α. 32 Yes. 33 Q. But I'm asking you, as you know --34 Α. Yes. 35 36 -- whether any targeting of persons of interest by Q. CCRs, as recommended at the previous meeting by Detective 37 Russell, had happened? 38 I don't know. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. And it seems not? I don't know but it's not mentioned here. 42 Α. 43 44 Q. It's not mentioned, is it? 45 Α. Correct. 46 Now, in the case of Mattaini, at the bottom of page 3, 47 Q.

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there's no suggestion that anything's been done about any 1 2 persons of interest whatsoever, is there? 3 Α. No, not to that point. 4 5 Q. In the case of Russell, on the next page, there's no suggestion that anything has been done to do with persons 6 of interest? 7 8 Α. That's correct. 9 10 Q. In the case of Warren, the third bullet point does identify people described as persons of interest? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 And they are set out there, and there's about five or 14 Q. six of them? 15 16 Five or six, yes. Α. 17 18 Now, turning to the next one, which is 164e Q. 19 [SCOI.82048 0001] --20 21 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Can I just ask this question. I'll take you back, Mr Willing, to page 3 of the current 22 one we're looking at, 164d, before Mr Gray moves on? 23 Yes. Commissioner. 24 Α. 25 26 I know this probably stretches your recollection, do Q. 27 you recall there ever being a person of interest in 28 relation to Mattaini at any time? 29 Α. I can't recall. 30 All right. And the third bullet point under his name 31 Q. 32 on page 3 --33 Α. Yes. 34 -- would suggest that, on one view, one of the 35 Q. activities undertaken was to pursue with his ex-partner 36 37 a previous suicide attempt? Α. Yes. 38 39 40 THE COMMISSIONER: Okay, thank you. 41 42 MR GRAY: Q. Moving to 164e [SCOI.82048_0001] which is for the period ending 23 March 2017 --43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 Q. -- under "Status of Investigation" on page 3,. There's no mention of any pursuit of persons of interest, is there? 47

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1 Α. On the - page 3, did you say? 2 Q. 3 Yes. 4 No. Α. 5 Under the heading "Status of Investigation"? Q. 6 7 No, it appears that they are primarily involved in Α. 8 reviewing and uploading material on to the systems. 9 10 Q. Yes, and this is at March 2017? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. 13 They have been under way for at least a year? 14 That's correct. Α. 15 16 Q. So, so far, they seem to have done nothing, basically, 17 about persons of interest, except for the handful that I've taken you to? 18 19 It seems to me that they've been reviewing material Α. 20 the entire time. 21 22 Q. They've been reviewing holdings from previous --23 Α. That's right. 24 25 Q. -- work done by others? 26 With the exception of bits and pieces, as, for Α. 27 example, the contact of Gilles Mattaini's former partner, 28 et cetera. 29 Apart from speaking to somebody about Mattaini about 30 Q. 31 suicide; is that right? 32 That's correct, yes. Α. 33 34 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. And on page 4 there's a mention in bullet point 3 under Mr Warren, about some decision to be 35 36 taken as to which, if any, persons at all were to be spoken 37 to? Yes. 38 Α. 39 40 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 41 42 MR GRAY: Q. In this one, this 23 March one, on page 5, 43 there is a comment, which it seems comes from Stewart 44 Leggat --45 Α. Yes. 46 47 Q. -- that as to Warren, while it might have been .21/02/2023 (24) M J WILLING (Mr Gray) 1784

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1 a homicide, it was possibly of a domestic nature involving 2 a former partner rather than the result of gay hate gang 3 violence? 4 Α. Yes, there's a comment by Leggat to that effect, yes. 5 6 Q. And so what Mr Leggat then sets out in bullet points 7 is that somebody should do an executive summary of what 8 Taradale found out about youth gangs, first bullet point? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Then somebody else should compile Warren's medical 11 Q. history to see if he might have had some illness that might 12 have prompted someone to murder him? 13 14 Yes. Α. 15 16 Q. Someone else should compile a chart of his associates? 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 Q. And then someone else, or the same person, actually, 20 an analyst, advised that CCRs, so call charge records, had 21 been obtained but didn't reveal any adverse or suspicious 22 contacts between Warren's former associates. Mmm-hmm. 23 Α. 24 25 Q. But nothing about CCRs connected to persons of 26 interest: correct? 27 That's the way it reads; that's correct. Α. 28 29 Q. It is, yes. Then the next bullet point is that interview/statement plans were to be drawn up for each of 30 31 the POIs identified from Warren's associates, but not for 32 the ones sent through by Penny Brown? 33 Α. No, the ones sent from Penny Brown aren't mentioned. 34 I don't take that to mean that they are excluding those. 35 I take that to mean perhaps additional persons of interest. 36 37 Q. So you think that actually what was going on was that a great body of work was being done about Penny Brown's 38 long list but there was no mention of it? 39 40 Α. No, I didn't say that. I'm saying that that point to 41 me reads that that's a reference to further POIs that might 42 have been identified. 43 44 Q. All right. This one you have signed on page 7 as 45 Commander? 46 Yep. Α. 47

1 Q. And then I think the last one, which you may not be 2 able to help us much with - the last one from me today - is 3 164f [SCOI.82051_0001]. 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. Which is the one for the period ended 16 May 2017. 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 9 Q. Now, you had I think already moved on to do the Lindt Cafe work by then? 10 From 11 April; that's correct. 11 Α. 12 13 Q. Yes. So you, I presume, didn't see this then, in May? 14 Α. No. 15 16 Q. But you have seen it more recently --17 Α. Yes. 18 Q. 19 -- getting ready for today? 20 Α. Correct. 21 22 With this one on page 3, under "Status of Q. Investigation", we see that the third bullet point includes 23 24 that for the first time, as I read these documents, an actual person of interest has been met with. 25 Do you see 26 that person named in the third bullet point? I don't read it as saying the first time. 27 Α. I read it 28 as on that date, investigators met with that person. 29 30 Q. Well, that may be a matter for submission, all right. 31 Α. Sure. 32 33 Q. Under the heading of "Gilles Mattaini" on page 4, the 34 first bullet point deals with endeavours related to French authorities, seemingly mainly concerned with the topic of 35 suicide? 36 Yes. 37 Α. 38 The second bullet point concerns attempts to get DNA 39 Q. 40 from Mr Mattaini's mother in France? Yes. 41 Α. 42 43 Q. And then the third bullet point says this: 44 45 On Monday, 10 [April] --46 which is the day before you moved on --47

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1		
2		It was decided that as Mattaini's cause of
3		death cannot be determined, there is no
4		evidence of homicide; death may be the
5		result of suicide or misadventure. As
6		
		a result the investigation into Mattaini's
7		death will be inactive
8	_	
9	Α.	Yes.
10		
11	Q.	
12		
13		so investigators can concentrate on the
14		Ross Warren matter.
15		
16	Α.	Yes.
17	Λ.	
	0	Wall given evenuthing we we leaded at as few it
18		Well, given everything we've looked at so far, it
19		d appear that there was no investigation of Mattaini's
20	deat	h at all, wouldn't you agree?
21	Α.	I take it from that paragraph that there's been an
22	inve	stigation but there was no evidence of homicide that
23	was	found or new evidence of homicide.
24		
25	Q.	But from what you have been looking at, what
26	inve	stigation was there of anything to do with homicide in
27		case of Mattaini - from what you have read in these
28		ress reports?
29	A.	I take it that there has been an investigation but
30		haven't uncovered evidence of homicide.
	they	
31	0	The net colden that
32	Q.	I'm not asking that.
33	Α.	That's what
34	_	
35	Q.	I'm asking you, from the series of progress reports
36	that	we've just been through, four or five of them, and
37	I've	taken you to "Mattaini" each time
38	Α.	Yes.
39		
40	Q.	there is no record of any investigation pursuing
41		ible homicide in the case of Mattaini, is there?
42	розз А.	
42	Π.	The che progress reports that appears to be right.
	0	And yet they have determined well "the sever of
44	Q.	And yet they have determined - well, "the cause of
45		h cannot be determined" and "there is no evidence of
46		cide", even though they haven't sought any; isn't that
47	righ	t?

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1 Α. I wouldn't suggest that they haven't sought any. 2 There was none that was identified. 3 4 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Well, there is no suggestion in 5 relation to the document we looked at a little earlier today of anybody, if it be accurate, trying to determine 6 what time of the day Mr Mattaini was on the coastal walk, 7 8 for example; correct? 9 Α. Not according to these documents, these summaries. 10 Well, when you say "Not according to these documents", 11 Q. I'm assuming documents of this sort are important? 12 13 Α. Yes. 14 And they are created so as to give the likes of 15 Q. 16 yourself a complete, up-to-date and focused position as to 17 investigations? 18 An overview of where the investigations are up to. Α. 19 20 Well, when you say "An overview", it's meant to be Q. accurate, isn't it? 21 22 Α. It is. 23 24 Q. And it's meant to save you the time of having to interrogate officers at great length or alternatively read 25 the materials they have produced? 26 27 That's correct, and therefore it would be impossible Α. 28 to include everything. 29 And something that you relied heavily upon your 30 Q. officers to produce something which was pithy, accurate and 31 32 concise? 33 Α. Yes. 34 So from this one, of 16 May, it seems that, 35 MR GRAY: Q. 36 essentially, Neiwand had stopped work on Mattaini? 37 Α. Yes. 38 Under "Warren", there are a number of bullet points, 39 Q. 40 including reference in the fourth one to a walk-through around Mackenzies Point with an associate of Mr Warren? 41 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 And reference to people going to New Zealand to find Q. 45 a former housemate of a former associate of Warren? 46 Α. Yes. 47

And in the next one, someone compiling an association 1 Q. chart of Warren's social circles; and in the next one, 2 3 someone getting statements from employees from his 4 workplace? 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 Q. There doesn't seem to be a lot of work on persons of 8 interest, does there? 9 Α. Not listed there, no. 10 And in the case of Russell, again, no mention of 11 Q. No. anything being done about trying to find out more of 12 persons of interest? 13 14 Α. That's correct. 15 16 Q. But the meeting that was held was giving consideration 17 to the possibility of death by misadventure or homicide. Do you see that in the second bullet point? 18 Yes. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. Then, somewhat elliptically, this sentence appears, or two sentences appear: 22 23 24 Suicide is an unlikely cause of death. As a result, investigators will primarily 25 focus on the Warren matter and to a lesser 26 27 extent Russell's death. 28 29 Α. Yes. 30 Why would the exclusion of suicide mean that you'd 31 Q. 32 stop focusing on Russell? 33 Α. I don't know. 34 That doesn't really make any sense, does it? 35 Q. 36 Α. No. it doesn't. 37 THE COMMISSIONER: I presume the second bullet point 38 Q. about the team meeting, "possibility of misadventure 39 (keeping in mind alcohol reading)" --40 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 Q. -- you perhaps don't have a recollection of this at 44 the time --45 Α. No, I wasn't present. 46 -- but the alcohol reading - I see. So you have no 47 Q. .21/02/2023 (24) M J WILLING (Mr Gray) 1789

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1 recollection whether it means a high or a low alcohol 2 reading or no alcohol reading? 3 Α. Sorry, are you asking in relation to the alcohol 4 reading? 5 Q. Yes. 6 7 Α. Or the meeting? 8 9 Q. I'm asking you whether you have a recollection - I'm 10 assuming you probably don't - why the reference "keeping in mind the alcohol reading" would rather suggest that it 11 couldn't explain the misadventure. That's why it's there? 12 No, I don't have any recollection. 13 Α. 14 I notice that I've gone past time, Commissioner. MR GRAY: 15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, certainly. I'll take the break I will adjourn. 18 Thank you. now. 19 20 SHORT ADJOURNMENT 21 MR GRAY: 22 Mr Willing, on the assumptions that I'm Q. going to ask you to make for the purposes of this question, 23 that with some relatively minor or relatively few 24 exceptions that I've just been through with you, Neiwand 25 26 did not go down the path of pursuing persons of interest on 27 Penny Brown's spreadsheet at all - making that assumption -28 was that a choice that you made as Commander Homicide? 29 Α. No. 30 31 Q. Whose choice would that have been? 32 If that choice had been made, that would be a matter Α. 33 for the investigative team. 34 Well, as a team or led by someone? 35 Q. 36 Well, each team is led by someone. Α. 37 Q. Who was this team led by that would have made such 38 39 a decision? I don't know. 40 Α. So you've got originally Penny Brown 41 was the officer in charge of it, and then Michael Chebl became the officer in charge of it, from my reading of the 42 43 documents, some time later. 44 45 Q. But above them in the hierarchy as it's written Yes. 46 down, at least --Yes. 47 Α.

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1 2 Q. -- were John Lehmann --3 Α. For a period of time, yes. 4 5 Q. -- for a period of time, and Steve Morgan at a subsequent period of time? 6 7 Α. Subsequently, yes. 8 9 Q. So who runs the show in a strike force like this, the 10 officer in charge or the person above them, be it Lehmann 11 or Morgan? 12 Α. The officer in charge but obviously reporting and oversight of the supervisor at the time. So there are 13 other people involved as well in these matters, namely 14 Olen, Leggat, who you have referenced as well as having 15 16 some involvement. 17 18 Well, they did, Olen and Leggat, have some Q. 19 involvement --20 Α. Yes. 21 22 -- how much is not entirely clear perhaps, but if Q. 23 a decision of that nature was made somewhere along the line 24 not to pursue further investigations of the original Taradale persons of interest in 2016/2017 but instead to 25 26 focus on victimology and possible theories other than 27 suicide - sorry, other than homicide, like suicide or 28 misadventure, who would have been responsible for that 29 change of course as you understand it? As I understand it, the officer in charge. 30 Α. 31 32 So you say either Brown, in her time, and/or Chebl, in Q. 33 his time? 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 Just I hope briefly I want to look at the personnel of Q. the two strike forces, namely Macnamir and Neiwand? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. We have been through yesterday who the people were in Macnamir and you have given evidence about that? 41 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 In Neiwand, at the October 2015 initial stage, the Q. 45 investigation supervisor was Mr Lehmann and the OIC was 46 Penny Brown? Yes. 47 Α.

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1 And Penny Brown was then and continued to be also the 2 Q. 3 OIC for Macnamir? 4 Α. That's right. 5 Then it seems that in about May 2016 or thereabouts, 6 Q. 7 there was a kind of reboot or reshuffle --8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. -- of the personnel in Neiwand, as a result of which -I can take you to the documents --11 Α. Sure. 12 13 14 Q. -- but you may know this, but the investigation supervisor became Mr Morgan? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 Q. The OIC became Mr Chebl? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. And the investigation team, from that point onwards, 22 was listed as including three, a total of three others, 23 Mr Oldfield, Mr Rullo and Penny Brown? Α. Yes. 24 25 26 Q. So of the six officers on Neiwand from then on, being 27 the ones I've just mentioned, three of them were also 28 members of Macnamir, namely, Penny Brown, Chebl and Rullo? 29 Α. Yes, they were listed on the resource list for Macnamir, from recollection. 30 31 32 Q. Penny Brown was the OIC? 33 Α. That's right, yes, she was. 34 And you are saying as to Chebl and Rullo, they were 35 Q. 36 only listed on the resource list? 37 Α. Yeah, they may not have played an active part. I don't know. I can't recall what role they played in 38 But as I tried to explain yesterday, resource 39 Macnamir. 40 lists are allocated to the system administratively, so those resources can be used as required. 41 42 43 At any rate, you don't actually know how much work Q. 44 those people did on Macnamir? 45 Α. Not on Macnamir. 46 Q. Or Neiwand - well, on Macnamir? 47

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1 Α. No. 2 3 More generally, Neiwand had six officers altogether? Q. 4 Α. Mmm-hmm. 5 Q. And they were looking at three deaths? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 9 Q. Macnamir had up to - given the two levels that you've 10 explained - about 20, according to that list we looked at 11 vesterdav? 12 Α. That were available to be used, yes. 13 14 About seven or eight, you said, were heavily involved, Q. and another dozen or so that were available? 15 16 There was, from recollection in my statement, about Α. four or five that were heavily involved but yes, others 17 18 were available. 19 20 You listed six as heavily involved, namely, Young, Q. 21 Brown, Jones, Taylor, Clancy and Dickinson, and then 22 another 10 as being, in effect, available? With Dickinson coming on post the commencement 23 Α. Yes. 24 of the inquest. 25 26 How was it that a strike force looking into three Q. 27 deaths had six people available to it, and a strike force 28 looking into one death had up to 16 or more? 29 Again, those resources you're referring to are listed Α. administratively on a database. Should Neiwand or any 30 31 other homicide investigation require more resources, they 32 could and would be made available. 33 34 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. I wonder if you would be kind enough to answer the question, Mr Willing. 35 36 I've tried to answer that question, Commissioner. Α. 37 MR GRAY: I will ask it again. Macnamir, looking 38 Q. into one death --39 40 Α. Yes. 41 42 -- had six people heavily involved and another 10 Q. available, on your evidence? 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 Neiwand, looking into three deaths, had a total of six Q. people, one of whom, Penny Brown, was listed as being -47

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1 I forget the expression - on call or available or assisting 2 or some term like that. Agreed? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. Well, how could it be that an investigation into one death gets far more people allocated to it than an 6 7 investigation into three deaths? 8 You are referring to the administrative list of Α. 9 available resources. Again, should the Neiwand matter or 10 investigation require more, more would have been allocated to it. 11 12 13 Q. Well, it's not likely, to take one example, that the huge list of persons of interest --14 15 Α. Yes. 16 17 Q. -- on Penny Brown's spreadsheet could have been 18 annualised and researched and investigated, whether by surveillance or any other overt or covert means, by the 19 20 small team that Neiwand had, wouldn't you agree? 21 Α. That's correct, on the face of it, yes. 22 23 Q. And they never asked for more, did they? 24 Α. Not from my knowledge or recollection, no. 25 26 So really the chances of them being able to Q. investigate the 50 or more persons of interest were nil, 27 28 weren't they? Not nil, but limited, yes. 29 Α. 30 31 Q. Nearly nil, negligible? 32 Α. Limited, yes. 33 34 I want to just draw your attention to the two Q. investigation plans, the one for Macnamir and the one for 35 Neiwand. I wonder if Mr Willing could have volume 1, 36 please. If you would turn to tab 7 [SCOI.75757_0001], 37 you'll find the investigation plan for Strike Force 38 Macnamir? 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 42 I want to draw your attention to a few aspects of it. Q. It has a date, first of all, which we can see on the bottom 43 44 of all the pages, namely, 13 March 2013? 45 Α. Yes. 46 47 Q. Which is roughly a month after it was instituted --

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A. Yes. 1 2 3 -- is that right? It's seven pages long, and it Q. 4 contains quite a deal of detail? 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 It looks as though it's been written by the Q. 8 investigation supervisor, Pamela Young; is that what we 9 would infer from her name being on the bottom? 10 Α. Yes. 11 And under the heading "Strategies", on page 3 -12 Q. actually, "Strategies/Execution" --13 Yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. -- there are quite a number of topics dealt with in a 17 fair amount of detail, as you can see? 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Q. The first one is "Victimology and Last Movements"? 21 Α. Yes. 22 MR GRAY: Would your Honour just pardon me a moment? 23 24 25 THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly. 26 27 My friend doesn't seem to have a printed copy in MR GRAY: 28 his own folder so we are making arrangements to have it 29 provided to him. 30 31 In any event, back to you, Mr Willing, under the first Q. 32 topic, "Strategies/Execution" is "Victimology and Last 33 Movements"? 34 Yes. Α. 35 And various matters are identified there? 36 Q. 37 Α. Yes. 38 Then there is a heading "The Location of the Body", 39 Q. 40 with quite a few details and topics sketched out? 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 Q. Then, number 3 is "Identify Persons of Interest"? 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 And that section goes for a page and a half or so; is Q. 47 that right?

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Α. Yes. 1 2 And quite a number of steps are outlined as steps that 3 Q. 4 were going to need to be taken in terms of finding persons 5 of interest; agreed? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. And over the page, on page 6, there's a heading "Strategic"; do you see that? 9 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 The investigation plan says that what will happen is Q. that a coordinated approach to POIs, if identified, will be 13 prepared, and DCI Young will be briefed on investigation 14 strategies? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 Q. And under "Witness Management" on page 7, there are 18 some remarks made about other aspects of what would be 19 involved in pursuing persons of interest in reality? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 Now, by comparison, can we turn to tab 18 Q. [SCOI.74880_0001], where we find the investigation plan for 23 Neiwand - do you have that? 24 25 Α. Yes. 26 First of all, there's no date on it, as you can see. 27 Q. 28 Α. Yes. 29 But as you may recall from some questions I asked you 30 Q. 31 before the break, it's apparent that it came into existence 32 some time between September 2016 and the end of October 33 2016. Do you remember I showed you that in the progress reports? 34 Yes, correct, yes. 35 Α. 36 If that's when it came into existence, as apparently 37 Q. it was, that's about a year after you began Neiwand 38 in October 2015? 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 And it's about five months after the rebooting of 42 Q. 43 Neiwand in about May 2016. 44 Yes. Α. 45 46 So for all of that time there just wasn't an Q. 47 investigation plan; correct?

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1 Α. There wasn't one that was uploaded on the system; 2 that's correct. 3 4 Q. Well, there wasn't one at all, according to the 5 progress reports? It appears that's right. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. The one that did come into existence, seemingly this 9 one, is a great deal shorter than the Macnamir one, isn't it? 10 Yes, it is. 11 Α. 12 13 Q. The first page and a half out of two and a half pages is simply a summary of what was known many years before --14 Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. -- about the three deaths? And then under the heading "Strategies/Execution", there is, would you agree, almost 18 nothing of any substance? I will come to the detail of 19 20 that but --21 Α. Sure. 22 Q. 23 -- would you agree with that? 24 Α. Yes, it's very, very limited. 25 So it says under the heading "Strategies/Execution" 26 Q. that the first thing would be to try and find investigation 27 28 material from holdings elsewhere - that's in the first 29 paragraph? Yeah. Α. 30 31 32 Then the second paragraph, four bullet points, which Q. also largely involves getting material from previous work 33 34 that had been done in other periods of time? Yes. 35 Α. 36 Then there's some administrative material about 37 Q. information management and positions held and crime scene 38 Then there's a heading "Canvassing"; do you 39 management. 40 see that? 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 Q. What is proposed is a revisit of residents who resided 44 around Marks Park, Tamarama, in 1989/90, were spoken to in 45 2001/2002; a review of the canvass forms and possible 46 follow-up with these persons; do you see that? Yes, I do. 47 Α.

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1 2 Q. To your knowledge, was any such re-canvassing ever 3 done? 4 Α. I don't know whether it was or not. 5 There's no mention of it in any of those progress 6 Q. 7 reports that I took you to, is there? 8 That's right, correct. Α. 9 10 Q. And of course 1989/90 doesn't have anything to do with Mr Mattaini in the first place, does it? 11 That's correct. It was five years before. 12 Α. 13 14 Then under the heading "Witness Management", it says Q. that follow-up statements will be required for identified 15 16 witnesses for clarification and expansion purposes as well 17 as statements from freshly identified witnesses. Yes. 18 Α. 19 20 To your knowledge, to what extent was that done, in Q. 21 the time up to April 2017? 22 I don't know how extensive that was undertaken, Α. 23 Mr Gray. 24 25 Q. Would you agree that in the light of the progress reports that we went through this morning, if any such work 26 was done, it was extremely limited? 27 28 And not recorded in those progress reports. Α. 29 30 Well, in terms of what was recorded, it was extremely Q. 31 limited? 32 Α. In terms of what was recorded, yes. 33 34 And if anything else was done and wasn't recorded, why Q. 35 would that be, would you think? 36 Α. I don't know. 37 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. So does that mean that lots of 38 work of significance in these sorts of activities may be 39 40 undertaken but simply never recorded in a progress report? 41 Α. Not in the progress report, Commissioner. Again, it's 42 They're in varying quality. a summary. It would be 43 impossible to include everything, in some cases --44 45 Q. I will put the question again and I'd like you to 46 direct, if you wouldn't mind, to my question: does this mean that in activities of this sort, significant matters 47

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1 of investigation may have been undertaken and not recorded 2 in progress reports? The word "significant" is what I'd 3 like you to focus on? 4 "Significant", I would expect it to be in the Α. Yes. 5 progress report. 6 THE COMMISSIONER: 7 Thank you. 8 9 MR GRAY: Q. Because the progress report was how you, as 10 commander, or whoever was sitting in your chair, was to know what was going on, wasn't it? 11 It was one of the methods, ves. 12 Α. 13 Well, according to your statement, it was the main 14 Q. method apart from occasional - my word - ad hoc verbal 15 discussions? 16 17 Α. Correct, ves. 18 19 But I'm sure you would agree as a former very senior Q. 20 police officer that in the Police Force, like any other very large organisation, keeping a record is critical, 21 22 isn't it? Yes. 23 Α. 24 25 Q. So if something significant was done, it would be recorded, in this situation, in the progress report, 26 wouldn't it? 27 28 Yes, it should be. Α. 29 And if it is not there, that's a pretty good 30 Q. 31 indication that it didn't happen, isn't it? 32 That's correct. Α. 33 Now, under the heading "Persons of Interest" towards 34 Q. 35 the end of the third page, it says: 36 A detailed list of persons of interest will 37 be developed after an extensive review of 38 all material. 39 40 41 Do you see that? Α. Yes. 42 43 44 Q. Was that ever done? 45 Α. I don't know. 46 47 Q. The progress reports certainly don't indicate it, do

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1 they? 2 Α. No. 3 4 Even though Penny Brown had provided Neiwand with Q. 5 a lengthy spreadsheet, back in February 2016? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Now, the contrast, I'd suggest to you, between the two 9 investigation plans is striking; would you agree? 10 Α. Certainly different, yes. 11 12 Q. Why was that? I don't know. 13 Α. 14 You had no role to play in the creation of either of 15 Q. 16 them? 17 Α. No. 18 19 Was it because, do you think, with Neiwand, by the Q. 20 time this investigation plan was produced in late 2016, the 21 real objective was not to reinvestigate the deaths in any 22 comprehensive way but, rather, to focus on the possibilities of suicide or misadventure and to cast 23 24 a critical eve over Taradale? That is an assertion that could be made. 25 Α. I don't 26 believe it was the case. 27 28 Could Mr Willing have volume 6, please. Q. I want to 29 take you to the eighth progress report, which is at 164h, 30 [SCOI.82052_0001]. Do you have that? 31 Yes. Α. 32 33 Q. This is for a period ending 18 September 2017. So of course it's after you've moved to your new role? 34 35 Α. Correct, yes. 36 37 Q. And I'm assuming you didn't see this until recently? Α. That's correct. 38 39 On page 3, under "Mattaini", there is a repetition of 40 Q. 41 something that was in one of the earlier ones that I took you to, namely, that the investigation into Mattaini will 42 43 be inactive, so that --44 Α. Yes, they can concentrate. 45 46 -- people can concentrate on Warren? Q. 47 Α. Yes.

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1 Under "Warren" there's a reference - there are 2 Q. references to speaking to two or three people. Do you see 3 4 that? Yes. 5 Α. 6 And under "Russell", there's a reference to receiving 7 Q. a report of a Dr Duflou? 8 9 Α. Yes. 10 And to the fact that the summary of evidence in 11 Q. relation to Mr Russell had been completed? 12 13 Α. Yes. 14 Under the heading, which is almost completely blacked 15 Q. 16 out, on page 5, "Investigation Coordinator", someone called Peter Ruskin has repeated something that we saw in an 17 earlier one about Warren, namely, "Possible homicide, but 18 19 possibly of a domestic nature"? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 And then the part that I actually want to ask you Q. about is on page 6, where the squad commander fills out the 23 24 section for him; do you see that? Yes. 25 Α. 26 And that's Jason Dickinson, who by this time was the 27 Q. 28 Acting Commander Homicide; correct? 29 Α. Correct, yes. 30 31 Q. And what he says is: 32 33 Cold Case. Evidentiary review. 34 Do you see that? 35 Α. Yes. 36 37 Would you agree that in substance, that is correct -38 Q. that is, the Neiwand exercise was really almost entirely an 39 40 evidentiary review? 41 It seems that they spent a large portion of their time Α. 42 reviewing the evidence, yes. 43 44 Q. Rather than going out to try to find new evidence? 45 Α. That's what it seems like, yes. 46 Q. That's what it seems like and that's what Acting 47

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1 Homicide Commander Dickinson understood to have happened? 2 That's what he's put for reasons for not having Α. 3 a formal review into it, yes. 4 5 Q. And the evidence that was being reviewed was almost entirely the evidence gathered by Taradale, wasn't it? 6 7 Α. And the NSW Crime Commission, yes. 8 9 Q. Well, the NSW Crime Commission had gathered evidence 10 for Taradale, hadn't they, and that's what you were then 11 getting access to? Correct, ves. 12 Α. 13 So I repeat, the evidence that was being reviewed was 14 Q. almost entirely the Taradale evidence? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 Q. In the case of Mattaini, there had never been any 19 investigation of his disappearance at the time, in 1985, 20 because it seemingly wasn't reported; correct? 21 Α. Correct. 22 And the work that Taradale was able to do in relation 23 Q. 24 to it in August 2002 was limited, as we went through yesterday? 25 26 Α. Yes. 27 28 Q. Because it came in at the heel of the hunt? 29 Α. Correct. 30 So in the case of Mattaini, there had barely ever been 31 Q. 32 an investigation at all; correct? 33 Α. Yes, that's correct. 34 In the case of Warren, the original investigation in 35 Q. 1989 by Sergeant Bowditch was so inadequate that Coroner 36 Milledge called it disgraceful? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 And in the case of Russell, the original investigation 40 Q. 41 in 1989 was considered by the Coroner, Coroner Milledge, to be not as bad as the one for Warren but still "far from 42 adequate"? 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 You remember that? Now, on what you know of those two Q. original investigations, for Warren and Russell, do you 47

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1 agree with what Coroner Milledge said? 2 I don't know the details of what was conducted in Α. 3 those investigations. 4 5 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Did you not know that in the case of Russell a very important exhibit had been lost? 6 7 Being the hair; is that correct? Α. 8 9 Q. Well, that's pretty important? 10 Α. Yes. 11 But you knew that had been lost long ago, didn't you? 12 Q. 13 Α. Yes, I did, yes. 14 And that was a significant inadequacy in record or 15 Q. 16 exhibit keeping on the part of the police who investigated 17 that matter? 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Indeed, it's almost unthinkable that something like Q. 21 that could go missing, isn't it? 22 Α. Yes. 23 MR GRAY: 24 Given what I've just said and you've agreed Q. to the last few questions that I have asked you, do you 25 26 agree, then, that Neiwand was, for the most part, actually 27 not seeking to reinvestigate these three cases at all, but 28 rather to analyse Taradale and criticise it where possible? 29 Α. I agree that that's the course of action that 30 ultimately seems to have evolved; not the intent of the 31 original establishment of Neiwand. 32 33 Q. Not your intent at any rate? 34 No. And in terms of the intent around criticising Α. Taradale, I can't comment whether that was a motivation or 35 36 not. I wasn't - certainly not mine. 37 So as I understand your evidence today - and do 38 Q. clarify this if need be - your intention when setting up 39 40 Neiwand was actually genuinely to try to reinvestigate 41 these three deaths? It was --42 Α. 43 44 Q. Including by chasing down persons of interest? 45 Α. Yes. 46 And your understanding is that that's what Penny Brown 47 Q.

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1 thought was going to happen? 2 Yes, she was very keen to do that. Α. 3 4 Q. But as I've been taking you through all this material, 5 you accept, as I understand it, that it would very much appear that is not what happened? 6 7 It appears that, that's right. Α. 8 9 Q. And that what did happen was what I've suggested, 10 namely, a focus on criticising Taradale where possible and exploring hypotheses other than homicide; correct? 11 That's the way it appears, what you've taken me 12 Α. 13 through. 14 And if that is what happened, and as you say, that's 15 Q. 16 how it appears, you can't assist us with who might have 17 been responsible for that very different approach? 18 Α. No. 19 20 Let's have a look at the post operational assessment Q. 21 in Neiwand, which is in volume 6, the one you have, in 22 tab 176. Yes, Mr Gray. 23 Α. 24 25 Q. The post operational assessment, presumably given the 26 title, is a kind of wrap up or summary document at the conclusion of an operation or a strike force? 27 28 Α. Yes. 29 30 This one, on the front - not quite the front page, but Q. 31 the sort of cover page, says that the start date of the 32 operation was 11 June 2016 and that the finish date was 33 30 November 2017? 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 So whoever wrote this - and it seems to have been Q. 37 Chebl by the look of the next line - regarded the operation as not having started until 11 June 2016? 38 39 Α. That's right. 40 41 Q. Does that seem right to you or is it somewhat 42 inaccurate? 43 Α. Somewhat inaccurate. As we know, it started earlier. 44 45 If we turn over to page - well, they're not numbered, Q. 46 actually, but it's the sixth page, I believe, it's the one that has a heading about a third of the way down, "Post 47

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Operational Assessment", and then there are two headings in 1 the middle of the page, one, "Terms of Reference", and the 2 3 second, "Investigation Summary". Have you got that page? 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. So "Investigation Summary" - I don't need to take you 6 to all the detail of this, it will be mainly a matter for 7 8 Mr Morgan I dare say, but the investigation summary has 9 three parts, of course, one for Mr Mattaini, one for Mr Warren and one for Mr Russell. 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 Q. Now, looking at the one for Mr Mattaini, as I say, 14 I won't do this in detail with you, but the very first sentence is wrong, isn't it? He wasn't last seen walking 15 16 along a track around Mackenzies Point, was he? 17 Α. Not from my understanding, no. 18 19 Q. Does that trouble you, that after all this time, 20 somebody sits down to write a summary, a post operational assessment, and gets the very first sentence as to where he 21 22 was last seen wrong? Yes, it was - it's not right, yes. 23 Α. 24 It's not very good, is it? 25 Q. 26 Α. No. 27 28 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. It hardly smacks of a reinvestigation, does it, unless some new information had 29 come to light to support that assertion? 30 31 That's right, Commissioner. Α. 32 33 MR GRAY: Q. In the Mattaini summary, starting from 34 about the third or fourth paragraph from the bottom on that 35 page where the Mattaini summary starts, and going over to 36 the next page, almost the entirety of the subject matter concerns the possibility of suicide, doesn't it? 37 Yes, it does. 38 Α. 39 40 Indeed, basically nothing is said about any Q. 41 exploration of the possibility of homicide; correct? 42 Correct. Α. 43 44 In the case of Mr Warren, which is the subject of Q. a considerably longer summary, the summary identifies those 45 46 from whom Neiwand obtained statements, and this is on what is in fact the tenth page, but - if you start with the 47

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1 heading about Warren and go not to the immediate next 2 page but the page after that, you'll see that reference is 3 made to - apart from experts like Dr Brander --4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. -- there's a reference to a statement from a 6 Mr [REDACTED], about the fifth paragraph down: 7 8 9 On the 2/5/2017 a statement was 10 obtained ... 11 12 I see it has been redacted anyway. But --13 Α. That's right. 14 Then the next paragraph refers to getting a statement 15 Q. 16 from someone in New Zealand who was a housemate of someone 17 else who knew Mr Warren? 18 Yes. Α. 19 20 Q. The next one is getting a statement from someone who 21 was a former associate of Mr Warren who had maintained 22 a friendship, so not a person of interest, obviously? Yes. 23 Α. 24 Then a statement from someone that was interviewed at 25 Q. Surry Hills station, who was clearly not regarded as 26 a person of interest; correct? 27 28 It doesn't appear that way. Α. 29 And then statements from former and current 30 Q. No. employees from Mr Warren's workplace; correct? 31 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 On the top of the next page, statements from various Q. close or distant family members? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 And then after that, a statement from another person, 38 Q. who also doesn't seem to be treated as a person of 39 40 interest. Is that the last paragraph? 41 Α. 42 43 Q. The second-last one, the short paragraph, about two 44 lines? 45 Α. That's right, yes. 46 47 Q. And then in the last paragraph, someone who

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1 a statement is taken from --2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. Someone who, if one reads it, is not said to be 5 a person of interest at all but is someone whose account might point towards a conclusion other than homicide; 6 7 correct? 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. So here we are in the post operational assessment in relation to Mr Warren, and basically, nothing seems to have 11 been done about pursuing any actual persons of interest; 12 13 correct? 14 Α. That's the way it seems, yes. 15 16 And in the case of Mr Russell, starting towards the Q. 17 bottom of that page, we find on the next page, the third paragraph, in May 2016, Neiwand commenced its 18 19 reinvestigation, they obtained exhibits, they had 20 a scientist examine some old photographs, they approached 21 somebody expert in biology and forensics about the old 22 photographs to do with the hair on the hand? 23 Α. Yes. 24 25 Q. They got a report from a pathologist about Mr Russell's post-mortem, and then they got a report from 26 27 another pathologist, so two in total, Professor Moynham and 28 Professor Duflou? 29 Α. Mmm-hmm. 30 31 Apparently no attempt to pursue any persons of Q. 32 interest whatsoever do you agree? 33 Α. Not recorded here, no. 34 Well, if it had happened, it surely would be recorded 35 Q. in the post operational assessment? 36 37 Α. That's right, correct. 38 So it didn't happen; correct? Q. 39 40 Α. It doesn't seem to have happened. 41 So all of that is then signed off by Michael Chebl on 42 Q. 43 the top of the next page, you see? 44 Yes, I do. Α. 45 46 Then the next section headed "3. Key Findings: " is Q. 47 signed off by Stewart Leggat, Detective Inspector?

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Α. Yes. 1 2 3 Now, by this time, Stewart Leggat was what in relation Q. 4 to Neiwand? 5 Α. I believe that he was an investigation coordinator within the Unsolved Homicide Team by that point. 6 7 8 Q. Generally? 9 Α. Yes. 10 And what, if you know, was his position or title or 11 Q. role in the Neiwand exercise specifically? 12 He would be - I don't know specifically what his role 13 Α. 14 was, but by virtue of the fact of him signing off on this post operational assessment, he'd be an investigation 15 16 coordinator if not supervisor by that point. I don't know. 17 18 So he was putting himself forward as an Q. Right. 19 authoritative figure who could state for the record what 20 had actually been done? 21 Α. Yes. 22 Now, at the bottom of that page where the heading 23 Q. "3. Key Findings" appears, he says what Neiwand did, 24 doesn't he, namely: 25 26 27 Strike Force Neiwand investigators focused 28 on victimology, associates and the last 29 known movements of the three males. 30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. Not persons of interest; correct? 34 Yes. Α. 35 36 Q. From everything you've been shown today in the witness box, and also what you may have read itself in preparation 37 for today, that summary in one and a bit lines by Detective 38 Inspector Leggat is accurate, isn't it? 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 Now, that, being accurate, is very, very different 42 Q. from what the investigation plan proposed, isn't it? 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 And it is very, very different from what you say you Q. 47 thought Neiwand was going to do?

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1 2	Α.	Yes.
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	and c I dor the m	In the next part of Mr Leggat's section he has three of paragraphs, one about Mattaini, one about Warren one about Russell, and for the most part, although n't need to go through the details with you, he is, for most part, lifting that, I don't say that critically, taking that from the summaries, the Neiwand summaries? Yes.
11 12 13 14 15	from of wh	Let me, however, just do this next set of questions this document, because you'll see that towards the end nat he has to say about Mattaini, his graph concludes:
16 17 18 19 20		There are no further lines of inquiry for the Mattaini matter. There is no forensic evidence, no identified suspect and/or witnesses that can provide a time line for his last movements.
21 22 22	Α.	Where is that, Mr Gray, sorry?
23 24 25 26	Q. appea A.	Do you see the page where Stewart Leggat's signature ars, the last page really Yes.
27 28 29	Q. A.	the page before that? The page before?
30 31 32	Q. A.	Under the heading to do with Mattaini at the top? Yes, yes, I see that.
33 34 35 36 37		I'm looking at about - in that long paragraph under section, so just a bit above halfway on the page Yes.
38 39	Q. conta	about four lines from the end of the paragraph, it ains these words:
40 41 42 43 44 45 46		There are no further lines of inquiry for the Mattaini matter. There is no forensic evidence, no identified suspect and/or witnesses that can provide a time line for his last movements.
47	Now,	pausing there

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1 Α. Yes. 2 -- from what you've seen, Neiwand had made not the 3 Q. 4 slightest attempt to obtain either forensic evidence or the 5 identification of a suspect or to approach any witnesses; 6 correct? From what I've seen, that's right. 7 Α. 8 9 Q. And going on, Mr Leggat continues: 10 11 Mattaini's disappearance - cause and manner of death remain "undetermined". 12 13 Yes. 14 Α. 15 Q. 16 17 It is recommended that this investigation 18 be listed as inactive and only reactivated 19 if new and compelling evidence becomes 20 available. 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 Q. Now, would you agree that having not done any of the 24 things that I've just suggested that they didn't do, to 25 arrive at that conclusion is hopeless? 26 I wouldn't - well, it could be construed that. 27 Α. 28 29 Q. Now, in the case of both Warren and Russell, in the next page or so --30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. -- there are sentences almost in the same terms as those ones applicable to Warren and Russell. 34 In the case 35 of Warren, do you see at the very bottom of that same page: 36 37 There are no further lines of inquiry for the Warren matter. 38 39 et cetera? 40 Three lines from the bottom? 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 Now, that is almost word for word the same as what Q. 44 I just read out to you from Mattaini; correct? 45 Α. Yes, it is, yes. 46 47 Q. And the singular exception is, in the case of Warren,

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1 Mr Leggat says: 2 ... cause and manner of death remain 3 4 "undetermined" despite the 2005 "homicide" 5 findings of the Coroner, which list it as homicide. 6 7 8 Α. Yes. 9 So it's a direct contradiction of the Coroner's 10 Q. findings by Neiwand, isn't it? 11 That's what he's saying, yes. 12 Α. 13 14 Q. Without having taken any attempt to explore the question of persons of interest? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 THE COMMISSIONER: And did you have any appreciation Q. 19 or did you inform yourself prior to you leaving this task 20 how extensive Coroner Milledge's activities were in terms 21 of hearing time, persons of interest and other matters? 22 No, I knew, Commissioner, that it was - in general Α. terms I knew she spent considerable time but I don't 23 24 know --25 26 Q. And you knew that there were covert operations and there was a huge amount of material that she had available? 27 28 Α. Yes. 29 Including a number of persons of interest who were 30 Q. actually called to give evidence before her? 31 32 Α. Yes. 33 Not one of whom the Neiwand people seem to have spoken 34 Q. with? 35 Α. Yes. 36 37 MR GRAY: That being so, Mr Willing, would you agree 38 Q. that for Neiwand to purport to say what it has said there, 39 40 that the cause and manner of death remain undetermined 41 despite the homicide findings of the Coroner, is completely without foundation? 42 43 Α. That's the way it appears. 44 When we get to Mr Russell, the exact same words appear 45 Q. 46 as for Mr Warren, don't they, including the phrase "despite the 2005 'homicide' findings of the Coroner"? 47

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Α. Yes. 1 2 3 And again, for Neiwand to purport to say that the Q. 4 death of Mr Russell should be reclassified as undetermined, 5 in effect thereby contradicting the findings of the Coroner, was completely without foundation, wasn't it? 6 7 Α. That's the way it appears. 8 9 Q. When you read this material in readiness or in 10 preparation for these hearings, did you arrive at the same conclusions that I've just been putting to you? 11 12 Α. I didn't arrive at any conclusion because I don't know 13 the background of the detail of what they did and what they didn't do until we've gone through it now. 14 15 16 Q. Well, you read the summaries? 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 Q. Sorry, the progress reports that I took you to? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 And you saw what they revealed about what was done and Q. 23 thus about what wasn't done; correct? 24 Yes, as recorded, yes. Α. 25 And you read the post operational assessment? 26 Q. 27 Α. Yes. 28 Which even more formally recorded what had been done 29 Q. and thus, in effect, what had not been done? 30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. And you saw that the conclusions were as I've just 34 been taking you to, and it didn't cross your mind that 35 those conclusions were unjustified? 36 I was surprised at those conclusions. Α. It was the 37 first time that I'd seen them. I wasn't aware of them at the time, I thought - and whether they were justified or 38 not justified was something that didn't actively cross my 39 40 mind, but - yeah, I was - I was - yeah, I didn't have an 41 opinion one way or the other, to be honest. 42 43 I see. Well, I'll take you to the actual summaries Q. 44 which are, of course, longer --45 Α. Yes. 46 -- but which contain - all of those pieces of 47 Q. .21/02/2023 (24) M J WILLING (Mr Gray) 1812

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1 phraseology that I've just taken you to are to be found in the summaries. But focusing at least for the moment on 2 3 those four or five sentences at the end of each of these 4 three assessments --5 Α. Yes. 6 -- case "should be reclassified as undetermined", 7 Q. 8 "investigation should be listed as inactive", the "homicide findings of the Coroner" about Mr Warren and Mr Russell 9 10 should in effect be contradicted or are contradicted and should be rejected, what is the status within the 11 NSW Police Force of those very definite conclusions? 12 Where do they sit? What happens with them when that 13 14 reclassification is asserted? The matters sit and remain on the Unsolved Homicide 15 Α. 16 database until or if further evidence arises. 17 18 Well, part of what is said by Mr Leggat, but he's Q. 19 repeating what Mr Chebl says in the summaries --20 Α. Yes. 21 22 -- is that the manner of death should be reclassified Q. as "undetermined". Well, who responds to that? Does 23 24 someone somewhere reclassify something or --Internally it may be, it may sit on the Unsolved 25 Α. 26 Homicide database with that characteristic but nothing 27 further. 28 29 Q. Sorry, who does the reclassifying? It would be, you know, the Unsolved Homicide Team 30 Α. 31 itself. Again, internally, not externally at all. 32 33 Q. And when it says: 34 It is recommended that this investigation 35 be listed as inactive ... 36 37 And this is a recommendation by Mr Leggat who was more or 38 less at the top of the tree in Unsolved Homicide --39 40 Α. At the time. 41 -- who acts on the recommendation? 42 Q. The team itself. Like, it doesn't go anywhere. 43 Ιt Α. 44 sits on the database as with that classification. 45 46 What is the effect of that, either in practical terms Q. or in any other terms? What is the effect of that 47

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1 happening? 2 The effect - in practical terms, nothing, you know, Α. 3 unless somebody - some further information comes in to 4 contradict that or to change that assessment. 5 6 Q. So the three cases just die on the vine inside 7 Unsolved Homicide --8 No, they sit there, they sit there. Α. 9 10 Q. -- without anyone knowing that that's what's 11 happened? 12 They sit there on the database without anyone knowing Α. 13 what's happened. 14 They sit there on the database as undetermined and 15 Q. 16 inactive and never to be reactivated unless someone 17 somewhere else in the police does something? No. I think we covered that before in terms of no 18 Α. 19 cases are ever closed. If further information comes to 20 light, they can and are often reactivated. 21 22 Only reactivated if new and compelling evidence Q. becomes available? 23 24 Α. Yes. 25 Q. 26 That's what it says? 27 Α. Yes. 28 29 Q. In the context where, from the police's point of view, 30 the investigation was inactive? 31 Α. That's right. 32 33 Q. So the police weren't going to do anything about 34 getting any new or compelling evidence? 35 Α. Well, once that post operational assessment has been 36 done, that's correct. 37 So it would remained inactive forever unless someone 38 Q. else, not being the police, came up with something? 39 40 Α. Yeah, which is often the case with unsolved homicide 41 matters sitting on the database. 42 43 Q. Was the Coroner ever informed that her findings in 44 relation to Mr Warren and Mr Russell had been overturned by 45 Neiwand? 46 Not that I am aware. Α. 47

Q. Should she have been? 1 2 Α. As a courtesy, perhaps, but no, I'm not sure what 3 decisions were made around that. 4 5 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Pretty breathtaking, though, isn't it, that internally the NSW Police, not having spoken to 6 one person of interest, seemingly not even spoken to any of 7 8 the forensic persons themselves, would just reverse the 9 decision of the Coroner, she having sat for a very long 10 period and having heard a lot of witnesses? It's extraordinary, isn't it? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 14 MR GRAY: Q. In your experience, have you ever seen the 15 like before? 16 Not in my experience. That's not to say it hasn't Α. 17 happened before. 18 19 Q. I asked you about your experience. 20 Α. Yes, and I answered. 21 22 You did. And your experience includes rising to the Q. 23 height of Deputy Commissioner? 24 Α. Yes. 25 26 So that's a very broad and long experience across many Q. branches or aspects of the Police Force? 27 28 Α. Yes. 29 Q. And you have never seen anything like this before? 30 31 Not in the terms you are putting it, no. Α. 32 33 Q. Sorry, you'll have to say that again. 34 Α. No. 35 Apart from the fact that it would have been courteous 36 Q. to tell Coroner Milledge what Neiwand had done, do you 37 conceive of there having been any obligation other than 38 courtesy to tell her? 39 40 Α. No, because matters are reviewed and looked at as a matter of course by Unsolved Homicide looking at coronial 41 findings, looking - you know, which resulted sometimes in 42 43 reinvestigations, and --44 45 THE COMMISSIONER: I think whatever is fascinating the 46 Australian Air Force or somebody else at the moment might mean that we should perhaps break soon if this keeps going, 47

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1 Mr Gray. 2 3 MR GRAY: Yes. 4 5 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm sure there's some rational explanation for it. 6 7 8 MR GRAY: Experience suggests not always, Commissioner. 9 10 Q. I'll just try a couple more and if we have to abandon ship and have the lunch break, we'll do that. 11 Α. Sure. 12 13 14 Were the families of Mr Warren or Mr Russell ever Q. informed that Coroner Milledge's findings had been 15 16 overturned? 17 Α. I don't know. 18 19 Q. Should they have been? 20 Yes, I would suggest. However, in saying that, often, Α. 21 as I was attempting to answer before, matters are reviewed 22 and looked at as a matter of course and either they don't proceed or they do proceed in different varying forms, but 23 24 given that they're unsolved, the possibility of other evidence coming forward, other persons of interest being 25 26 impacted on, decisions are made not to inform. 27 28 THE COMMISSIONER: That was clearly not the case Q. 29 here, though, was it, Mr Willing? 30 Α. That's right. 31 32 Because these cases were closed from the police's Q. 33 point of view on a very different basis to the way in which 34 they were left after Coroner Milledge had delivered her judgment, and closed on the basis that unless somebody 35 36 outside the Police Force introduced some new or compelling 37 evidence, as far as the police were concerned, not only was the case closed, but Coroner Milledge's decision had been 38 39 effectively reversed? 40 Α. They weren't closed; they were made inactive. 41 42 Q. Well, all right, let's not debate that point. Sure. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. But Coroner Milledge's findings were in effect 46 reversed? Yes, Commissioner. 47 Α.

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1 2 It's not just courtesy, wouldn't you think the family Q. would like to know that the police were then off the job? 3 4 Yes, but I don't know whether that occurred or not. Α. 5 MR GRAY: Q. It's inherent in that answer that you think 6 they should have been told? 7 8 Α. In these circumstances? 9 10 Q. Yes. I think so. 11 Α. 12 13 Q. Who should have told them? 14 Perhaps the officer in charge or a member of the Α. Unsolved Homicide Team. 15 16 17 Q. Should Mr Page have been told? 18 Α. I don't know. 19 20 Q. You don't know? 21 Α. No, I don't know. I wouldn't think so. 22 23 Q. Well, you're aware that in the course of the 24 summaries, which you have read --Yes. 25 Α. 26 -- criticism after criticism after criticism is 27 Q. 28 levelled at him, some of them very serious - you're aware 29 of that? I'm aware that the summaries contain criticisms, yes. 30 Α. 31 32 To your knowledge, did the Neiwand personnel ever Q. 33 approach or contact Mr Page and ask him for his response to 34 any of these criticisms? I don't know. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. Should they have? It's a matter for those investigators. 38 Α. I don't know one way or the other. It's difficult for me to answer 39 40 that. 41 42 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. But what is your view, as a senior 43 police officer, if criticisms of this sort --44 It depends on the circumstances. Α. 45 46 Please, do me the courtesy of just listening. Q. Ιf criticisms of this sort are being made and, in particular, 47

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1 the inadequacy of his activities are being assumed because if he is not asked, you will know, from your own 2 3 reading of this, that there are serious criticisms about 4 what it is said he was told and didn't record. 5 Α. Yes. 6 And yet not one attempt was made to determine whether 7 Q. 8 that was a true position or just a wrong assumption on the 9 part of the investigator in Neiwand? 10 Are you telling me that or is that --Α. 11 I'm asking you the question. If you don't understand 12 Q. 13 it, I will repeat it. 14 Please repeat it. Α. 15 16 Q. All right. If an allegation was going to be made that 17 Page had been given information, for example, which he 18 ignored deliberately, on one view --19 Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. -- is that the kind of thing that a real investigator 22 would want to check with the investigating officer to see whether that was factually accurate or not before they 23 24 wrote a report derogatory of the earlier investigation? It may well be, but it may not be, under different 25 Α. 26 circumstances. You know, you don't necessarily - you may 27 not do it on every occasion but - because of the 28 circumstances of what's happening in the inquiry, but on 29 this occasion I would expect that it should have happened. 30 31 But in circumstances where the ultimate conclusion of Q. 32 Coroner Milledge was being challenged - and I'm talking now 33 particularly about the Mattaini matter --34 Yes. Α. 35 36 Q. -- you will know that a criticism was made of Mr Page that he was told something which, on one view, the 37 suggestion was he ignored? 38 Yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. And yet the new investigator was thoroughly on top of the job and was able to come, by reason of some other 42 information, to an entirely different view to that of 43 44 Coroner Milledge? 45 Α. Yes. 46 47 Q. Partly based upon the assumption on the part of that

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1 investigator that Page had deliberately ignored a piece of 2 relevant information? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. And do you think it would have been smart of the investigator to actually check whether that was factually 6 7 accurate or not, given the fact that the result was that 8 Coroner Milledge's decision was reversed? 9 Α. Yes. 10 MR GRAY: 11 Q. Apart from or in addition to being smart, wouldn't it have been fair to Page? 12 13 Α. Yes. 14 Because the result of not asking him is that these 15 Q. 16 damning accusations against him, as you have explained, 17 just sit rotting on the file inside the Unsolved Homicide Squad, don't they, where he could never have ever answered 18 them, had it not been for this Special Commission? 19 20 That's correct, they sit there --Α. 21 22 Is that fair, in your view? Q. That's a difficult question to answer. 23 Α. 24 Q. Is it? What's difficult about it? 25 Yes, because there are circumstances where sometimes 26 Α. 27 you would not talk to previous investigators. 28 29 Q. Well, this one, these circumstances: was it fair not to ask him? 30 31 On the face of it, no, it wasn't fair. Α. 32 33 Q. It was terribly unfair, wasn't it? Now you are putting words into my mouth. 34 Α. 35 I'm asking you to agree that it was terribly 36 Q. I am. unfair? 37 It was unfair. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. To what extent, so far as you know, were these 41 conclusions of Neiwand in all three of these cases disseminated - that is, did they go only to somewhere 42 43 within the Unsolved Homicide Team or did they go in any 44 respect wider than that? 45 The normal processes are that they would go to the Α. 46 Director and then probably - possibly the Commander of State Crime Command. 47

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1 2 Q. Of, sorry? 3 State Crime Command. Α. 4 5 Q. And does that person sit above Commander Homicide? 6 Α. Yes. 7 8 Q. So that person, Director of State Crime Command, is 9 it? 10 Α. Director of the Serious Crime Directorate, and then, on occasion, the Commander of the State Crime Command. 11 12 13 Q. So one or both of those, you would expect, would have 14 received these Neiwand summaries? 15 Α. Yes. 16 17 Q. So the attacks on Mr Page's reputation spread at least that far? 18 19 To those two people, yes. Α. 20 21 Q. And what do they do with them in the ordinary course, 22 as you understand it? Well, as you can see, there's a notation made by the 23 Α. Director, of the report, in I think - I think the front --24 25 26 When you say "as I can see" - whereabouts is that? Q. 27 Α. Page 1, you can see that there is a notation by 28 Detective Acting Chief Superintendent Wallace and Assistant 29 Commissioner Lanyon. 30 31 I see. A couple of things about that before we break. Q. 32 It seems that the Commander of the State Crime Command was 33 sent the post operational assessment by the Director of 34 Crime Operations Support? 35 Α. Yes, yes. 36 37 Q. So where does Crime Operations Support sit in the framework? 38 So in - so the two - there were two directorates that 39 Α. 40 existed in State Crime Command at the time that I was 41 there. One was the Serious Crime Directorate and one was the operation - sorry, the Organised Crime Directorate. 42 43 They were amalgamated into one, which was the Director 44 Crime Operations, after a review of the entire Police Force 45 was conducted by Commissioner Fuller. 46 Q. In about when? 47

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In around 2017. 1 Α. 2 So the memorandum that we're looking at has a date for 3 Q. 4 Mr Wallace of 23 February 2018, which, should we infer, is 5 the date when he sent it to --It is a she and --6 Α. 7 8 Q. She, I beg your pardon, when she sent it to Mr Lanyon? 9 Α. Yes, certainly the date she signed it. 10 So it's gone from Leggat, presumably, to Wallace, has 11 Q. it? 12 It would go through the Commander Homicide Squad at 13 Α. the time - I think you can see Cook has signed it - and 14 then gone to Wallace. 15 16 17 Q. Just tell me --18 The next page. Α. 19 20 Q. Oh, I see, on the third page? 21 Α. Yes. 22 23 Q. So it's gone from Leggat to Cook as, by then, Commander Homicide? 24 Yes. 25 Α. 26 It's gone from Cook to Wallace as Director of Crime 27 Q. **Operations**? 28 29 Α. Yes. 30 And Wallace has sent it to Lanyon, being Commander of 31 Q. 32 State Crime Command? Yes, that's the way it appears. 33 Α. 34 And Lanyon has put the date 1 August 2018? 35 Q. Yes. Α. 36 37 Q. 38 Now, the memorandum says: 39 40 The following recommendation/s was/were 41 raised in the Post Operational Assessment: Nil. 42 43 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 That's not right, is it? Q. Have a look at the recommendations that were made. 47 Α.

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1 I don't think you took me to those. 2 3 They were that the deaths should be Q. I think I did. 4 reclassified as undetermined --5 Α. Oh, yes. 6 7 Q. -- and that the investigation be listed as inactive? 8 So the title "Recommendations", that's what she's Α. 9 referring to. 10 She is referring to the fact that there is no section 11 Q. with the heading "Recommendations", is that what you mean? 12 13 There is a section at the end which says Α. 14 "Recommendations" and there is nothing recorded there except the word "Nil". 15 16 17 Q. I see. I see what you mean. 18 Α. Yes. 19 20 Now, if this post operational assessment was sent in Q. 21 this way, we need to separate it, then, from the summaries. 22 Were the summaries sent anywhere else, or would they be? 23 The progress reports go to the Director, which would Α. 24 be the same position as the Director Crime Operations. So 25 the summaries, the progress reports, up until the time of 26 the structural change, went to the Director of Serious 27 Crime Operations, and that's where they would generally 28 stay. 29 30 Q. I see the time, so I will have to come back to this. 31 Α. Sure. 32 33 Q. But I used the term "summaries" and in your answer you 34 said "progress reports". I need to make sure we are 35 talking about the same thing? I think that's one - I think we are. 36 Α. 37 MR GRAY: I will deal with that after lunch, if that is 38 39 a convenient time. 40 Yes, it is. We will adjourn until 2. 41 THE COMMISSIONER: 42 LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT 43 44 45 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Gray. 46 Mr Willing, we were on the post operational 47 MR GRAY: Q.

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1 assessment? 2 Α. Yes, Mr Gray. 3 4 Q. Tab 176 of volume 6? 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 Q. I wanted to take a little time, not a long time, to 8 just distinguish between it, the post operational 9 assessment, and where it went, on the one hand, and where, 10 what I'm referring to as the Neiwand summaries, went to on the other hand, which I will come to. 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 14 We've been talking about the post operational Q. assessment and you have explained that it, the document at 15 16 176, has gone from Leggat to Wallace to Lanyon? 17 Α. Via Cook. 18 19 Via Cook, thank you, guite right. I just wanted to Q. 20 make clear, in case there is any confusion anywhere, that 21 many, perhaps not all but many, of the criticisms of 22 Sergeant Page and Taradale are to be found in the post operational assessment as well as in the summaries. 23 24 Α. Yes. 25 26 Could I ask you in tab 176, to turn to the section -Q. 27 it's on the unnumbered seventh page, which starts with the 28 heading dealing with Mattaini, and on the next page, the 29 second of two pages dealing with Mattaini --30 Α. Yes. 31 32 -- do you see there is a paragraph beginning Q. 33 "Mattaini's first suicide attempt occurred"? 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 Now, without reading out every sentence, there is Q. 37 reference to two suicide attempts. Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. There is an assertion that Musy said that throughout 41 his relationship with Mattaini, he had found him to be of a certain state of mind? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 And then a couple of lines down there is a sentence Q. 46 beginning: 47

1 Musy explained this by stating "He 2 (Mattaini) spoke of death as being 3 a release for him ... 4 5 et cetera? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. After the last quoted passage in italics, the summary - sorry, the post operational assessment then says: 9 10 Musy stated that this information was 11 provided to Detective Sergeant Page ... 12 of ... Taradale in 2002. 13 14 Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. Musy is quoted as saying: 18 Of course I told Steven Page of this ... 19 20 21 Do you see that? 22 Α. Yes. 23 Q. And then the author goes on - this is Chebl -24 25 Despite Mattaini's suicide attempt history, 26 Detective Sergeant Page convinced Musy that 27 28 Mattaini was most likely murdered. 29 Yes, he does say that. 30 Α. 31 32 So pausing there, that passage clearly involves some Q. 33 criticism of Page? Yes. 34 Α. 35 And then if we go over to what Mr Leggat has to say 36 Q. about the Mattaini matter, which is on the second-last 37 page of the main part of the document --38 Yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. -- you will see there is a heading to do with Mattaini at the top of the page? 42 43 Α. Yes. 44 45 Q. So what Mr Leggat says is: 46 The Coroner stated that there was no 47

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1		evidence before her to support the finding
2		of suicide
3	ممط	there a record is quated?
4 5		then a passage is quoted?
5	Α.	Yes.
6	0	And then leavest uses on
7	Q.	And then Leggat goes on:
8		Mattainila nantuon Muay provided
9 10		Mattaini's partner Musy provided
10		Detective Sergeant Page with a statement in 2002. The statement outlined two suicide
12		
12		attempts by Mattaini but failed to
13		outline prior suicidal ideation despite Musy raising it with Page.
14		husy faising it with fage.
16	Α.	Yes.
17	Λ.	163.
18	Q.	Then it goes on:
19	ω.	Then it goes on.
20		In 2017, Musy provided French Police with
20		a statement which clearly outlined
22		Mattaini's suicidal ideation and multiple
23		attempts at suicide.
24		
25	Do v	ou see that?
25 26	-	ou see that? Yes.
26	Do y A.	
26 27	Α.	Yes.
26 27 28	A. Q.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with
26 27 28 29	A. Q.	Yes.
26 27 28	A. Q. mult	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts?
26 27 28 29 30	A. Q. mult	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts?
26 27 28 29 30 31	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is:
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: <i>Page's failure to include all the</i>
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	A. mult A. Q.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41	A. Q. mult A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42	A. Q. mult A. Q. A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43	A. Q. mult A. Q. A. Q.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes. That's obviously a serious criticism of Page?
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44	A. Q. mult A. Q. A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44	A. Q. mult A. Q. A. Q. A.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes. That's obviously a serious criticism of Page? Yes, it is, yes.
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46	A. Q. mult A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. Q.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes. That's obviously a serious criticism of Page? Yes, it is, yes. It is accusing Page of withholding relevant evidence
26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44	A. Q. mult A. Q. A. Q. A. Q. Q.	Yes. Seemingly, contrasting two suicide attempts with iple attempts? Yes. And then the next sentence is: Page's failure to include all the information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in Musy's 2002 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide as a possibility in Mattaini's disappearance. Yes. That's obviously a serious criticism of Page? Yes, it is, yes.

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1 2	Α.	Yes.
2	Q.	Knowingly?
4	A.	Yes.
5	Λ.	165.
6	Q.	In the case of Warren - before I finish with Mattaini,
0 7		/, back on that early page of this document
8	A.	
9	Λ.	165.
10	Q.	authored by Chebl, in the section to do with
11		aini, if you've got that page there?
12	A.	I've got it, yes.
12	Λ.	i ve got it, yes.
13	Q.	Chebl also says, towards the bottom of this long
14		
16	passa	
17		Despite Mattaini's suicide attempt history,
18		Detective Page convinced Musy that Mattaini
19		was most likely murdered.
20		was most likely muldered.
20	Α.	Yes.
22	Λ.	163.
22	Q.	That's obviously another serious criticism of
24		tive Page?
25	A.	It is.
26	Α.	
20	Q.	It amounts to an accusation that Detective Page had,
28		fect, coerced a witness to say something otherwise
29		what he himself would have said?
30	A.	Yes.
31	Λ.	163.
32	Q.	And that's an extremely serious allegation, isn't it?
33	A.	It is.
34	Λ.	
35	Q.	Now, in the case of Warren - in fact, before I get to
36		en generally, in the section authored by Leggat, the
37		e pages at the end
38	A.	
39	Λ.	103.
40	Q.	the page that has the heading "3. Key Findings",
41	on it	
42		Yes, "Key Findings", yes.
43		,
44	Q.	Yes. Towards the bottom of that page, there is
45		ragraph beginning:
46	- 641	
47		On 9/3/2005

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1 Α. 2 Yes. 3 4 Q. And there is a reference to Deputy State Coroner 5 Milledge delivering her findings, and that they were premised on the gay hate line of inquiry. 6 Do you see that? 7 Α. Mmm-hmm. 8 9 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Gray, I'm finding your voice is 10 dropping or the microphone isn't picking it up quite as effectively as it might. 11 12 13 MR GRAY: Q. In that paragraph, Mr Leggat goes on: 14 Taradale focused on a "gay hate" motive and 15 16 were likely effected --17 he means "affected" --18 19 Yes. Α. 20 21 Q. - -22 by a form of confirmation bias which in 23 24 turn impacted on the Senior Deputy State 25 Coroner's findings. 26 Do you see that? 27 28 I do see that, yes. Α. 29 Q. Mr Leggat goes on: 30 31 32 Confirmation bias "is the tendency to 33 bolster a hypothesis by seeking consistent 34 evidence while disregarding inconsistent evidence. In criminal investigations ... 35 36 37 I'm paraphrasing --Et cetera. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. -- this could lead investigators to disregard evidence 41 that challenges their theory? Yes. Α. 42 43 44 So that's another serious criticism of Taradale and Q. 45 Page, isn't it? 46 Α. Yes, it is. 47

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1 Q. Generally speaking? 2 Α. It is. 3 4 It is accusing him of, among other things, Q. 5 disregarding inconsistent evidence? 6 Α. Yes. 7 8 Q. And as well as doing that, it accuses him of doing so 9 because he was a slave to a problem, being confirmation 10 bias? 11 Α. That's what it suggests, yes. 12 13 Q. Now, all of those serious criticisms of Mr Page and of Taradale went to Cook, the Commander of Homicide --14 15 Α. Yes. 16 17 -- Wallace, the Director of Crime Operations, and Q. 18 Lanyon, Commander of State Crime Command? Correct. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. At least. You mentioned this morning that another 22 possibility - and it doesn't appear from this document - is that it could have gone to higher up than that, to the --23 I don't think I said that. 24 Α. 25 Maybe I've got the hierarchy wrong - the Commander of 26 Q. Homicide, though? 27 28 The Commander of? Α. 29 Q. Oh, the Commander of Homicide was Cook? 30 31 Α. Correct, yes. 32 33 Q. So we know it had gone to him? All right. Μv 34 misunderstanding. You're quite right. So that's where the post operational assessment went --35 Yes. 36 Α. 37 38 Q. -- as far as you can tell? Yes, as far as I can tell, yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. And once it does get to the Director of Crime Operations and the Commander of State Crime Command, as far 42 43 as you know, does it sit on their files in their office, as 44 the person holding that position? 45 Α. Yeah, it would - there's an office attached to the 46 Commander's office where the two directors would sit and, post the restructure, the one director, and they sit there. 47

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1 They sit there. 2 3 And do they sit there physically or only Q. 4 electronically? 5 Α. On a database. Electronically. 6 7 Q. That'd be electronic. And the same would apply to the 8 Commander of State Crime Command? 9 Α. Yes. 10 Now, moving to the summaries - and you will find these 11 Q. in volume 6, which I think is a different volume from the 12 13 one you have. Α. Yes. 14 15 16 Q. If you turn to tab 172 [SCOI.74881_0001], that should 17 be a summary in relation to Gilles Mattaini? 18 Α. Yes. 19 20 Do you have the cover page, the e@gle.i page that Q. 21 looks like this (indicating)? 22 Α. No. 23 Well, I can tell you - we will have to get that out -24 Q. it's another page of the sort we looked at yesterday. 25 Α. Yes. 26 27 28 Q. And it says the attached document, which is the one you do have, is a summary of the investigation conducted by 29 Operation Taradale and Strike Force Neiwand into Mattaini's 30 disappearance and death? 31 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 Q. And it says: 35 36 Date Created 27 December 2017 ...Cheb1 37 Created By Reviewed By 38 ... Morgan 39 40 That's just to acquaint you with what that e@gle.i document 41 says? Α. Sure. 42 43 44 You have looked at this Mattaini summary in recent Q. 45 times? 46 I think it was part of the bundle that was given to me Α. at some point, yes, in preparation for this. 47

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1 2 Well, until you did that in recent weeks, is it the Q. 3 position that you really didn't have any understanding or 4 barely any of what had been done by Neiwand about Mattaini? 5 Α. That's correct. 6 7 Now, when we get to - these pages are numbered -Q. 8 page 5, and the numbers are down the bottom --9 Α. Yes. 10 -- we see that paragraph 27 tells us that on 1 August 11 Q. 2002, a Mr Wyszynski contacted police about Mattaini's 12 13 disappearance? 14 Α. Yes. 15 16 Q. And as I was putting to you yesterday, that seems to 17 be the first time police were ever acquainted with the fact that Mattaini had disappeared? 18 Yes. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. There is a reference in paragraphs 33 and following to 22 the coronial inquest, and then there is an account of Strike Force Neiwand, beginning at paragraph 35? 23 24 Α. Yes. 25 26 At 45 and 46 there's reference to Mr Musy, during the Q. course of Neiwand, speaking about two previous suicide 27 28 attempts of Mattaini? 29 Α. Yes. 30 31 And at 48 we find the passage that was also in post Q. 32 operational assessment where Musy is quoted as saying, "Of 33 course I told Steven Page of this", et cetera? 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 Q. And in 49, there's an assertion by the author, Chebl, that Musy was of the firm belief that Mattaini did not 37 commit suicide, and that was based on "because everything 38 that has happened in Bondi", and he refers to Page - the 39 40 author refers to Musy having told Page in 2002 about 41 Mattaini wanting to die, but that after meeting Page, Musy was of the belief that Mattaini was murdered? 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 45 So again, that's as you would read it, an accusation Q. 46 that Page has somehow convinced a witness to depart from what he had said in the first place? 47

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1 Α. Yes. 2 3 Q. And a similar allegation is found in 52. 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. And in 59, which is the "Key Findings" part of the 6 summary, we find the accusation in Chebl's words about 7 8 Taradale relying on investigation bias and disregarding 9 inconsistent evidence? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Which has obviously found its way into the post Q. 13 operational assessment? Yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. And in 60, very plainly, it is asserted that the 17 original Musy statement in 2002, when Mr Page was the person doing that work, failed to outline prior suicidal 18 19 ideation despite Musy raising it with Page? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 Which is an accusation substantially repeated in the Q. 23 post operational assessment? Α. Yes. it is. 24 25 And again, there is the reference to multiple attempts 26 Q. at suicide, seemingly contrasted with two, and there's the 27 28 accusation that Page's failure to include all the 29 information about Mattaini's suicidal ideation in the 2002 30 statement was a key factor in the Coroner not considering suicide? 31 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 Again, those being the same accusations, they're very Q. serious? 35 36 Yes, they are. Α. 37 Just before I put the concluding questions that I want 38 Q. to put to you about this, just in the same summary, I will 39 40 just ask you about a couple of other things. Would you look at paragraph 55. The statement is made that: 41 42 43 The investigation ... under ... Taradale 44 did not identify any Person/s of interest 45 that could be linked to the death of 46 Mattaini. 47

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1	Α.	Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7		Now, would you appreciate that although that was true, Taradale operation had essentially no opportunity to y out any inquiries? Yes.
8 9 10 11	Q. misl A.	So that assertion, although true, is somewhat eading; would you agree? Yes, perhaps not intentionally, but yes.
12 13 14	Q. that	And the second sentence and following goes on to say :
15 16 17		Taradale focused on members of marauding youth gangs
18	et c	etera?
19	Α.	Yes.
20		
21	Q.	
22		Taradale exhausted all avenues related
23		to members of these youth gangs
24		ee memeere en enere yezhen gemige en
25	Α.	Yes.
26	Λ.	
20 27	Q.	
	Q.	It should be noted all noncone of interact
28		It should be noted all persons of interest
29		arguments by Operation Taradale are aware
30		of covert methods and overt police
31		methodology.
32		
33	Α.	Yes.
34	_	
35	Q.	Now, pausing there, Mattaini disappeared in 1985?
36	Α.	Yes.
37		
38	Q.	Didn't he?
39	Α.	Yes.
40		
41	Q.	And all the work that Taradale did about persons of
42	inte	rest was in connection with the 1989
43	Α.	That's right.
44		
45	Q.	death or disappearance of the other two men?
46	Â.	Yes.
47		

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1 Q. So that Taradale had not done any investigations about 2 persons of interest apropos 1985 and Mattaini; correct? 3 Α. That's necessarily correct, yes. 4 So for Chebl to say that the Taradale operation 5 Q. Yes. had done all that could be done about looking for youth 6 7 gangs and the like in 1985 is just completely wrong, isn't 8 it? 9 Α. On the face of it, yes. 10 11 Q. And then Mr Chebl goes on in the last sentence: 12 13 One cannot dismiss the involvement of the 14 members of these youth gangs but based on 15 the investigation carried out 16 under ... Neiwand no evidence has come to 17 light to draw a nexus between youth gangs 18 and the disappearance and suspected death 19 of Mattaini. 20 21 Do you see that? 22 Yes. Yes, I do see that. Α. 23 24 As we've established this morning and you've agreed, Q. 25 Neiwand had not carried out any such investigation at all in relation to Mattaini, had it? 26 27 Α. Not specifically Mattaini, yes. 28 29 Q. Well, not at all in relation to Mattaini; do you agree? 30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. So for Chebl to say that Neiwand's investigation had 34 produced a result, namely, the absence of a nexus, is simply meaningless, isn't it? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 38 Q. Now, as to this summary, as distinct from the post operational assessment, where does it go? What happens to 39 40 it? 41 Α. This would be, I assume, sitting on the e@gle.i investigation database, so the case management system, 42 43 which is e@gle.i, where - which is, I guess, the front cover of what's - I don't have in front of me - but that is 44 45 an administrative record, part of e@gle.i, so this would 46 sit as what's called a product on the e@gle.i system, the 47 case management system.

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1 2 Q. And who has access to e@gle.i? 3 Α. The investigators. 4 5 Q. Which investigators? Those that are allocated to the investigation as per 6 Α. our discussion before about those resources. 7 8 9 Q. So the Neiwand nominated people? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. More widely than that? Is edgle i accessible to 13 others? In some circumstances, yes. You can search it. 14 Α. You can search it, but then some products are - can't be 15 16 accessed, I guess, I'm trying to look for the word. But 17 some products are not open, for open observation if you 18 search the database. 19 20 Q. And are you able to tell us whether this one would 21 have been accessible only to the handful of Neiwand people 22 or more widely? I don't know. 23 Α. 24 You don't know. Well, whoever did have access to it 25 Q. via e@gle.i --26 Yes. 27 Α. 28 29 Q. -- would be able to read all these criticisms of Taradale --30 31 That's right. Α. 32 33 Q. -- and Sergeant Page? 34 Sorry, the word I was looking for was Α. Yes. "restricted", so there's restricted access to certain 35 36 products that go on. 37 And I appreciate you don't have this document in front 38 Q. of you, the e@gle.i document, but there is no word like 39 40 "restricted" on it, but I'm not suggesting there would have 41 to be, but how would one know whether it was restricted or not? 42 43 There's a product list on every investigation which Α. 44 outlines - investigations are broken down into categories 45 and then you can search via product list and the product 46 list would come up with a restricted title next to the 47 product, unless you had access, you couldn't go into it.

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1 2 Q. But it would appear that we can't tell that from what 3 we have at the moment? 4 I don't know, no. Not from what I've seen. Α. 5 I won't take long on this, Commissioner. I will just 6 Q. show you the document, and I will show my friend. 7 8 Α. Thank you. 9 10 Q. You will know your way around a document like this better than I will, but is there anything on that that 11 sheds any light on what I've just been asking you about? 12 13 Α. No. 14 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. And what is the basis for the 15 16 restriction? Is it seniority in rank? What is it 17 that would --18 It --Α. 19 20 Just let me finish. What is that - would it, for Q. 21 example, restrict every member of the Homicide Squad from 22 access to Neiwand? 23 Α. There could be telephone intercept material, for 24 argument's sake. 25 26 Q. I'm so sorry, what? There could be telephone intercept material, the like, 27 Α. 28 like that, that is restricted. 29 30 Well, they're summaries. What would be the basis for Q. 31 restricting access of any homicide detective to these 32 summaries? 33 Α. To the products, you mean, that are on the system? 34 That's what I'm referring to. 35 36 Well. what's been described as the summaries of the Q. Neiwand investigation - what would be the basis, if any at 37 all, to restrict anyone in Unsolved Homicide from having 38 39 access to it? 40 Α. I couldn't see any basis on what I've seen. 41 MR GRAY: Thank you. So does that mean that, as far 42 Q. as you know, the likelihood is that these summaries were 43 44 unrestricted? 45 Α. The likelihood is, but I don't know. 46 47 Q. Thank you. And if they were unrestricted, that would

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1 mean anyone in the Police Force would have access to them? 2 Α. Possibly. Possibly. 3 4 Q. Why only possibly? 5 Α. Because some people don't have access to the e@gle.i system; some people don't have access to Homicide; some 6 7 people don't have access to particular crime types - types 8 of crime, I should say. 9 10 Q. So as best you can surmise, it being likely that this 11 was not restricted --12 Α. I would think so, yes. 13 14 -- the range of police officers who had access to it Q. 15 was quite considerable? 16 It was - it possibly was considerable. Α. So for 17 argument's sake, if I can demonstrate - so even after leaving homicide, so my access to matters was removed 18 19 because I didn't need it. And so if - you know, persons 20 with a reason to access investigations would have that 21 access granted to them. 22 THE COMMISSIONER: But would it also mean that whilst 23 Q. 24 in Homicide. all Homicide detectives would have access to this sort of material? 25 26 Α. Possibly, Commissioner. 27 28 MR GRAY: And people outside Homicide as well? Q. 29 Α. They could do, they could do. If they had reason to have access to homicide, for argument's sake, as a crime 30 31 type. 32 33 Q. I will just turn to the next summary --34 Α. Sure. 35 36 Q. Which is tab 173 in this bundle [SCOI.74882 0001]? 37 Α. Yes. 38 MR GRAY: Actually, could I tender that last document? 39 40 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. 41 Do you want to make it part of the 42 volume perhaps. 43 44 MR GRAY: Maybe it could be 172A, or some such? 45 46 You may not have it, but again, there's a cover Q. document for that as well, which is substantially 47

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1 similar --2 Α. I will assume it is the same. 3 4 Q. -- as there is for the Warren one, when we come to 5 that. But in terms of the Russell one at tab 173 --6 Α. Thank you. 7 8 -- there is, in the summary, in the case of Russell, Q. 9 of course, there was an investigation which the Coroner 10 thought was not adequate but, nevertheless, better than the 11 one in the Russell case [sic], back in 1989? Α. Yes. 12 13 And so there's an account of that in the first half 14 Q. 15 a dozen pages or so? 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 And then - oh, well, more than half a dozen pages. Q. 19 And then starting at page 19 there is an account of the 20 Taradale work? 21 Α. Yes. 22 Which includes, you will see at page 22 and following, 23 Q. 24 a lot of information about possible persons of interest --Yes. 25 Α. 26 27 -- that Taradale had identified? And at 85 there is Q. 28 a reference to the fact that the covert phase of Taradale 29 had been carried out with the assistance of the Crime 30 Commission? 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. On pages 25 and 26 there's reference to various other 34 techniques that Taradale utilised. And then there's reference at page 28 to the inquest before Coroner 35 36 Milledge, and then starting at 29, there's an account of what Neiwand did? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. At 107, Mr Chebl goes on and he says that Operation Taradale approached the investigation with a great deal of 41 tunnel vision; do you see that? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. 107? 46 Paragraph 107, yes. Α. 47

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1	Q.	Mr Chebl goes on:
2 3 4		There was a narrow focus on members of the previously mentioned youth gangs
5 6 7	Then	he says:
8 9		No other hypothesis was considered or explained.
10 11	Do v	ou see that?
12 13	А. А.	Yes, I do see that.
14 15 16	Q. summ it?	Now, you would know from just reading Mr Chebl's own ary of what Taradale did that that's just not true, is
17	Α.	Yes.
18		
19	Q.	You agree with me?
20	Α.	Yes.
21	0	Tenedels did sensider and symlain the other or at
22 23	Q.	Taradale did consider and explain the other, or at t consider the other hypotheses?
23	A.	At least consider, yes.
25	<i>/</i> (.	
26	Q.	At 108, Mr Chebl says that Neiwand investigators:
27		
28		identified a number of flaws in the
29		previously conducted investigations.
30		
31		al, meaning a reference to the original one and to
32		idale? Yes.
33 34	Α.	
35	Q.	At 122 and following, there's a discussion of the
36	-	rkable failure of the police to retain and have
37		lable the hair that was on Mr Russell's hand?
38	Α.	Yes.
39		
40	Q.	And thus the impossibility of testing that properly?
41	Α.	Yes.
42		
43	Q.	At 127 and following there's a review of various - the
44	•	uct relating from various other techniques that were
45	•	oyed?
46 47	Α.	Yes.
41		

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1 Q. At 133 and following there is an account of two 2 reports that were obtained by Neiwand from pathologists, a Professor Moynham, about blood alcohol content? 3 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. And a report by a Professor Duflou --6 7 Α. Yes. 8 9 Q. -- about, among other things, the pattern of injuries 10 and so on? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 Q. At 140, in what is said to be a summary, Mr Chebl says 14 that there were crucial errors or oversights made by 15 Taradale. Do you see that? 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 Q. He then sets out what they were. He says: 19 20 The identified errors/oversights ... are as 21 follows -22 Firstly: 23 24 25 a premature approach towards persons of 26 interests being made ... 27 28 On your reading of this material, was there an error involved in the timing of the approach towards persons of 29 30 interest? 31 On reading of these - this material? Α. 32 33 Q. The material that you had --34 That I had? Doesn't seem to be. Α. 35 The second one is "tunnel vision"? 36 Q. No. 37 Α. Yes. 38 Do you, on the material that you have been able to see 39 Q. 40 including this summary, see any evidence of tunnel vision? 41 Α. Not from the documents that you're leading me through. 42 43 Q. The third factor said to be an error or an oversight 44 is a "lack of identifying witnesses". Now, if witnesses 45 are lacking, is that an error or an oversight by Taradale? 46 Look, it could be, but I don't see it. Α. 47

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1 Q. It doesn't look like it, does it, just logically? 2 Α. Not on what you have shown me. 3 4 Q. Mr Russell's body, as you know, was found at the 5 bottom of a cliff? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. How it got there is the whole point of the 9 investigation? 10 Α. That's right. 11 12 Q. So the fact that there wasn't an identifying witness is hardly an error or an oversight by Taradale, is it? 13 14 I would say that's correct. Α. 15 16 Q. And finally, the fourth one that is said to be an 17 error or an oversight is "a lack of physical evidence being 18 present"? 19 Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. Again, it's simply ridiculous to say of Taradale that 22 that's an error or an oversight, isn't it? I agree with that. 23 Α. Yes. 24 25 Q. At 143, there is again an accusation that a key flaw 26 in Taradale was a closed-minded focus on the persons of 27 interest identified, this being said to be, according to 28 Neiwand, a tunnel vision approach? 29 Α. Yes. 30 31 Q. Do you see that? 32 Α. I do see that. 33 34 Now, I will take it from the evidence that you have Q. given earlier about what you thought Neiwand was going to 35 36 do - namely, chase down persons of interest --Yes, that was their primary focus. 37 Α. 38 -- the idea that somehow or other giving a lot of 39 Q. 40 attention to persons of interest amounted to tunnel vision 41 in some way that was to be criticised is a little bit hard to follow, isn't it? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. In the later part of that paragraph, Mr Chebl says: 46 47 It appears the reason for the investigation

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1 following this direction --2 3 ie, pursuing persons of interest --4 5 could be attributed to two major factors --6 7 The first that Detective Page viewed a man called McMahon 8 as a survivor; do you see that? 9 Α. Yes, I do. 10 You are familiar with the McMahon part of this story? 11 Q. I believe he was assaulted; is that right? I don't 12 Α. 13 know. 14 He was assaulted on a date in December 15 Q. Yes, he was. 16 1989, ie, roughly a month after Mr Russell's body was 17 found? 18 Right, okay. Α. 19 20 Q. He was assaulted between Bondi Beach and Marks Park? 21 Α. Right. 22 Q. 23 In that area, on that walkway. And he survived? 24 Α. Yes. 25 And he gave an account, in fact, more than one 26 Q. account, about what happened? 27 28 Α. Right. 29 30 Q. So he in fact survived? 31 Α. Yes, he did. 32 33 Q. He wasn't being viewed as a survivor; he was, in fact, 34 a survivor, you would agree? Yes. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. So to somehow drum up a criticism of Sergeant Page on the footing that he had viewed McMahon as a survivor is 38 again ridiculous, isn't it? 39 40 Α. It seems that, yes. 41 42 And the second possible hypothesis - sorry, the second Q. factor which Mr Chebl says led to Mr Page succumbing to 43 44 tunnel vision, was the possible hypothesis presented by 45 former Detective Sergeant McCann that youth gangs were 46 responsible. Do you see that? I do see that. 47 Α.

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1 Now, we have Mr McCann's material here? 2 Q. 3 Α. Sure. 4 5 Q. I'm just wondering whether you either have it now or have seen it in the past? 6 7 I - it might have been in the bundle of things that Α. 8 I have been given, but I can't recall it. I know who Steve 9 McCann is - was. 10 You do or you don't? 11 Q. I do. I know him from historically in the Police 12 Α. He worked in the major Crime Squad South Region. 13 Force. 14 If I can summarise, without taking you to the 15 Q. 16 detail --17 Α. Sure. 18 19 -- Sergeant McCann in 1991, ie, within two years of Q. 20 the deaths of Mr Warren and Mr Russell --21 Α. Yes. 22 23 Q. -- wrote two separate statements or summaries which he 24 communicated higher up the chain in the Police Force as his 25 analysis --26 Α. Yes. 27 28 -- of certain patterns of behaviour by various gangs Q. 29 around Sydney? Right. 30 Α. 31 32 Including a gang responsible for the death of Q. 33 Mr Rattanajurathaporn, a Thai man, near Bondi? 34 Α. Yes. 35 And another gang responsible for the death of a man 36 Q. called William Allen? 37 Yes. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. I'm sorry, I beg your pardon, a man called Richard 41 Johnson in Alexandria? In a park, yes. 42 Α. 43 44 Q. In a park in Alexandria? 45 Α. Yes. 46 And Mr McCann set out in considerable detail back in 47 Q.

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1 1991 a deal of information about those various gangs and 2 about possible connections or overlaps between them? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. Are you broadly aware of that? In general terms, yes, but - I accept what you're 6 Α. 7 saying. 8 9 Q. Now, given that that analysis by Mr McCann had been, 10 to use the expression that I've used, sitting on the files for 10 or so years by the time Sergeant Page came along in 11 the early 2000s --12 Mmm-hmm. 13 Α. 14 -- what do you say about Mr Chebl's contention that 15 Q. 16 for Sergeant Page to place some weight as reliable on what 17 McCann had found out back in the early '90s was somehow a 18 mistake or a wrong turning? On the face of it I don't think it was a mistake. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. No, it's far from being a mistake; it's a completely 22 appropriate and one might even say necessary matter to 23 explore? 24 Α. Yes. 25 26 Wouldn't you think? And yet Mr Chebl says, at 144, Q. that all of this work by Page in relation to these gangs 27 28 which McCann had identified in the early '90s --29 Α. Ten years earlier, mmm-hmm. 30 31 -- amounted merely to a preconceived agenda, and so Q. 32 Now, would you agree with that criticism? on. 33 Α. No. 34 35 Q. When one gets to 149 in this Russell summary, Mr Chebl 36 says, perhaps somewhat grudgingly, it might be thought: 37 Despite all this --38 39 40 ie, despite all the criticisms that he has just been 41 making --42 43 there is still a possibility of Russell's 44 death being a result of a homicide. 45 46 Do you see that? 47 Α. Yes.

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1 2 That is, one might say, damning with faint praise, Q. isn't it, in the sense that the possibility of homicide is 3 4 not one that needs to be acknowledged grudgingly; it's one 5 that was obviously there? Of course it was there. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Of course it was there. Now, what Mr Chebl then says 9 is that although that can be conceded: 10 11 ... a lack of corroborating evidence, 12 physical evidence and witness accounts 13 prevents this investigation being considered as a homicide from proceeding 14 15 any further. 16 17 Now, does that follow, in your mind? 18 No, not necessarily. Α. 19 20 Q. It doesn't follow in the slightest, does it? 21 Α. No. 22 That's the whole point of having a reinvestigation, 23 Q. isn't it? 24 25 Α. That's exactly right. 26 But what Mr Chebl derives from that non sequitur is 27 Q. 28 that consideration needs to be given to an alternative 29 theory, namely, misadventure. Does that suggest to you, and has it occurred to you as you have read this before 30 31 now, that the Chebl/Morgan approach was designed to arrive 32 at an analysis favouring misadventure over homicide as 33 a likely explanation? 34 I wouldn't agree with "designed", but that's what it Α. appears that they've arrived at. 35 36 37 Q. In 150, Mr Chebl says a couple of lines in, referring to the shrubbery on the cliff top being disturbed --38 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 Q. ... consideration needs to be given to the 42 43 fact that Russell had strands of grass near 44 and underneath his body on the rock shelf. 45 This would refute the theory of him being 46 thrown over the edge of the cliff. 47

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Does that follow? 1 I don't - I don't necessarily think so on the face of 2 Α. 3 it. 4 5 Q. It just doesn't follow in the slightest, does it? 6 Α. Yes. 7 8 Q. You agree? 9 Α. I'm agreeing, yes. 10 At 152, Mr Chebl again repeats, I think verbatim but 11 Q. 12 if not, close to verbatim, the accusation about 13 confirmation bias and disregarding evidence that we saw 14 before? Yes, that's right, yes. 15 Α. 16 17 In 153, Mr Chebl says that the Coroner, in 2005, Q. placed considerable weight on the opinion of a Dr Cala? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 21 Q. Who was a pathologist? 22 Α. Pathologist, yes. 23 24 Q. And goes on to say in 154 that Neiwand, in 2017, had obtained an opinion from another pathologist, Professor 25 26 Duflou, that contrasted with the opinion of Dr Cala. Now. 27 you, I imagine, have not seen either of those reports? 28 Α. No. 29 30 So you can't express a view as to whether there really Q. 31 was such a contrast or not? 32 Α. Oh, I can't. 33 34 No, all right. But looking at that summary overall, Q. the Russell summary, it's obviously very critical of 35 Taradale and Sergeant Page again, in slightly different 36 ways from the Mattaini one? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. And again, it would have gone --41 Α. The same process as the other, Mattaini. 42 43 Q. The same process as before? 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 And finally, the Warren summary, which is at tab 174 Q. [SCOI.74883_0001], we have, starting at page 1, the 47

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overview and then the background, all of which is 1 2 historical and available from the previous Taradale work. 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. On page 7 there's a reference to the original investigation, which is the one by Bowditch, which Coroner 6 Milledge said was disgraceful. You will recall that? 7 8 Α. I do recall that. 9 10 Q. Then there is, at 62 and following, a reference to the work done by Homicide Squad South? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 In relation to attacks on gay men in the Eastern 14 Q. Suburbs more generally? 15 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 Including the cases that I mentioned, Q. 19 Rattanajurathaporn and Richard Johnson? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 And then at 77, there's an extract from one of the two Q. reports that I've referred to that Sergeant McCann did in 23 1991? 24 Yes. 25 Α. 26 And at 80 there's a reference to other work that 27 Q. 28 Sergeant McCann had done back at that time, around 1990 or 29 so? 30 Α. Yes. 31 32 And all of the next paragraphs through to 101 deal Q. 33 with those matters which were known prior to Taradale, and 34 you will see in 101 there is an extract from one of Sergeant McCann's documents, where you will see down the 35 36 bottom of that page, page 23, that one particular gang member --37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. -- admitted being involved in approximately 70 to 100 41 gang assaults and robberies on homosexual men in these three areas, being Bondi, Centennial Park and Moore Park. 42 Sorry, just let me read that. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. Certainly. 46 Sorry, I'm just missing the word - the number 100. Α. 47

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1 Q. It's page 23, bottom paragraph. 2 Α. Bottom paragraph. 3 4 Q. This person "admitted being involved in 5 approximately" --6 Sorry, yes, I see the paragraph. Α. 7 8 And the three areas, we can tell from a couple of Q. 9 paragraphs up, are Bondi, Centennial Park and Moore Park? 10 Yes. Α. 11 Now, at 102 and following there's an account of the 12 Q. Taradale work? 13 Yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. Including, in 115, the fact that Taradale obtained 17 a statement from the initial so-called investigator, 18 Sergeant Bowditch. You recall that? 19 I can see that, yes. Α. 20 21 Q. And Mr Chebl, at 116, thinks it is interesting that 22 Bowditch thought there was nothing to suggest that Warren's disappearance was the result of foul play. 23 24 Α. Yes. 25 So Chebl apparently placed some weight on the opinion 26 Q. of Bowditch, who had been responsible for the disgraceful 27 28 investigation. 29 Α. Yes. He's quoted him, yes. 30 Then there are references from 117 onwards to various 31 Q. 32 people that Taradale spoke to and/or obtained statements 33 from. 34 Α. Yes. 35 That takes us over all the way to really about 142 or 36 Q. so, 141. 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. Again, in 141, Mr Chebl refers to the McMahon story, 41 and apparently again criticises Taradale for what Chebl calls at the bottom of page 32 a "strong reliance on the 42 version of events McMahon provided Police"; do you see 43 44 that? 45 Α. Yes. 46 47 Q. And the criticism seems to be, as I read it, that .21/02/2023 (24) M J WILLING (Mr Gray) 1847

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1 Chebl is saying that the Taradale investigators utilised 2 the incident involving McMahon not as a possible hypothesis 3 but more of a likely occurrence, which resulted in Warren's 4 disappearance. Now, putting aside the slightly illogical 5 ending to that sentence, can you conceive of a reason why one would not regard McMahon's account as a likely 6 7 occurrence? 8 No - as in the account of McMahon being assaulted, by Α. 9 himself? 10 Q. Yes. 11 Α. No. 12 13 14 And yet Chebl seems to be saying that to regard the Q. assault on McMahon as likely to have happened is some sort 15 16 of mistake; it should have only been a hypothetical 17 possibility? 18 No, he was assaulted. Α. 19 20 Q. Clearly, he was? 21 Α. Yes. 22 So again, the line that Chebl seems to be following is 23 Q. away from material that indicates the possibility of 24 25 homicide and towards some other possibility. 26 That's the way it seems. Α. 27 28 Then there's reference to the tidal expert, in 146 and Q. 29 following? Yes. Α. 30 31 32 Then at 152 and following there's quite a lengthy Q. 33 summary of what was known back in 1990 or so from Sergeant 34 McCann - see 152? Yes. I do. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. Again, Mr Chebl finds an opportunity to somehow criticise Taradale by saying that to look at these gangs, 38 this direction was not an original hypothesis formed by 39 Taradale, it was merely - Chebl's word "merely" -40 41 a continuation of the investigation conducted by Sergeant 42 McCann. 43 Α. Oh, yes. 44 45 He puts that forward as though somehow or other it's Q. 46 a weakness or a defect or something in the approach of Taradale? 47

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Α. Yes. 1 2 3 And that is ridiculous, isn't it? Q. 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. 159 onwards, there is an account of various techniques 6 7 used to uncover evidence from persons who might know 8 something of one sort or another? 9 Α. Yes, yes. 10 And then finally at page 41, paragraph 177, we get 11 Q. Strike Force Neiwand, and at 181 and following we learn 12 that Neiwand reviewed various transcripts that had been 13 14 obtained by Taradale. Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. And then at 187 and following, Chebl says that: 18 19 As part of collating, a detailed 20 victimology, investigators opted to obtain 21 statements from Warren's siblings, as no 22 statements had been previously obtained. 23 24 And they got a follow-up statement from Kay Warren, who was his mother. 25 26 Α. Yes. 27 28 Q. Then there are references to what those family members had to say? 29 30 Α. Yes. 31 32 And then there's some reference to the workplace at Q. 33 195 and 196. Then in 198 and following there's an account 34 of the people from whom statements were obtained by Neiwand, and, for example, the person named in 198 --35 36 Α. Yes. 37 Q. And the people named in 205, 209 --38 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 Q. -- and I think 216, 217 --42 Α. Yes. 43 44 -- and 222. Without pinning you down to this detail Q. 45 or taking the time myself, some, at least, of those had 46 also been the subject of the Taradale inquiries you may have noticed on the way through? 47

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Yes. 1 Α. 2 Then eventually we get to the summary, that starting 3 Q. 4 at page 256 - sorry, paragraph 256. 5 Α. Paragraph 256. 6 7 At 257, Chebl acknowledges that the Bowditch Q. 8 investigation was inadequate. At 258, he, Chebl, repeats 9 the language of Page viewing McMahon as a survivor? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 And suggests that that was a mistaken way to proceed, Q. because although a valid line of inquiry, it limited the 13 focus of the investigation. 14 Yes. 15 Α. 16 At 261, Chebl says that Neiwand considered several 17 Q. 18 possibilities, including misadventure, suicide or homicide? Α. Yes. 19 20 21 Q. Of course, Taradale had done so as well, hadn't it? Yes. 22 Α. 23 Q. At 262 there is again a propping up of the unsupported 24 25 opinion of Sergeant Bowditch back in 1989? Yes - well, yes, he mentions - yes. 26 Α. 27 28 At 263, there is a concession that suicide seems Q. 29 unlikely but nonetheless an attempt thereafter to say that still it might have been suicide after all. 30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. And then in 264, as to homicide, there is this: 34 Homicide was thoroughly explored in 35 relation to youth gangs by Operation 36 37 Taradale ... 38 Do you see that? 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 I'm not reading it all out but you can read everything 42 Q. that's there: 43 44 ... Neiwand explored the possibility of an 45 46 associate or person known to Warren being involved in his disappearance. 47

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1 2 So pausing there, not persons of interest? Sorry, what was that, Mr Gray? 3 Α. 4 5 Q. Neiwand, according to this paragraph, explored the possibility of an associate --6 Α. 7 Yes. 8 9 Q. -- of Warren or a person known to Warren as being 10 involved in his disappearance? 11 Α. As a possible person of interest, yes. 12 13 Q. Well, in that sense? Or that scenario, yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. But what I mean by the question is, they did not 17 explore whether the persons of interest in Penny Brown's spreadsheet had anything to do with it; correct? 18 19 I think that's right; that's correct. Α. 20 21 Q. At 266 - and I might ask Mr Morgan about this -22 Mr Chebl says that several witnesses said that they themselves did not witness or encounter violence at 23 24 Mackenzies Point, which is another term for Marks Park? 25 Α. Right, yep. 26 27 Q. And Chebl says: 28 29 Based on this information police confirmed --30 31 32 his word --33 that attacks on gay men did occur, but may 34 35 not have been as prevalent as portrayed 36 by ... Taradale ... or the media. 37 38 Do you see that? 39 Α. I do see that. 40 41 Q. Now, given the pretty comprehensive for 1990/1991 analysis by Sergeant McCann and others --42 Α. Yes. 43 44 45 -- the notion that somehow attacks on gay men weren't Q. 46 as prevalent as Taradale suggested is again ridiculous, isn't it? 47

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1 Α. It's inaccurate, yes. 2 It's at least inaccurate; you don't want to adopt 3 Q. 4 ridiculous? 5 Α. You can call it ridiculous. 6 Well, I'm asking you if you would agree with it? 7 Q. 8 Α. It's inaccurate. 9 10 Q. Again, this one, the Warren summary, would have 11 been --Exactly the same process. 12 Α. 13 -- treated and would have gone off in exactly the same 14 Q. way the other ones did? 15 16 (Witness nods). Α. 17 18 Q. All right, thank you. Moving to a different topic? 19 Α. Sure. 20 21 Q. That folder could come back, thank you. 22 I probably should add these two cover pages. 23 MR GRAY: 24 25 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right. One is the cover 26 page for Russell and one is the cover page for Warren. 27 28 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. 29 30 MR GRAY: They should be added to 173 and 174. 31 32 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you. 33 34 MR GRAY: Q. In early 2017, shortly before you departed from Homicide to work on the Lindt Cafe matters, you 35 requested Parrabell to add the three Taradale cases to its 36 review? 37 Yes. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. Previously, those three had been excluded from 41 Parrabell? Yes, by agreement, yes. 42 Α. 43 44 By agreement, you having explained to Crandell that Q. 45 Unsolved Homicide was looking at those three via Neiwand? 46 Α. Yes. 47

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Of course, as at early 2017, when you now requested 1 Q. 2 Parrabell to take on those three matters --3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. -- the work of Neiwand was still continuing, wasn't 6 it? 7 Α. Yes. 8 9 Q. Why did you change tack and request Parrabell to 10 include those three cases in what it was doing? Mr Crandell, from my understanding, always wanted to 11 Α. review them, considered that Parrabell wouldn't be complete 12 without applying the same criteria to them. 13 My 14 understanding was that Parrabell was coming to a conclusion and I felt it appropriate that prior to it being concluded, 15 16 that it consider the Taradale matters. 17 18 Q. All right. You touch on this in your statement? Yeah, I do. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. If you still have that with you, at paragraph 111. 22 Α. Yes. 23 24 Q. And to complete this, I think you also refer to this point at 118. 25 26 Α. Yes. 27 28 Q. Tell me if I'm right, putting 111 and 118 together -29 and you may want to expand on this - largely, you're putting forward probably four reasons for this addition of 30 the three cases to Parrabell. The first one is that you 31 32 thought that the Parrabell review, given what it was, would 33 be incomplete if it didn't also look at these three cases? 34 Α. Yes, yes. 35 36 Q. You say that Mr Crandell positively wanted to include 37 them? Yes, and I think he shared the same view, yes. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. Now, in the middle of your paragraph 111, you give as, 41 I think, a reason that at that point, early 2017, Neiwand had not resulted in anyone being charged? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. I don't want to tarry on this really, but how is that 46 a reason, given that Neiwand had only been going for less than a year and had a long way to go? 47

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1 Α. Well, if somebody had been charged or before the 2 court, that would impact on that decision. 3 4 Q. I see. All right, thank you. And then the last 5 reason that I pick out from these paragraphs is you say. not quite in these words, that because of the publicity --6 Α. Yes. 7 8 9 Q. -- that had surrounded all of these issues about gay 10 hate crimes and murders, you thought it was in the public interest that the Parrabell process include these three 11 12 cases? I did. 13 Α. 14 So is this right, that an important part of your 15 Q. 16 reason - perhaps the main part - was that because of the 17 public interest in this entire topic of gay hate murders --18 Α. Yes. 19 20 -- how extensive it had been and how many of the 88 Q. were gay hate and so on, the public should know as fully as 21 22 possible what the police assessment of all these cases 23 actually was? 24 Yeah, I thought it was necessary to include the Α. Taradale matters because they were at the centre, I guess, 25 26 of that publicity in lots of ways and I thought that the public would want to know what an assessment --27 28 29 Q. Of the police was about these cases? 30 Α. Yes. 31 32 Now, would it follow that, in your mind, the public Q. 33 should know what the conclusions of Neiwand actually were? 34 Possibly, but that's not the general practice of what Α. occurs in those matters. 35 36 37 Q. But putting aside for the moment whether it is the general practice, if the point was, in your mind, that 38 there was a large topic of public interest and a serious 39 40 exercise, namely, Parrabell, was addressing that --41 Α. Yes. 42 43 -- and the public deserved to know what the police Q. 44 really thought, wouldn't that mean that they needed to know 45 what Neiwand thought? 46 I - my view is that there were two separate things. Α. One was an investigation, regardless of how thorough and 47

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1 the quality of it, that could be revisited at another time if again information came forward from another source, 2 3 which was different from a review that was done based on 4 paper by Parrabell. 5 Well, you may or may not know this, but the Parrabell 6 Q. report, although it set out findings in terms of numbers 7 8 and statistics --9 Α. Yes. 10 -- some of which we looked at yesterday --11 Q. Α. 12 Yes. 13 14 -- didn't actually contain in any public way what Q. Parrabell's view was of this case or that case or the other 15 16 case? 17 Α. Right. 18 19 The names of, for example, Mr Russell and Mr Warren, Q. 20 but indeed any other names, were not part of the Parrabell 21 report? 22 Α. Right. 23 Are you aware of that? Q. 24 25 Α. Not offhand but I accept what you're saying, yes. 26 Right. Well, assuming that to be so, the Parrabell 27 Q. 28 report was not going to tell the public what the police 29 thought about any particular case, was it? Taking what you are saying, that sounds correct, yes. 30 Α. 31 32 Whereas the Neiwand report had specific conclusions Q. 33 about three of those cases? 34 Yes. Α. 35 36 Now, can I suggest that another reason why it might Q. have been appropriate for the Neiwand conclusions to be 37 made public was that they were contradicting the express 38 findings of a senior Coroner more than 10 years earlier, 39 40 which had themselves been the subject of wide publicity, 41 including in newspapers and television programs and even books - you'd be aware of that? 42 Yes, I am aware of that. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. And if the public needed to know what the police 46 really thought, wouldn't it be necessary to acquaint the public with the fact that the findings of Coroner Milledge, 47

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1 which were so well known, were regarded by the police as 2 wrong? 3 That's one way of looking at it. You could say that. Α. 4 I do think they're two separate things. I think the 5 Parrabell process was different to a reinvestigation or a review conducted of the likes that Neiwand conducted. 6 7 It's not normal that those - the findings or results of 8 those investigations conducted by Unsolved Homicide are 9 made public. 10 Well, accepting that that may well be so, I'm asking 11 Q. the questions really in the context of you having said --12 13 Α. Yes. 14 -- not unreasonably, that you took the view that in 15 Q. 16 light of the public interest in these matters, the public 17 needed to know what the police really thought? I would assume - I assumed that the Parrabell report, 18 Α. 19 it would be known that the Taradale matters had been 20 considered as part of it. Whether they were named or gone into at length was not a matter for me, but --21 22 23 Q. Well, when you saw the Parrabell report, which 24 I assume vou did when it came down --25 Α. Not - some time after it came out, actually. 26 27 Well, it didn't come down until I think June 2018. Q. 28 Yes. Α. 29 30 Q. So some time after the events I've been asking you 31 about? 32 Α. And I think I first saw it a long time after that. 33 34 Q. Well, whenever it was that you did see it --35 Α. Yes. 36 37 Q. -- some time after that, did you notice that it was the findings were numerical and statistical --38 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 Q. -- rather than case by case? 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 So did that cause you to think, well, the public's not Q. 45 actually been told what the police think about this case or 46 that case or the other case, they're only getting a numerical result? 47

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1 Α. At that time I can't recall what I thought about it, 2 Mr Gray. 3 4 Q. In fact - tell me if this is right - until this 5 Special Commission of Inquiry, not only the findings of Neiwand but even the very existence of Strike Force Neiwand 6 7 had never been mentioned in public by the police; is that 8 right? 9 Α. That's - could be correct. 10 Q. And not even mentioned in the Parliamentary Inquiry? 11 As far as I'm aware. 12 Α. 13 Q. Why not? 14 I don't know. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. Should it have been? 18 The Parliamentary Inquiry? Α. 19 20 Q. Yes. 21 22 MR TEDESCHI: I object. 23 24 THE COMMISSIONER: What's the objection? 25 26 MR TEDESCHI: Your Honour, it is a vague question that any answer couldn't have any possible meaning. It would depend 27 28 upon the questions asked. 29 I don't know until I hear it. 30 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm 31 prepared to hear it, thank you. 32 33 MR GRAY: Q. What's your view on that, given that the 34 Parliamentary Inquiry which spread over two or three years was looking at the very question of the 88 deaths and which 35 36 ones were gay hate and which ones were unsolved, and the police, through various personnel, participated in that 37 inquiry and certain people gave evidence in that sense 38 before the Parliamentary Inquiry, but if you assume, as 39 40 I ask you to do, that no-one mentioned the existence of 41 Strike Force Neiwand or its conclusions --42 Α. Yes. 43 44 Q. -- do you think that the Parliamentary Inquiry should 45 have been told? 46 On the face of what you're putting to me, yes. Α. 47

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1 Q. And why? Why do you think that? 2 If the Parliamentary Inquiry - because of what you Α. 3 said, the Parliamentary Inquiry were looking at the 4 circumstances of the 88 and it would necessarily flow that 5 the results of something like Neiwand would form part of 6 what they were considering. 7 8 Could I ask you to have a look almost finally at Q. 9 a document in volume 14. It's at tab 304 10 [NPL.0115.0002.7430]. Do you have that? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 Q. It's an email, the top one is one from Stewart Leggat to Christopher Olen? 14 Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 But it's really forwarding on an email from Jason Q. Dickinson to Stewart Leggat? 18 19 From Leggat to Dickinson I think. Α. 20 21 Q. I'm sorry, quite right. From Leggat to Dickinson. 22 I beg your pardon? Yes. 23 Α. 24 25 Q. I wanted to take you to the bottom of the first page, where Leggat is telling Dickinson a few things about Strike 26 Force Neiwand. Do you see that? 27 28 Α. Yes. 29 This is on 9 November 2017, when, for all practical 30 Q. purposes, Neiwand was all but finished. 31 32 Yes. Α. 33 Q. As we have seen? 34 35 Α. Yes. 36 At the foot of that page, in relation to Strike Force 37 Q. Neiwand, after the first few sentences, which are kind of 38 39 introductory, Leggat says, last line: 40 41 [Detective Sergeant] Page's investigation, whilst thorough was flawed in that the 42 victim's associates and last movements were 43 44 not explored. 45 46 Now, you would know that that's wrong, wouldn't you? The victim's associates and last movements were explored. 47

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1	Α.	Yes.
2 3	Q.	And Leggat goes on:
4 5 6 7 8		The focus of his investigation ignored alternate theories including suicide and death by misadventure.
9 10 11	And A.	that's wrong too, isn't it? Yes.
12 13	Q.	Then Leggat says:
14 15 16 17		The subsequent Coronial Inquest relied on [Detective Sergeant] Page's flawed investigative focus.
18 19 20	What A.	do you say about that? That's not right.
21 22	Q.	In the next paragraph, Leggat says:
23 24		Over the last 18 months
25 26	so h	e puts it back beginning in about May 2016
27		Team 11
28 29 30 31 32 33	A. the	h I assume is another way of saying Neiwand, is it? Oh, no, it's a title that was given to groups within Unsolved Homicide Team. If you recall there were one ix were the response teams and then others.
33 34 35 36 37	Q. talk A.	Speaking perhaps slightly imperfectly, he's really ing about what Neiwand has done? Yes.
38 39 40	Q. Warr	In that paragraph, he says - and he's talking about en and Mattaini at first, he says:
40 41 42 43 44		Particularly with the Warren matter a significant number of his closest friends and partners had never been interviewed.
44 45 46 47		n't ask you to comment on that because you may not know accurate or inaccurate that is, I assume? I don't.

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1		
2	Q.	No. Then Leggat goes on:
3 4		From that investigation
5 6	that	is, speaking to Warren's friends and partners
7 8		alternate theories have been developed.
9	D	
10 11	A.	ou see that? Yes.
12	/ (1	
13 14	Q.	And as to Mattaini he says:
15		Mattaini's suicidal ideation was well
16		known
17		
18 19	He s	ays:
20		Toxicology for Russell indicated a high
21		level of intoxication.
22		N .
23 24	Α.	Yes.
25	Q.	The last sentence in that paragraph is:
26 27		The Warren reinvestigation
28		
29 30	that	is, the Neiwand one
31		was inconclusive and no clear lines of
32		enquiry were identified.
33 34	٨	Yes.
34 35	Α.	
36	Q.	Then the part that I really wanted to ask you about is
37	the	next and final paragraph:
38 39		On 18/10/2017 - during a meeting with Team
39 40		11 with [Detective Inspector] Leggat
41		
42		sentence is a little bit jumbled so you might have to
43 44	help	me with what's actually being said, it says:
44 45		[Detective Inspector] Leggat held
46		planned contact with the State Coroners
47		Office to allow for informed consideration

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 as to whether a further Inquest should be held in relation to the Mattaini, Warren and Russell deaths. 	
3 and Russell deaths.	
Λ	
4	
5 A. Yes.	
6	
7 Q. Now, pausing there, as I say, the sentence seems a	
8 little bit jumbled.	
9 A. But it seems to me he is saying that he planned to	
10 contact the Coroner's office and tell them.	
11	
12 Q. Yes. But then he says, Leggat says:	
13	
14 This contact	
15	
16 ie, with the Coroner's office about whether a further	
17 inquest should be held	
•	
18	
19 has now been postponed pending retirement	
20 of the current State Coroner Mr Barnes and	
21 appointment of his successor.	
22	
A. Yes, I see that.	
24	
25 Q. Now, the dates will be known accurately somewhere i	Ì
26 this room, but Mr Barnes ceased being State Coroner,	
I think, in on or about 30 November 2017, or if not then	
28 soon afterwards.	
29 A. Yes.	
30	
31 Q. This document is 9 November. So what can you tell	IS
32 about what that paragraph contains? I don't mean that ye	u
33 might yourself know what happened.	
A. No, I don't, this is the first I've heard of it.	
35	
Q. But what do you derive from that - that they were	
37 considering informing the Coroner what they had come up	
38 with and asking the Coroner if another inquest should be	
39 held	
40 A. Yes, that's what I take from that.	
40 A. Tes, that's what I take from that. 41	
	no
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	n e
44 A. Yes.	
45	
46 Q. But then, according to material that the Special	_
47 Commission of Inquiry has been provided with, nothing ela	e

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1 seems to have ever happened on that front. Should 2 something else have happened? 3 I don't know. I would expect that they would carry on Α. 4 as planned, you know, once a new Coroner had been appointed 5 or an Acting Coroner, State Coroner, go and fulfil what they are suggesting that they are going to do. 6 7 8 Well it indicates, doesn't it, that at least Leggat Q. 9 and perhaps others thought that the Coroner needed to know 10 what Neiwand had arrived at? Yes, it does. 11 Α. 12 13 Q. But either Leggat or someone else, it seems, at some 14 later point decided not to tell the Coroner? If what you're telling me is before the Commission, 15 Α. 16 that that didn't occur, well, I have to agree. 17 I will be corrected if I'm mistaken about that. 18 Q. 19 Α. Sure. 20 21 Q. But that is the understanding that the Commission has 22 at the moment? 23 Α. Okay. 24 25 Q. I think probably the last topic that I want to ask you 26 about is just some questions about the interrelationship 27 between Parrabell and Neiwand? 28 Α. Yes. 29 Now, we saw yesterday, and I will need to just show 30 Q. you again, that there was a meeting on 14 April 2016? 31 32 Yes. Α. 33 34 Which involved, among others, at least yourself and Q. Crandell and Olen? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 Q. And I think one or two others? 38 39 Α. And I think one from - one other person. 40 41 Q. And we find that, if you could have volume 6, at 164a [SCOI.82054_0001]. This is the progress report? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. The first progress report about Neiwand. If we look 46 at page 4, the fourth bullet point refers to that meeting 47 having occurred?

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1 Α. Yes. 2 3 Q. I took you to that before? 4 Α. You showed me that earlier. 5 I did, yes. That's all I need, just to remind you of 6 Q. Then if you could have volume 14 again and turn to 7 that. 8 tab 289, [NPL.0115.0004.2637]? 9 Α. 289? 10 Q. Yes. 11 Α. Yes. Yes. 12 13 14 Q. This is an email, the one I'm looking at, the main one, from Steven Morgan to Christopher Olen and John 15 16 Lehmann on 13 April. Do you see that about halfway down 17 the page? 18 He's cc'ing them into it, yes. It's to other members Α. of Unsolved Homicide. 19 20 21 Q. I'm sorry; you're quite right. It's a cc. Yes, it's 22 two other members of --23 Α. The team, yes. 24 25 Q. -- Neiwand, yes, and cc Olen and Lehmann. 26 Α. Yes. 27 28 Q. You're quite right, thank you. What Olen says in the 29 second paragraph is - that is on 13 April, the day before 30 the meeting that obviously happened the next day: 31 32 Of interest ... tomorrow ... [Detective 33 Superintendent] Willing & D/C/I Olen will 34 be attending a meeting with [Superintendent] Tony Crandell ... who is 35 36 the Corporate Spokesperson for GLBTI 37 issues. They will be discussing an alleged 80-odd gay-hate deaths that are being 38 investigated by officers from that 39 40 Command --41 42 Surry Hills, being the Parrabell exercise --Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. - -46 47 and any crossover or relevance with either

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4	UUT investigations Naiwand on Machamin
1 2	UHT investigations Neiwand or Macnamir.
3	A. Yes.
4	
5	Q. Now, is that, as you understand it, although short, an
6	accurate summary of what was going to be talked about?
7	A. That might be his interpretation of what was going to
8	be discussed, but it was going to be around the conduct of
9	Parrabell in general and - yes.
10	raraberr in general and yes.
11	Q. Well, yes, but it was going to discuss, and I want to
12	suggest to you it did discuss, any crossover involving
13	Parrabell and/or Neiwand and/or Macnamir?
14	A. In the context of what was happening in Macnamir at
15	the time.
16	
17	Q. Yes.
18	A. That would have been discussed. I can't recall it but
19	it naturally flows that it would have been.
20	
21	Q. I want to put to you for your consideration that there
22	was indeed crossover between or among those three in a
23	number of ways. Would you agree that all three either - in
24	terms of what you know now
25	A. Yes.
26	
27	Q. All three, either from their inception or perhaps in
28	the case of Neiwand in your understanding later in its
29	development, were directed to arriving at conclusions that
30	minimised the likelihood of gay-hate bias in the deaths
31	they were looking at?
32	A. I don't agree with that.
33	
34	Q. In the case of Macnamir, the Scott Johnson related
35	strike force
36	A. Yes.
37	
38	Q would you agree that it was heavily concentrating
39	on factors supporting the suicide theory and on factors
40	casting doubt on the homicide theory?
41	A. I think we've gone through this yesterday. I - if the
42	evidence led in that direction, that was where the evidence
43	led. My observations of particularly Pamela Young as an
44	investigator, she was very, very thorough and would always
45	cast her mind to any possibility.
46	
47	Q. Well, that means, I take it, that you would say no to

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1 my question? My question was: was Macnamir heavily 2 concentrating on factors supporting suicide --3 Α. No. 4 5 Q. -- and on factors casting doubt on homicide? 6 Α. I'm saying no. 7 8 Q. So your answer is no? 9 Α. Yes. 10 And in the case of Parrabell, do you agree that it was 11 Q. inevitably likely to arrive at low numbers of gay-hate 12 bias, first of all, because of the high requirement of 13 14 beyond reasonable doubt imposed on the criterion as to whether there was evidence of such bias? 15 16 The criteria you showed me yesterday, yes. Α. 17 18 You'd agree with that? Q. 19 20 I object for the reasons I stated yesterday. MR TEDESCHI: 21 22 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you. 23 24 MR GRAY: Q. You are agreeing with me so far on that 25 one? 26 Α. That, as discussed yesterday, there was a criteria there that made it difficult to arrive at something 27 28 different, yes. 29 30 Q. Made it difficult to get over the threshold --31 Α. Of beyond reasonable doubt. 32 33 Q. -- of beyond reasonable doubt as to whether gay hate 34 bias could be shown to have been present? 35 Α. No, there was a possibility, there was a second 36 category as well. 37 Yes, I know, but I'm asking about the first category, 38 Q. 39 as I did yesterday. 40 Α. Well, the first category --41 42 The first category was is there evidence of gay hate Q. bias, and that had to be established beyond reasonable 43 44 doubt? 45 Α. Beyond reasonable doubt. 46 And as we went through yesterday --47 Q.

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1 Α. I agree with you on the first category. 2 3 Q. And because that requirement was there, the likelihood 4 of many cases surmounting that threshold of actual evidence 5 of gay hate bias was low, wasn't it? 6 7 MR TEDESCHI: Evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. 8 9 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm sure that's implicit and you'll 10 make it clear. 11 MR TEDESCHI: 12 It should be explicit, Commissioner, because 13 the two categories both referred to evidence --14 Mr Tedeschi, I accept what you say. 15 THE COMMISSIONER: 16 Mr Gray will correct it if he thinks he should and you will 17 point out if he doesn't. Mr Gray, put it again. 18 19 MR GRAY: I will put it again. 20 21 Q. I'm speaking about the first category. 22 Yes, we've established that. Α. 23 Q. Which is evidence of gay hate bias? 24 25 Α. Mmm-hmm. 26 The second category, of course, was suspected gay hate 27 Q. bias? 28 29 Α. The possibility of gay hate bias, beyond reasonable, I think is what it said, but, yes, I accept the hypothesis. 30 31 32 I don't want to do it all again, but the second one, Q. 33 as my friend pointed out yesterday, had beyond reasonable 34 doubt on the converse, that the - do you recall that discussion? 35 Α. Yes. 36 37 But in terms of the first one, which is what I'm 38 Q. 39 asking you about --40 Α. Yes. 41 -- is there evidence of gay hate bias, the criterion 42 Q. 43 or standard was beyond reasonable doubt? 44 That's right. Α. 45 46 Right. And because that is so, the chances of that Q. 47 first box being ticked "Yes" were low in most cases,

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1 because of the requirement of beyond reasonable doubt? 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. Right. Now, a second reason why Parrabell was likely 5 inevitably to arrive at low numbers of gay hate bias, I'd suggest, is because that requirement, the one that we have 6 7 just talked about involving beyond reasonable doubt --8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. -- for that first box, represented a particularly high bar in the Parrabell context where they were only looking 11 at historical paper and not reinvestigating; you agree? 12 13 Α. I accept that, yes. 14 Now, as to Neiwand, given what we've been through for 15 Q. 16 most of today, it did not pursue very many at all, in fact, 17 hardly any, of the known POIs that Penny Brown told them about back in February? 18 19 The post Penny Brown part of it, yes. Α. 20 21 Q. That's right. 22 Α. That's right. 23 Q. 24 You'd agree? That's right. 25 Α. 26 27 And instead, you would accept, in the light of what Q. 28 we've discussed today --29 Α. Yes. 30 -- that Neiwand focused not on persons of interest for 31 Q. 32 the most part, but on victimology and on matters thought to 33 bolster the possibilities of suicide or misadventure rather 34 than homicide? 35 Α. Certainly victimology. Focused on - it did focus on 36 matters that resulted in bolstering those other two things. 37 I wouldn't say at the exclusion of homicide. 38 In the case of Macnamir and Neiwand, putting Parrabell 39 Q. 40 to one side for the moment --41 Α. Yes. 42 43 -- would you agree that in the end, whether they were Q. set up to do this or not for the moment --44 45 Α. Yes. 46 -- both of them arrived at conclusions which supported 47 Q.

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1 the contention that the death or deaths that they were 2 respectively looking at were not or may not have been gay 3 hate homicides? 4 The second, Neiwand, I agree. Macnamir, as we've gone Α. 5 through vesterday, outlined in my view the evidence for the hypotheses and left it to the Coroner. 6 7 8 Q. I now need you to just be shown volume 8, All right. please. 9 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. While that is coming, I will just put this question --13 Α. Sure. 14 -- for completeness, just so you have a chance to 15 Q. answer it directly. Would you agree that throughout 2016 16 and 2017, all three of Macnamir, Parrabell and Neiwand were 17 18 being directed, whether you had any part in it or not, to 19 the end points that I have suggested, namely, suicide more 20 likely, homicide less likely? 21 Α. No, I don't agree. 22 MR TEDESCHI: 23 I object. 24 25 MR GRAY: Sorry, I withdraw that question. I will put the 26 question again. 27 28 Would you agree that throughout 2016 and 2017, both Q. Macnamir and Neiwand were being directed, whether to your 29 knowledge or not but on what you know now, to the end point 30 31 that the deaths in question, Scott Johnson in Macnamir and 32 Messrs Mattaini, Russell and Warren in Neiwand, were 33 unlikely to be homicide. 34 35 MR TEDESCHI: I object to the word "directed", 36 It is a question that seems to ask him vour Honour. whether somebody was directing inquiring in that direction. 37 38 39 THE COMMISSIONER: No, if he wants to put that he can, but 40 he can also put that the effect of those inquiries were 41 directed in the --42 43 MR TEDESCHI: He has already been asked about the 44 effect --45 46 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm going to allow it, Mr Tedeschi. 47 Please go on, Mr Gray.

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1 2 MR GRAY: Can you answer that, Mr Willing? Q. 3 That is not the case. I point out, too, that when you Α. 4 say 2016 to 2017, Macnamir was before the Coroner and under 5 the control of the Coroner. Inquiries being conducted at that time were done under his imprimatur. 6 7 8 I will ask the question again and take the word Q. 9 "directed" out. The police who were working on Macnamir, 10 principally Pamela Young until she departed --11 Α. Yes. 12 13 Q. -- and then thereafter principally, although not by 14 herself obviously, Penny Brown --15 Α. Yes. 16 17 -- were strongly of the view that homicide was not the Q. 18 right finding and that suicide was more likely but that, in 19 any event, only an open finding should be made? 20 They may have thought that but it didn't preclude them Α. 21 from investigating persons of interest. As you have seen, 22 they conducted inquiries into groups on the North Shore that were involved in gay hate crimes. 23 They went to great 24 lengths after the matter was before the Coroner to appeal 25 for witnesses publicly to come forward. So I wouldn't 26 agree with that. 27 28 And in the case of Neiwand, you would agree in the Q. 29 light of what we've been through today that from some point after the first few months of 2016 --30 31 Α. Yes. 32 33 Q. -- it is perhaps not clear when, exactly, Neiwand 34 directed its attention almost exclusively not to homicide 35 but to other possibilities? 36 To victimology and other things, yes. Α. 37 To victimology and to the possibilities of suicide 38 Q. 39 and/or misadventure? 40 Α. And again, as I've said before, I don't think that was 41 exclusive to the possibility of homicide but that's where 42 the end result was. 43 44 Q. My question was "almost exclusively", that they --45 Α. I don't agree with that. I think that if evidence 46 came forward that would support homicide, they would pursue 47 that.

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1 2 Q. All right. Now --3 4 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. Mr Willing, it's not a question of, if I may say so, if evidence came forward. 5 You are being asked, I think, as to the impression one might gain 6 7 objectively, having read what has been put on behalf of the 8 police, for example, in Macnamir via their senior counsel 9 before Mr Barnes, and likewise in the documents we've read 10 this afternoon - do you say objectively viewed, those two exercises could only be construed as the police putting 11 forward with equal weight the scenarios of suicide, 12 13 misadventure and/or homicide? 14 Not with equal weight, no, Commissioner. Α. 15 16 Q. Well, then, what was it from your perception? You've 17 been through it vesterday and today. Do you say --18 They --Α. 19 20 Q. Would you just do me the courtesy of listening. 21 Α. Oh, geez --22 Do you - I'm sorry? Q. 23 24 Α. Yes. Commissioner. 25 26 Q. Did you want to say something, Mr Willing? No, Commissioner. 27 Α. 28 29 Q. Would you answer in your own way, having undoubtedly heard what I have said, and do your best, Mr Willing? 30 The evidence that was put before the Coroner outlined 31 Α. 32 the evidence as the investigators saw it for homicide, 33 suicide and misadventure. In the case of Macnamir, that's 34 what we're talking about. 35 36 And do you say that objectively viewed, I should form Q. the view, and anybody else reading those materials, 37 including the submissions made on behalf of senior counsel 38 on behalf of the police before Mr Barnes, objectively 39 40 viewed, that police took the view that each of those 41 scenarios should be regarded as equal on the evidence? It's difficult - no, not objectively. The evidence 42 Α. 43 naturally flows where it flows. There may be more evidence 44 for one than another, and so --45 46 Mr Willing, I'm not asking you about theoretical Q. 47 possibilities with the evidence. I'm asking you,

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1 objectively viewed, was the position or stance taken by the 2 police, to your perception --3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. -- at the Macnamir inquest, that the police were agitating for equal weight to be given to homicide, 6 misadventure and suicide? 7 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. Thank you. The same for Neiwand, was it? That the Neiwand summaries were advocating, notwithstanding the fact 11 that Coroner Milledge's finding should be, as it were, 12 disregarded, that again, those who put the summaries 13 14 together in Neiwand were equally advocating there to be of an equal weight to suicide, misadventure or homicide? 15 16 Not according to the summaries that I've read. Α. 17 18 What did you say, I'm sorry? Q. I said not according to the summaries that I have 19 Α. 20 read. 21 22 Q. Well, according to what, then? The summaries contain more evidence inferring 23 Α. 24 something other than suicide [sic], which we've already established. 25 26 27 MR GRAY: Something other than homicide? Q. 28 Sorry, other than homicide, which we've already Α. 29 established. 30 31 So you accept the proposition apropos Neiwand; is that Q. 32 right? 33 Α. That the summaries contain that evidence. 34 Well, not just evidence, that the summaries of Neiwand 35 Q. are very obviously emphasising possibilities other than 36 homicide and de-emphasising the possibility of homicide? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. But you don't accept that in relation to Macnamir? 41 Α. No. 42 43 Q. Now, do you have volume 8? 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 Could you turn to tab 221 [SCOI.82030.0001]. Q. Do vou see that is an article in the Herald on 21 May 2016 by Ava 47

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Benny-Morrison? 1 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. And you would remember this article, I imagine? 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 Q. And it's a story about the police embarking upon the 8 Parrabell exercise. 9 Α. Yes. 10 And at 222, tab 222 [SCOI.82028_0001] two days later -11 Q. 21 May was a Saturday --12 13 Α. Yes. 14 Q. -- and this one at 222 is on Monday, 23 May --15 16 Α. Yes. 17 18 Q. -- there is another report by Ava Benny-Morrison, and although the word "Neiwand" is not mentioned, if you read 19 20 it, I imagine you'll agree with me that that's obviously 21 what it's about? 22 Α. Yes. 23 24 Now, there is an online version of this second Q. 25 article, which is longer, it has more text. 26 Sure. Α. 27 28 Q. And for the record I will note that that's at volume 29 12, tab 259 [SCOI.82370_0001], but for present purposes I don't need to trouble you with that. But what 30 31 Ms Benny-Morrison says in the first paragraph is that for 32 the third time in three decades, the deaths of three men in 33 Sydney's Eastern Suburbs will be investigated, et cetera. 34 Yes. Α. 35 36 Q. And in the second column, she says: 37 Now the ... Unsolved Homicide Team has 38 reopened the investigation into the three 39 40 men's deaths in the hope of putting their 41 killers behind bars. Fairfax Media understands ... Detective Superintendent 42 43 Mick Willing reopened the investigation 44 earlier this year after the cases were 45 reviewed. 46 Mmm-hmm. 47 Α.

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1 2 Q. So far so good. You would say that so far that's more 3 or less accurate? 4 That's right. Α. 5 And then in the third column you are quoted as saying: 6 Q. 7 8 Flowing on from the UHT's ongoing 9 investigation into the death of Scott 10 Johnson, the investigations into the deaths of Gilles Mattaini, John Russell and Ross 11 Warren have been recommenced ... 12 13 Yes. 14 Α. 15 16 Q. Et cetera. Now, these articles - and I should say 17 that the online version of this article, of the 23rd, is 18 dated the 22nd - in other words, it seems to have come out online --19 20 Overnight or something. Α. 21 22 -- on the Sunday, and then it's in print on the Q. Monday? 23 Α. Mmm-hmm. 24 25 So the two articles follow hot on the heels, one after 26 Q. 27 the other? 28 Α. Yes. 29 In the first one, the one about Parrabell, the one at 30 Q. 31 tab 221, Mr Crandell is referred to, and I think, if I'm 32 not mistaken - yes, he is quoted, there are some quotes 33 attributed to Superintendent Crandell about the Parrabell 34 matter, and there are some quotes attributed to you in this one about Neiwand. 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 38 Q. Now, tell us how that came about? How did it come 39 about that, on two successive days, two articles were 40 written, one about Parrabell and one about Neiwand? 41 Α. I can't recall other than Ava was a police reporter. She would, almost on a daily basis, be asking questions of 42 She may well have asked about the 43 the Police Media Unit. 44 two separate things at the same time, with one being under 45 the carriage of Crandell and the other being under me. 46 47 Q. Well, did you and Mr Crandell speak to each other

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about the fact that these articles were in the wind or 1 2 going to be written? 3 I - not directly, usually that would be through - if Α. 4 we did, it would be through a liaison officer, media liaison officer, who would gather the response together. 5 6 7 Did you each, either together or separately, speak to Q. 8 Ms Benny-Morrison? 9 Α. I can't recall talking to her about this but I did 10 speak to her regularly. I'm assuming that Mr Crandell has spoken to her as well, so - but not together. 11 12 13 Q. To your recollection, did the impetus for these two 14 stories come from her, from whatever inquiries she may have made, or did it come from you and Mr Crandell? 15 16 I thought it came from her. Α. 17 18 And how would she have known, as best you can tell, Q. 19 that Neiwand existed? 20 She may have been told from an internal police source. Α. 21 I don't know. 22 To your recollection, first of all, was there any 23 Q. reason why you didn't mention the word "Neiwand", whereas 24 Parrabell was mentioned guite a bit in the Crandell 25 26 articles? 27 Not particularly. Not particularly. Α. No. 28 29 Q. No particular reason? And to your recollection, has there been any other article ever, that you know of, where 30 31 Neiwand has been referred to? 32 By name I - I don't know. Α. 33 34 Q. What about even not by name? No, not from my recollection. 35 Α. 36 I have nothing further, your Honour. 37 MR GRAY: 38 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Up to you, Mr Tedeschi. 39 It's quarter to 4 anyway, so - and I know Mr Willing has 40 41 a problem tomorrow, as I understand it. So I have offered you the opportunity this morning of you telling me what 42 you'd like to do? 43 44 45 MR TEDESCHI: Commissioner, there are so many quite 46 complex areas that have been covered that I would need to spend more time in conference with Mr Willing than I had 47

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thought, so I would suggest that the best way forward would 1 2 be that his hearing is adjourned until such time as Counsel 3 Assisting is in a position to indicate that he is ready to 4 complete the remaining section, which is just one topic, 5 perhaps if I could re-examine him after that. 6 7 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, all right. 8 9 MR TEDESCHI: That will give me an opportunity over the 10 next few days to speak to him. 11 12 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I'm not going to - at the moment I can't, rather, indicate when that might be. We've got 13 14 other witnesses lined up for the balance of this week and The prospect at the moment is that it won't 15 for next week. 16 be in the immediate future. If that changes, and I don't 17 think it will but if it does change, we will give you 18 plenty of warning, and of course we will consider, as we 19 must reasonably, Mr Willing's private sector commitments. 20 So we will do our very best to do it, but I think you can 21 work on the basis it's unlikely to be before - I will be in 22 a position to say anything or Mr Gray will be in a position to say anything probably for another week or two, but we 23 24 will be here and we will let you know if there is any But we will obviously give you plenty of time to 25 update. 26 check Mr Willing's availability. 27 28 Mr Willing, can I just ask you this, apart from Q. 29 immediate short term --Α. Yes. 30 31 32 -- do you have any plans in the next couple of weeks Q. 33 to be out of Australia, for example? 34 No, I don't, Commissioner. Α. 35 36 THE COMMISSIONER: Okay. All right. I will leave it just 37 at that. 38 I'm sorry, I didn't want to interrupt you. 39 MR TEDESCHI: 40 I thought you were just about to go off the Bench and 41 I wanted to mention something. 42 43 THE COMMISSIONER: No, I was about to defer to you again, 44 Mr Tedeschi. 45 46 MR TEDESCHI: Commissioner, there are some redaction issues which my learned junior Mr Mykkeltvedt is in a 47

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1 position to raise with you now, if that's appropriate. 2 3 THE COMMISSIONER: In that event, what about I excuse 4 Mr Willing now so he can get away. 5 I won't formally excuse you, Mr Willing, from giving 6 some future evidence, but by all means, if convenient and 7 8 you'd like to go now, by all means go and someone will be 9 in touch, or whatever you would like to do. 10 Thank you, Commissioner. 11 THE WITNESS: 12 13 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 14 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW 15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: What are the issues? 18 MR MYKKELTVEDT: 19 The issues relate to the orders that 20 your Honour has made now. 21 22 THE COMMISSIONER: No, what I said this morning I think -I think I said it - Mr Tedeschi, I thought, said there 23 might have been a problem. I said in everyone's company 24 25 that I had signed the orders. I certainly do not wish you to think that they are in a block of concrete. 26 So if there 27 is something that you need to be heard upon, that's fine. 28 29 MR MYKKELTVEDT: The difficulty is not with the orders themselves, your Honour; it is with the publication of the 30 documents to which the orders relate. 31 32 33 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm so sorry. 34 MR MYKKELTVEDT: It's the publication of the documents to 35 36 which the orders relate. 37 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. 38 39 40 MR MYKKELTVEDT: Those instructing me have been informed 41 that there is an intention to publish those documents, including documents that were only served in the last 42 43 24 hours, at 4pm today. 44 45 A number of items have been identified to this point in the review that has been able to be --46 47

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1 THE COMMISSIONER: Is the bottom line that you want more 2 time to think about it? 3 4 MR MYKKELTVEDT: Yes, in short, your Honour. We seek 5 24 hours. 6 7 THE COMMISSIONER: I don't see, myself, at the moment 8 a problem with the next 24 hours, unless, Mr Gray, you have 9 a problem with the next 24 hours, even assuming that the 10 other side have had documents for a while, I just don't know what the problem is, but will 24 hours make or break 11 12 anybody? I can't imagine it would. 13 14 MR GRAY: I don't imagine so. I don't know what this topic is at all, Commissioner. 15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Mr Mykkeltvedt, what about we do it this way: unless I'm told something to the 18 19 contrary, I can't see possibly how 24 hours will make 20 Discussions between yourselves and staff of a difference. 21 the Inquiry have generally led to some resolution of 22 matters. Why don't you raise it with me tomorrow or the 23 next day, whenever an impasse has arrived which requires --24 25 MR MYKKELTVEDT: It's simply about ensuring that the redactions are applied correctly. Some of them have been 26 missed and we just want to check that. 27 28 29 THE COMMISSIONER: I think there were problems with the interpretation of the orders and the existence of which 30 31 orders ought to trump which orders. 32 33 MR MYKKELTVEDT: No doubt. 34 I'm privy to that complication. 35 THE COMMISSIONER: It ought to be sorted out. So what about you try and sort it 36 out, and if you can't I'll sort it out, but I imagine you 37 are certainly going to have the 24 hours and if you need 38 more time just let me know. 39 40 41 MR MYKKELTVEDT: Thank you, your Honour. 42 THE COMMISSIONER: 43 All right. Nothing else, Mr Gray, this 44 afternoon? 45 No, your Honour. 46 There are some other matters MR GRAY: 47 that can be dealt with, but perhaps it might be better to

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deal with them first thing tomorrow morning and that now. THE COMMISSIONER: And tomorrow is Mr Morgan, is it? MR GRAY: Yes. THE COMMISSIONER: All right. I will adjourn at the moment until 10 in the morning. Thank you. AT 3.50PM THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY WAS ADJOURNED TO WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10AM

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