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 Thursday, 13 July 2023 at 2.00pm

(Day 76)

Mr Peter Gray SC Ms Claire Palmer Mr Enzo Camporeale Mr Tom Allchurch Mr Rhys Carvosso (Senior Counsel Assisting)
(Counsel Assisting)
(Director Legal)
(Senior Solicitor)
(Solicitor)

Also Present:

Mr Mark Tedeschi KC with Mr Anders Mykkeltvedt and Mr Mathew Short for the NSW Police and Ms N Marsic

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1 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Gray. 2 3 Commissioner, this afternoon's sitting has been MR GRAY: 4 arranged to hear some evidence from Ms Natalie Marsic, who 5 has sworn an affidavit in compliance with the orders that you made on 22 June in connection with searches for 6 7 documents and provision of documents both generally and in 8 relation to Strike Force Parrabell. So if it is 9 convenient, I will call Ms Marsic. 10 MR TEDESCHI: I represent Ms Marsic, Commissioner. 11 12 13 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you. 14 MR TEDESCHI: With Mr Mykkeltvedt. 15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, of course, thank you. 18 19 Ms Marsic, would you come forward, please, thank you. 20 <NATALIE MARSIC, sworn: 21 [2.02pm] 22 <EXAMINATION BY MR GRAY: 23 24 MR GRAY: 25 Q. Ms Marsic, do you have your affidavit with 26 vou? Α. I do. 27 28 29 Q. Now, briefly, to summarise your time with the police, as I understand your affidavit, you graduated in 1994 and 30 then took a Masters in 1996. Did you start with the 31 32 police, as I understand it, around about 1998? 33 Α. 1998 is correct. 34 And then in 2008 you went and did other things? 35 Q. 36 Α. Yes. 37 Q. 38 Then back to the police in 2018? That's correct. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. Since December 2018, you have been, firstly, Director, Crime Disruption and Special Inquiries Law, which of course 42 43 has an acronym, CDSIL? 44 Α. That's correct. 45 46 And later, June 2020, commenced as Acting General Q. Counsel and eventually permanently appointed to that role 47

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in May 2021? 1 2 Α. Yes. 3 4 Q. Now, among the facts which follow from that, and I'm 5 not suggesting anything other than chronological, you were not with the police during the whole of Strike Force 6 7 Parrabell? 8 Α. That's correct. 9 10 Q. Or, for that matter, Strike Forces Macnamir or Neiwand? 11 That's correct. 12 Α. 13 In your roles since 2018, I take it it's no part of 14 Q. your role to be in charge of document management systems --15 16 Α. That's correct. 17 18 Q. -- for the police? That's correct. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. And in swearing the affidavit that you've sworn, 22 I take it you are essentially acting on instructions; you're relying on what you're told? 23 That's correct. 24 Α. 25 I imagine you would also agree, and you probably would 26 Q. tell me more than what I'm about to say, that the document 27 28 management systems within the Police Force in this State 29 are guite complex? That's correct. Α. 30 31 32 And that's no doubt for lots of reasons, including the Q. 33 size of the organisation? Yes. 34 Α. 35 That would be one reason, and the period of time over 36 Q. which records are held? 37 Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. And changes over time in relation to requirements, 41 best practice, technology, regulatory requirements and so on? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 So, you can assume that we're conscious of all of Q. 46 that, when I am asking you these questions. Now, you're aware, I take it, that last week, in this Commission, there 47

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was evidence from a number of police witnesses about 1 2 various aspects of investigative practices? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. Including - I don't say this is all of the people who gave evidence - Assistant Commissioner Conroy? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 9 Q. Detective Inspector Warren, Detective Superintendent 10 Doherty and Detective Chief Inspector Laidlaw? Α. Yes. 11 12 13 Q. Are you aware, either generally or more precisely than generally, of the evidence they gave? 14 Not of all of them. I'm aware of the evidence given 15 Α. 16 by Detective Inspector Warren and Detective Chief Inspector 17 Laidlaw. 18 19 Q. Do you mean by that not so much Assistant Commissioner 20 Conroy or Detective Superintendent Doherty? 21 Α. Correct. 22 And in relation to those latter two, are you saying 23 Q. you're not aware at all of what they said or --24 25 Α. I haven't read the transcript for their evidence. 26 27 Q. But has somebody reported to you as to what the 28 evidence was? 29 Α. No. 30 Q. No? 31 32 Α. No. 33 Q. But in the case of Mr Warren and Mr Laidlaw, was it, 34 you have read the transcript? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 38 Q. Okay, thank you. Now, as you know, one matter that they were asked about, all four of those, was a memorandum 39 by DCI Lehmann dating back to 5 August 2016. You're aware 40 41 of that? 42 No. Α. 43 44 Q. You're not aware of that? You read the transcript? 45 Α. I've read the transcript. I don't recall reading the 46 2016 memorandum. 47

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Q. 1 I wonder if --2 Α. If you could lead me to that part of the transcript, 3 that might refresh my memory. 4 I will show you the document, first of all. It's the 5 Q. document that the Commission had before it last week, 6 Commissioner. It became exhibit 51, tab 6F, and it's 7 8 a memorandum of 5 August 2016 by Detective Chief Inspector 9 Lehmann [NPL.0100.0018.0002]. I suppose my first question 10 is, Ms Marsic, whether you have seen this before, before 11 todav? No, I have not. 12 Α. 13 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. And do I take it no-one has drawn 14 this to your attention, apart from Mr Gray? 15 16 Α. That's correct. 17 18 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 19 20 MR GRAY: If you will assume for the moment - and Q. 21 I will remind you of some of the transcript, but assume for 22 the moment that the witnesses whose transcripts you have 23 read were asked questions which included questions about this. 24 Yes. 25 Α. 26 Is that something that just doesn't come to mind now? 27 Q. 28 That just doesn't come to mind. Α. 29 Well, let's just have a look at it now, if I may, with 30 Q. 31 you. 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 You can see from the last page of it that it's dated Q. 5 August 2016 - that is, Mr Lehmann's note is? 35 36 Α. Yes. 37 And if we go to the front page, you can see that the 38 Q. topic, under the heading "Issue", is "Proposal for 39 40 a project plan concerning the locating, identification and reconciliation of exhibits relating to unsolved homicide 41 cases"? 42 Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Then there's a paragraph beginning "Background", and Q. 46 then there are five headings after that: "Problem - 1", "Problem - 2", "Problem - 3", "Problem - 4", "Problem - 5"? 47

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Α. 1 Yes. 2 3 Problems 1, 2 and 3, if you glance at them now, if you Q. 4 would, deal with essentially difficulties in locating 5 exhibits. Do you see that? I've read problems 1 to 3. 6 Α. 7 8 Do you agree that, speaking generally, it's dealing Q. 9 with difficulties in locating exhibits? 10 Α. Yes. 11 And then problem 4 deals with difficulties relating to 12 Q. not only exhibits but briefs of evidence and case file 13 documents. Do you see that? 14 Yes. 15 Α. 16 One of the things that Mr Lehmann was pointing out in 17 Q. 18 2016 was that not only exhibits but briefs of evidence and 19 case file documents were not archived and stored in the 20 proper manner and that a consequence - and I'm now 21 paraphrasing - is that often problems arose with locating 22 such documentary records? 23 Α. Yes. 24 Now, problem 5, again, related mainly to exhibits. 25 Q. Then can I take you over to the page numbered 3. 26 There's a heading "Comment". Do you see that? 27 28 Α. Yes. 29 And what Mr Lehmann is saying there - I'm looking at 30 Q. 31 the last sentence - is that: 32 33 It is the legacies of the poor exhibit and record management practices of the past, 34 35 compounded by the passage of time that causes significant problems for the UHT 36 37 today. 38 Α. Yes. 39 40 41 Q. Now, until you saw this document five minutes ago, was that realisation something that you did not know had been 42 43 arrived at as long ago as 2016? 44 45 MR TEDESCHI: I object. Commissioner, Ms Marsic has been 46 asked to come to the hearing today to answer questions about the topics that are contained in her affidavit, 47

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namely, the location of some exhibits that were found very 1 2 late in the piece that were properly a response to one of 3 the early subpoenas that were issued by you, Commissioner. 4 She can do no more with this document than to say what's 5 written there in the document. 6 7 THE COMMISSIONER: So be it, Mr Tedeschi. So be it. I'm 8 surprised she hasn't seen it before, and I'm equally 9 surprised nobody drew it to her attention after the 10 evidence last week. 11 MR TEDESCHI: 12 Because, Commissioner, it was assumed that she was coming here today to be asked questions about the 13 topics that are raised in her affidavit, not about the 14 evidence that was given --15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: I'm going to allow it, Mr Tedeschi. 18 Documentation and retrieval of documentation has been 19 a chronic problem for this Commission. Thank you very 20 I'm going allow it. much. 21 MR GRAY: 22 The question that I'm asking at the moment, Q. Ms Marsic, is simply this: until the last 10 minutes, when 23 24 I've shown you this document, were you unaware that the problem identified in that last sentence under the heading 25 "Comment" had been identified as long ago as 2016? 26 Yes. 27 Α. 28 29 Q. On the next page, do you see a heading "Reconciliation Plan"? 30 Yes. 31 Α. 32 33 Q. By all means, take the time to read it all if you need to, but you'll see that in paragraph numbered 1 under that 34 35 heading, Mr Lehmann proposes a project to do something 36 about the problem that he has identified in this document. 37 He says phase 1 will be to have exhibits identified and matched to cases. Do you see that in that paragraph? 38 39 Α. I do. 40 41 Q. And then two paragraphs down, he says: 42 43 The second phase will be to generate files 44 to all Regions, Local Area Commands 45 and ... Crime Scene Offices requesting 46 a search/audit of all historic or long term homicide exhibits ... 47

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1 2 And so on? 3 Α. I see that. 4 5 Q. On the last page, if you turn over to the last page, under the heading "Time Frame", he says, "Phase 1 of the 6 project is currently under way", and he goes on to say what 7 he expects or anticipates might then happen. Do you see 8 9 that? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Now, are you, as of this afternoon, aware of any such Q. reconciliation plan ever having been implemented or 13 14 pursued? I do not know. 15 Α. 16 17 Has the topic ever been mentioned to you, that such Q. 18 a plan was proposed? 19 Α. No. 20 Does it come as a surprise to you that these problems 21 Q. 22 had been identified as long ago as 2016, given the evidence that we're about to come to in your affidavit as to matters 23 that you say came to the notice of the Unsolved Homicide 24 Team in the last 12 months? 25 26 I'm not surprised. Α. 27 28 Q. You're not surprised? Why is that? 29 Α. The organisation, NSW Police Force, is a very large organisation and I'm not completely aware of all projects 30 31 that are done within the organisation on exhibits 32 management or document management. 33 34 No doubt. I wouldn't suggest to the contrary. Q. But 35 let me put it this way: in the last 12 months, in the 36 context of this Inquiry, you have, at least at a supervisory level, been aware of the need for records to 37 be searched relevant to a reasonably large number of 38 unsolved homicide cases? 39 40 Α. Yes. 41 And you've been aware, at least at that level, 42 Q. 43 supervisory level, of what you were being told was being 44 done to try to meet the summonses? Yes. 45 Α. 46 And I take it - and I'll come to your affidavit in 47 Q. .13/07/2023 (76) 5262 N MARSIC (Mr Gray)

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detail, but you were told, I gather, is this right, at the 1 outset, that is, in May/June, let's say, last year, when 2 3 the first summonses were issued, that for hard-copy 4 records, one would simply go to the CRRIM resource? I was not specifically told that. When the first 5 Α. summonses and when the first letter came to NSW Police 6 7 Force on 4 May, I believe, from the Commission that 8 information would be required, what I did was I organised 9 appropriate resources with the appropriate expertise to 10 conduct the correct searches to retrieve that 11 documentation. 12 13 Q. Yes, but my question was, were you told or was it your 14 understanding that so far as hard-copy records were concerned, all one needed to do was to go to the CRRIM 15 16 resource? 17 Α. Can you just repeat that question? 18 19 Was it your understanding as at that beginning part of Q. 20 our Inquiry, about May, May/June last year, that so far as 21 hard-copy records were concerned in respect of the various 22 unsolved cases that you were being summoned for, all 23 hard-copy records would be found by going to CRRIM? No. I was aware that there could be hard-copy files 24 Α. stored at police stations. 25 26 27 You were aware of that from the outset, from May last Q. 28 year? 29 Α. Yes. 30 31 Q. How were you aware of that? 32 Through my experience, through working in the Α. 33 NSW Police Force. 34 And in May last year, when the first summons came in, 35 Q. 36 summons 1. were searches made not only of CRRIM but of local area commands for those documents? 37 I have been advised that the searches that were 38 Α. originally done did not include going to police stations, 39 40 that those searches were done through going to Corporate 41 Records or the CRRIM. 42 43 Q. And were you aware of that state of affairs at the 44 time? 45 Α. No. 46 When did you become aware of that state of affairs? 47 Q.

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I don't know the precise date, but I understand that 1 Α. 2 in October of last year, it was identified that there may 3 be material at police stations that had not been captured 4 through the searches that were done, and at some time 5 thereafter I was made aware of that. I cannot tell you the 6 exact date. 7 8 Sure. But I thought you had said a moment ago - and Q. 9 correct me if I've misunderstood this - that you yourself 10 already knew that, that it was necessary to go to police 11 stations? I knew that there could be material at police 12 Α. 13 stations. I did not know that those searches had not been 14 done. 15 16 Q. Let's turn, then, for the moment to your I see. 17 affidavit, if I could, and go to paragraph 12, [SCOI.84212_0001]. You tell us that the CDSIL team - which 18 is lawyers, I take it - is a team of 10? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 And in paragraph 17(b), as I understand it, you say Q. that of those 10, three have been appointed as dedicated 23 24 resources in connection with the work of this Inquiry? 25 Α. Yes. 26 When did that happen - that is to say, for how long 27 Q. 28 have there been three appointed, as you call it, dedicated 29 resources in connection with the Inquiry? I can't tell you the exact date that there were three. 30 Α. 31 So, initially, when we were informed that work from the 32 Commission would be coming in, the matter was allocated 33 to - we call the team CDSIL, was allocated to CDSIL, and 34 then the solicitors were allocated - the request goes to 35 the director, at the time it was Ms Claudia Pendlebury, and 36 then the director is responsible for allocating resources 37 within the team. So at that time I understand that Patrick Hodgetts was allocated the matter, so at that stage Patrick 38 was working on the matter and had assistance from other 39 40 solicitors as required, and the director was also then 41 involved in supervising that work. 42 43 Q. But when you say in 17(b) that you have appointed 44 three specifically from CDSIL, are the three Ms Garaty, 45 Mr Hodgetts and someone else? 46 Α. Yes, that's correct. 47

1 Q. And when did that become the case, that all three were 2 dedicated resources in this regard? 3 Α. That would - I can't tell you the exact date. 4 5 Q. No. but --It would have been not in the initial stages of the 6 Α. 7 Inquiry; that would have been last year sometime. 8 9 Q. Second half of last year sometime? 10 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. In paragraph 14 you say that it was recognised immediately - that is, immediately on publication of this 13 14 Inquiry's Terms of Reference - that it would require a substantial involvement from the police, including the 15 16 provision of records, et cetera. At that point, 17 I understand from what you've just told us, effectively 18 Mr Hodgetts was given the task of being the person from CDSIL to work on the matter? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 No doubt under the supervision of Ms Garaty, but at Q. that point she wasn't a dedicated resource to it? 23 24 At that point in time. it was Ms Pendlebury who was Α. the director of CDSIL until some time in July, and 25 26 thereafter it was under the supervision of Ms Garaty. 27 28 But at that point, at that original point, Q. Quite. 29 neither of those, first Ms Pendlebury, later Ms Garaty, was herself dedicated only to this task? 30 31 Α. No. 32 33 Q. But later on, is this right, Ms Garaty has been 34 dedicated only to this task? Well, she does do other duties, but 35 Α. That's correct. 36 the vast majority of her time is spent on the Inquiry. 37 38 Q. Thank you. Now, in paragraph 17(d) you talk about the engagement of an external law firm. That's Corrs, I take 39 40 it? 41 Α. Corrs, and at one point in time we had another firm 42 involved, which was Makinson d'Apice. 43 44 Q. As well? 45 Α. That's correct. They were instructed in October. 46 Who were? 47 Q.

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1 Α. Makinson d'Apice, as well as Corrs. 2 3 Are you saying that they're both currently working on Q. 4 it or --5 Α. No. Makinson d'Apice were engaged to assist with the preparation of some statements. Thereafter, as it became 6 7 apparent that the resources we needed were going to be more 8 than that firm could handle, we decided to get a larger 9 firm involved to assist with the production of material, 10 hence why Corrs was engaged. 11 12 So they came on board - that is, Corrs - when, about Q. 13 November or so, did they? 14 The first instructions were on 31 October, but there Α. was reading in and then obviously a build-up to becoming 15 16 more involved. 17 18 In paragraph 21(d) you tell us that you meet with the Q. 19 Commissioner of Police every fortnight and that she, the 20 Commissioner, was briefed on the Inquiry in its early 21 stages and that the Inquiry has been on the agenda at every 22 meeting you have had with her since then? 23 Α. Yes. 24 25 Q. I can have you shown this letter, if need be, but 26 I imagine you'd remember it. On 2 December last year, you 27 wrote a letter to the Commissioner about, among other 28 things, a relevance objection that was going to be taken as 29 to whether, among other things, Strike Force Parrabell was 30 within the Terms of Reference. Do you remember that? 31 I generally remember the letter, but I would like to Α. 32 be shown the letter if I need to recall its contents in 33 detail. 34 I wonder if that letter could be shown to 35 Q. Okay. 36 Ms Marsic, please [SCOI.82099 0001]. 37 Α. Thank you. 38 I don't need to take long on this, Ms Marsic, but 39 Q. 40 that's the letter we're talking about. Do you remember it 41 in general terms? 42 Α. Yes. 43 44 In paragraph 12 of that letter, where you are talking Q. 45 about resourcing matters, if I could speak generally, you 46 tell the Commissioner in this letter that: 47

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1	approximately 12 UHT investigations and			
2	reviews have had to be placed on hold while			
3	the relevant officers assist in the context			
4	of this Inquiry.			
5	or enro ingurry.			
6	Do you see that?			
	A. Yes.			
7	A. fes.			
8				
9	Q. Was that letter, the entirety of it, something on			
10	which the Commissioner was briefed at the time?			
11				
12	MR TEDESCHI: I object.			
13				
14	THE COMMISSIONER: Why? You say I should assume it's			
15	written on instructions?			
16				
17	MR TEDESCHI: No, Commissioner. It's one thing for			
18	a question that clearly raises privileged issues to be			
19	asked about the matters that concern the Terms of the			
20	Inquiry, that is, under the Terms of Reference.			
21				
22	THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.			
23				
24	MR TEDESCHI: It's quite another thing for a legal officer			
25	to be asked about instructions given or received in			
26	relation to a procedural matter as to how that party is			
27	approaching the Inquiry.			
28	approachting the inquiry!			
29	THE COMMISSIONER: Why?			
30				
31	MR TEDESCHI: It's completely different to being asked			
32	a question about, for instance, one of the matters that the			
33	Inquiry is investigating, where			
33 34	Inquiry is investigating, where			
34 35	THE COMMISSIONER: I think it's a rather important matter,			
35 36	though. It's a matter which, I presume, either I would			
37	infer was written on instructions or should have been, and			
38	it's an assertion that this Inquiry was having a particular			
39	effect on police activities. I can't believe that it would			
40	have been written other than on instructions, surely?			
41				
42	MR TEDESCHI: We would submit that it's not permissible			
43	for Counsel Assisting to seek to go behind			
44				
45	THE COMMISSIONER: No, well, if you're putting to me that			
46	I should proceed upon the basis that this was written on			
47	instructions, so be it.			

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1 2 MR TEDESCHI: No. What I'm submitting, Commissioner, is 3 that Counsel Assisting ought not to ask a question that's 4 clearly privileged. 5 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I will hear from Mr Gray on that, 6 but at the moment I'm disposed to either proceed upon the 7 8 basis that it would have or should have been written on 9 instructions, or was. Mr Gray, what do you want to say? 10 The question was actually, Commissioner, whether 11 MR GRAY: the Commissioner was briefed by Ms Marsic on what was going 12 to be in this letter. That, in my respectful submission, 13 14 doesn't involve raising any matter of privilege: was the Commissioner told that this letter was going to be sent? 15 16 That's all. 17 18 THE COMMISSIONER: Are you asking her whether she obtained instructions on the terms of the letter, in effect? 19 20 21 MR GRAY: No. I may want to ask her that, but at the 22 moment it is simply: was the Commissioner of Police aware 23 that this letter was going to be sent? 24 I'm not so sure. 25 THE COMMISSIONER: I think it does 26 travel a little into conversations between her and her I would certainly either proceed upon the basis 27 client. 28 that it should have been written on instructions, and, if 29 it weren't. I would be concerned, but I don't know that I would permit you to ask about conversations between 30 Ms Marsic and her client. 31 32 33 MR GRAY: I accept the ruling. I will move on. 34 35 Q. Ms Marsic, looking at the terms of that paragraph 12, though, of that letter of 2 December, is that still the 36 position - that is, 12 UHT investigations and reviews are 37 still on hold because of the need to assist this Inquiry? 38 39 Α. I do not know. 40 41 Q. Have you asked? 42 Α. No. 43 44 THE COMMISSIONER: But it was the fact, was it, at Q. 45 the date of 2 December? 46 Α. Yes. I was advised that. 47

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Q. 1 By whom? 2 I believe it would have been by either Ms Garaty or Α. 3 Mr Hodgetts. 4 5 Q. So it wasn't direct from any police officer? Α. 6 No. 7 8 MR GRAY: Q. Last week, Ms Marsic - and you can tell us if you are or are not aware of this - DCI Laidlaw gave 9 10 evidence that the UHT has stopped all triages so that it can assist the Inquiry. Is this something of which you're 11 12 aware? 13 MR TEDESCHI: Aware of the evidence or aware of the fact? 14 It's unclear. 15 16 17 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Gray will make it clear. 18 MR GRAY: I will make it more clear. 19 20 21 Q. First of all, are you aware that - I'll go back 22 a step. Was DCI Laidlaw one of the ones whose transcript 23 you read? Yes. 24 Α. 25 So are you aware that he gave evidence last week that 26 Q. the UHT has stopped all triages so that it could assist the 27 28 Inquiry? 29 Α. I am aware he gave that evidence. 30 31 And is that something of which you were aware prior to Q. 32 him giving that evidence? 33 Α. No. 34 35 Q. What is your reaction to it? 36 37 MR TEDESCHI: I object. Relevance. 38 THE COMMISSIONER: I will allow it. 39 40 41 MR TEDESCHI: Would you hear me, Commissioner? What possible assistance --42 43 44 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Tedeschi, I want to get to the bottom of the documentary issue in this case. If the 45 46 police are sadly lacking in resources, then something needs to be done about it. If police work is being held up as 47

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1 a result of an act of Executive Government, the public of 2 New South Wales ought to hear about it. I'm going to allow 3 it. Thank you. 4 What is your reaction to that evidence from 5 MR GRAY: Q. Mr Laidlaw that that's the position? 6 7 My reaction is that I do not know if it is correct or Α. 8 if it is not correct. 9 What would make you think that it might not be 10 Q. 11 correct? Because I had not been advised that - the advice that 12 Α. I had received previously was that there was an impact on 13 14 UHT reviews. I had never been advised that they had 15 stopped altogether. 16 Well, if his sworn evidence last week is correct, then 17 Q. that would be of some concern to you, presumably? 18 I'm not responsible for the work of UHT. They report 19 Α. 20 to an Assistant Commissioner, so the management of UHT work 21 is not an area that's in my responsibility. 22 Is it something that, in your fortnightly briefings of 23 Q. 24 the Commissioner, you would need to tell her? If I was aware that all UHT reviews or investigations 25 Α. 26 had ceased, that is something I would have brought to 27 either the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner David 28 Hudson's attention. 29 Q. And no doubt will now do so? 30 Mr Hudson - I have had a conversation with Mr Hudson, 31 Α. 32 and he is aware of this - of DCI Laidlaw's evidence. 33 34 Q. He is the Deputy Commissioner, did you say? Yep, Deputy Commissioner of Counter Terrorism and 35 Α. 36 Investigations, and the State Crime Command, of which UHT 37 is a part, reports to him. 38 And was he aware of the matters of which DCI Laidlaw 39 Q. 40 gave evidence about the triages having stopped? 41 Α. No. 42 43 Has the NSW Police sought additional resources to Q. 44 respond to this Inquiry or to try to meet the kind of logistical problems that this evidence from Mr Laidlaw 45 46 indicates are occurring? Do you mean for UHT or for my Office of the General 47 Α.

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Counsel? 1 2 3 Q. Either. 4 Α. For the Office of the General Counsel, the extra 5 resources that I have secured are in terms of Corrs. So. I recognised that our internal resources were not going to 6 be sufficient to meet the needs of the Inquiry, so we 7 8 instructed Corrs. The reason Corrs were instructed was so 9 that we had flexibility and could meet the needs of the 10 Inquiry as they surged and went down, so that we could scale up and scale down. That's why Corrs was chosen, 11 because they're a larger firm that had the capacity to be 12 13 flexible. 14 In terms of UHT, back in August 2022 I was made aware 15 16 I believe by Assistant Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald -I'm not a hundred per cent sure it was him, but I had 17 18 a conversation with someone from State Crime Command, who 19 advised me that responding to the Inquiry was having an 20 impact on the UHT's ability to conduct reviews. 21 22 After that conversation, I spoke to Deputy Commissioner David Hudson about those concerns. 23 As 24 a result of that conversation, Deputy Commissioner Hudson asked that a report be done to be tabled at the meeting of 25 26 the Commissioner's executive team. The Commissioner's 27 executive team meets fortnightly and is comprised of the 28 Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners of the 29 organisation. 30 That report was tabled on 12 September in 2022. 31 After 32 that, I understand three additional officers were allocated 33 to UHT to address the concerns. 34 In your affidavit, you tell us at 35 Q. Thank you for that. paragraph 17(a) that three officers from the UHT act as 36 37 dedicated resources to support the Inquiry. 17(a). Α. Yes. 38 39 40 Q. And I think you just said that by September, if I've 41 understood you correctly, or some time after that, an extra three were added to the UHT team; is that right? 42 43 So, in October/November the extra three were added. Α. 44 The three that I refer to in my affidavit are dedicated 45 resources. I understand - I don't have first knowledge of 46 this, but I have been advised that the UHT uses other 47 members of the UHT, again on a surge capacity as the needs

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1 are required, but the three officers that I refer to in my 2 affidavit are dedicated to the Inquiry. That means that 3 they're not the only officers that work on the Inquiry's 4 work. 5 Q. How many police officers are there in the UHT? 6 7 Α. I understand there are 34. 8 9 Q. And if three are dedicated to the Inquiry in the way 10 you've explained, and if others from time to time are also needed to help, why would it be necessary to stop all 11 triages? 12 13 Α. I do not know. 14 15 Q. Now, just moving to a more general topic at the 16 moment, CRRIM is sometimes referred to as Corporate 17 Records? That's correct. 18 Α. 19 20 Essentially, as I understand your affidavit, it deals Q. 21 with hard-copy records? 22 Α. That's correct. 23 24 Now, in your affidavit, if you look at paragraphs 23 Q. and 24, and perhaps also just refresh your memory of what 25 you say in paragraph 29 as well? 26 27 Mmm-hmm. Yes. Α. 28 29 Q. You're explaining there - and I am paraphrasing in a slightly generalised way - the fact that the information 30 management systems in question that you're talking about 31 32 there require what you call highly specialised knowledge and expertise and years of experience, or at least that's 33 what is brought to it? 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 37 Q. Now, if the information management system is such that it requires highly specialised knowledge and years of 38 practical experience to navigate it, does that indicate to 39 40 you that it might be in need of some modernisation or 41 simplification? That's outside my area of expertise. I don't have any 42 Α. 43 expertise in what's required in record management. 44 45 Q. Whose desk would that topic land on? 46 Α. That would be the Director of Corporate Records. 47

1 Q. That's the CRRIM entity? 2 Α. Yes, yes. 3 4 In paragraphs 25 to 28 you talk about some of the Q. 5 detail or the logistics of what CRRIM does and can do, and at 28 you say: 6 7 8 I believe it is generally known within the 9 [Police Force] that when a need to identify 10 historical records arises, that a request must be made to the CRRIM team. 11 12 13 Α. Yes. 14 You're aware from at least the two whose transcripts 15 Q. 16 you did read from last week, I take it, that they gave 17 evidence about, in reality, what CRRIM did and did not 18 actually hold in its records? 19 I might need - to be able to answer that correctly, Α. 20 I'd need to know what other records you mean. 21 22 I'll just remind you of some of the things that were Q. 23 said. Α. Yes. 24 25 Now, Ms Conroy, Assistant Commissioner Conroy -26 Q. I think you said you haven't read her evidence? 27 28 Α. No. 29 One of the things, if you can just assume this from 30 Q. me, about which she gave evidence was the plan that 31 32 DCI Lehmann had recommended be implemented in that document 33 that I took you to? 34 Yes. Α. 35 Assistant Commissioner Conroy gave evidence that she 36 Q. did not know whether that plan had ever been implemented or 37 not, herself? 38 Yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. She said it was possible that it had been implemented but that nobody had told her, if so. Just assume that that 42 43 was a paraphrase of her evidence on that topic. Then 44 Mr Warren, Detective Inspector Warren, gave evidence. He's 45 the one - I think you have read his transcript? 46 Yes, I have read his evidence. Α. 47

1 Q. One of the things that he gave evidence about was what it was that Corporate Records held, CRRIM held, and he was 2 3 asked by the Commissioner whether the records held by 4 Corporate Records were complete, and he accepted that if 5 hard-copy records had not been archived, either at all or inadequately, they would not in fact be within Corporate 6 7 Records; he accepted that? 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 Q. I think you're aware of that. And he accepted that hard-copy documents may in fact exist elsewhere, which have 11 not been archived, and they are therefore not part of the 12 Corporate Records system; he agreed with that? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 16 Q. Then, still with Mr Warren, he said that for his part, speaking for himself at least, he was not aware of that 17 state of affairs until working on this Inquiry over the 18 19 last 12 months or so? 20 Α. Yes. 21 22 Q. You're aware of that? 23 Α. Yes. 24 25 Q. However - now, Mr Doherty was someone whose evidence you read or didn't read? 26 27 Α. No. 28 29 Q. He's the Commander, Homicide --That's correct. Α. 30 31 32 -- at the present time. If you would accept this from Q. 33 me, he gave evidence that when he became Commander, which 34 was in December 2019, he was made aware of issues concerning the location, identification and reconciliation 35 36 of exhibits to do with Unsolved Homicide; he agreed that he 37 was. And he also agreed that it was well known, at least to him, that there were similar problems in relation to 38 documentary records, such as investigative files and 39 40 notebooks and the like, and he agreed that that was well 41 known as a problem at least by December 2019? 42 (Witness nods). Α. 43 44 You're nodding your head. Thank you. Q. Now, was that 45 well known to you earlier than - well, when did that become 46 known to you? I can't put, with any precision, a date or a year that 47 Α.

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1 I became aware of that. I was - I am aware that police 2 area commands have not archived all investigative files. 3 I am aware that there's material at police stations. As to 4 when I became aware of that, whether that was in my first 5 stint at police or now in my second stint. I would be misleading the Inquiry if I tried to pinpoint a date, but 6 7 certainly I am aware of that. 8 9 Q. And I'm not trying to pin you down to a date, either, 10 but you've obviously been aware for quite a while, at least 11 in general terms? Α. 12 Yes. I was aware before the Inquiry. 13 14 Just briefly, Mr Laidlaw, Detective Chief Inspector Q. Laidlaw, who is from the Unsolved Homicide Team - that's 15 16 right? What's his position at the Unsolved Homicide Team? 17 Α. I do not know. 18 19 Q. But it's a senior position, I take it? He's one of 20 the leaders of the team? 21 Α. I do not know. But as a Detective Chief Inspector, 22 that is a reasonably senior rank. 23 24 So he gave evidence that the reconciliation plan that Q. 25 DCI Lehmann had recommended back in 2016 was under way when he joined the UHT, which was in 2017. He did not know 26 whether it had been completed. And later in his evidence, 27 28 he agreed that although it was under way, as he understood 29 it, in relation to exhibits, as far as he knew, there was no similar project that had been undertaken in relation to 30 31 documentary records? 32 Α. Yes. 33 34 Q. And that's evidence that you've seen? 35 Α. Yes. 36 37 Q. Now, it seems, then, that it's been well known, at least within the UHT, or at least at some levels of the 38 UHT, for some years that not all available hard-copy 39 40 records will actually be archived and held by CRRIM? 41 Α. I can't comment on that. 42 43 Q. Well, that's the evidence that has been given, isn't 44 it? 45 Α. The evidence is - the evidence was that - from what 46 you have just told me was that Detective Superintendent 47 Doherty was aware of that.

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1 2 Q. And Detective Chief Inspector Laidlaw --3 That's correct. Α. 4 5 Q. -- whose evidence you've read? That's correct, but I can't say whether or not it was 6 Α. known more broadly beyond those two officers. 7 8 9 Q. His evidence was that all of those problems were 10 well-known problems at the time he joined in 2017. You 11 have read that? 12 Α. I can accept that he gave that evidence, but I have no 13 personal knowledge of whether or not that evidence is I have no personal knowledge of the UHT's 14 correct. understanding of those issues more broadly. 15 16 17 Q. All right, but would you agree with this, that if we are to accept his evidence - and there's no reason that I'm 18 19 aware of why we wouldn't accept his evidence - it was well 20 known within the UHT, at least from 2017, that these 21 problems existed? 22 23 MR TEDESCHI: I object. The question is the same as the answer, that my friend is saying, "If you accept the 24 25 evidence, then that evidence is correct", isn't it, 26 effectively? 27 28 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. That's all right. He gives his 29 evidence. 30 31 Q. Have you got any reason to doubt his evidence, though, 32 Ms Marsic? 33 Α. I have no reason to doubt it, but I also have no 34 personal knowledge of whether or not he's correct. 35 36 I'm not suggesting you do, and I don't think Mr Gray Q. is, but seemingly Mr Laidlaw is in a position to know, 37 isn't he, whereas you may not be? 38 I can't answer that. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. Well, he's in a better position, isn't he, to speak about what was or was not well known within UHT, 42 43 apparently, than you are, surely? 44 Correct. Α. 45 46 When you were, at least at your supervisory MR GRAY: Q. level, organising, if I may use that word, the response of 47

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1 the police to the summonses that were coming from the 2 Inquiry --3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Q. -- did you seek out the assistance of the leaders or heads of the Unsolved Homicide Team or only speak to 6 Mr Warren? 7 8 I spoke to, at the time, Claudia Pendlebury, and those Α. 9 discussions were had between Ms Pendlebury and the UHT. 10 Q. But who at the UHT? 11 Α. 12 I do not know. 13 14 Q. Ms Pendlebury, as you have explained, was the Director of CDSIL? 15 16 That's correct, until some time in July. Α. 17 18 Q. Yes, so not a police officer? That's correct. 19 Α. 20 21 Q. So you're saying that it was she, Ms Pendlebury, No. 22 and later Ms Garaty, who dealt with and conversed with whoever it was from the UHT, not yourself? 23 24 Α. That's correct. 25 And you don't know who it was from the UHT that they 26 Q. spoke to? 27 28 That's correct. Α. 29 Have you inquired, in preparation for today, as to who 30 Q. 31 they spoke to? 32 Α. No. 33 34 In paragraph 31 of your affidavit - and you make Q. similar points in later paragraphs as well - you say in the 35 36 third line, or starting from the first line, in the time since hard-copy records were provided in answer to the 37 initial summonses in June and August last year: 38 39 40 ... it has been ascertained by the OGC and 41 UHT teams ... that some hard copy records ... may be held in locations other than 42 43 those overseen by the CRRIM. 44 45 Α. Yes. 46 47 Q. The first question, I suppose, is: ascertained when

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1 and ascertained by whom? 2 Α. October 2022, by Mr Patrick Hodgetts. 3 4 Q. And how did he ascertain it? 5 Α. I understand that there was a letter from the Inquiry questioning the fact that there had not been a large amount 6 7 of material returned in relation to one of the cases and 8 that queries were made about whether or not there was 9 material available elsewhere that had not been found. 10 Q. Yes, and what happened? 11 I understand that Mr Hodgetts had a conversation with 12 Α. DI Warren, and thereafter it was decided to make inquiries 13 14 with police area commands. 15 16 Now, as we have seen from the Lehmann 2016 document Q. 17 and from the evidence that other officers gave last week. some within UHT, but evidently not Mr Warren, were aware of 18 19 this possibility years before October last year, weren't 20 they? 21 Α. From the evidence that you have read to me, yes. 22 But seemingly - again, not questioning anybody's 23 Q. evidence - seemingly nobody told Mr Warren that? 24 I do not know. 25 Α. 26 Well, seemingly not, because he says he didn't know? 27 Q. 28 I don't know whether or not he was told or not. Α. 29 THE COMMISSIONER: Q. But, again, you've got no reason 30 31 to doubt him when he says he wasn't told, have you? 32 Α. No. 33 34 MR GRAY: Q. When did Mr Warren become part of the UHT? I believe that is in my affidavit somewhere, but 35 Α. 36 I cannot recall exactly when he became - and I do recall that he mentioned that in his evidence, but I don't have 37 the date at the tip of - I don't recall the date. 38 39 40 Q. No doubt, the date is available somewhere. It's not 41 a quiz in this sense, Ms Marsic. 42 Yes, I don't recall the date. Α. 43 44 But he's the person, as I understand it - again, no Q. 45 criticism of him - who has been allocated as the kind of 46 point man within UHT to be dealing with these summonses? That's correct. 47 Α.

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1 2 Q. And although others in the UHT knew about this problem 3 about documents being located outside the realm of CRRIM, 4 he didn't, it seems? 5 Α. That's the evidence that he gave. 6 7 When you tell us what you do tell us in paragraph 31, Q. 8 did you or anyone else from OGC or the police inform the 9 Inquiry that this realisation had been arrived at in about 10 October last year? I do recall reading somewhere, but I cannot specify 11 Α. 12 exactly where, that at some point in time when what we 13 refer to as the "PAC sweep" was undertaken, that the 14 Inquiry was informed that that was taking place. I don't 15 recall where I read that, but I do recall reading that the 16 Inquiry was informed. So it would have been after October. 17 18 Well, do you accept that it - I'm not sure myself Q. 19 whether that's right or not, but putting aside whether it's 20 right or not, you would accept that the Inquiry should have been informed? 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 24 In paragraph 44, if you just read that to yourself, Q. are you there essentially saying the same thing as we just 25 26 looked at in paragraph 31 - namely, is 44 also telling us 27 that, although it doesn't use a date, until about October 28 '22, you thought CRRIM would have all the hard-copy records, and only after October '22 did you realise, or did 29 somebody realise, that that wasn't right? 30 31 Are you asking about my personal knowledge at that Α. 32 time or the knowledge of the team that --33 34 I'm asking you whether 44 is saying anything different Q. from 31, and, if it is, could you tell us what it is? 35 Prior to October 2022, I believe paragraph 31 and 36 Α. 37 paragraph 44 are saying that the OGC team and UHT teams believed that the inquiries with CRRIM would capture the 38 39 records. 40 41 Q. Yes. So that, in effect, they're saying the same 42 thing --43 Α. Yes. 44 45 Q. -- in different words? 46 Α. Yes. 47

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1 Q. That's what I'm asking. 2 Α. Yes, yes. 3 4 Does the same also apply to 47? Is that essentially Q. 5 telling us the same thing? Yes. 6 Α. 7 8 Q. Now, if it's the case that although Mr Warren only 9 realised that at about that time, others within UHT, 10 including persons senior to him, such as Mr Laidlaw, had been aware of it for years, does that indicate a failure of 11 communication within UHT? 12 13 Α. I can't comment on communication at UHT. 14 Q. Can't you? 15 16 Α. No. 17 18 Q. Does it indicate a failure of communication that 19 Mr Warren wasn't told? 20 I don't know why Mr Warren was not aware of that fact. Α. 21 22 Well, if others knew and he didn't, someone would need Q. 23 to tell him, wouldn't they? 24 I don't know how - what communication is done in UHT Α. in relation to those types of issues. 25 26 27 Now, more generally, given what you've Q. I see. 28 explained in your affidavit, including - I don't restrict 29 it to this - paragraph 43 and paragraph 62, and by all means take a moment to look at those two if you would, 43 30 31 and 62. 32 Α. Was it 62, the second paragraph? 33 34 Q. Yes. Yes. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. Now, my question is simply this: clearly, there is a very large quantity of documentary records in hard-copy 38 form in the possession of the police; that's very plain 39 40 from your evidence? I can't comment on the proportion of hard-copy files 41 Α. 42 to electronic --43 44 Q. No, that's not my question. Just putting electronic 45 to one side. 46 Α. Mmm-hmm. 47

1 Q. There are obviously a lot of hard-copy records, 2 hundreds of thousands of documents, I think, on your --3 Α. Yes. 4 And you say, very fairly - no criticism is being 5 Q. Yes. made - in paragraph 62 that notwithstanding that very 6 extensive searches, and so on, have been made, you can't 7 8 exclude the possibility, although you think the risk is 9 minimal, that there could still be some that haven't been 10 located? That's correct. 11 Α. 12 13 Q. Right. Now, my question is this: has consideration 14 been given to, first of all, digitising all the hard-copy 15 records? 16 Are you referring to all the hard-copy records that Α. have been provided to the Commission, or generally? 17 18 19 Q. No, generally. I'm talking about Unsolved Homicide, 20 I'm talking about the records at CRRIM and though. 21 wherever else they may be that are in hard copy? 22 I understand that there is a project on foot, Α. I believe that it's led by Corporate Records, to get all 23 24 the hard-copy documents that are in police area commands into CRRIM so that they're no longer stored at police 25 26 stations. I'm not aware of whether or not that project 27 involves digitising that material. 28 29 Q. Are you able to express a view as to whether you think it should - that is to say, whether digitising such 30 material would be desirable? 31 32 It would be desirable from the perspective of being Α. 33 able to more readily access that material, but I think 34 there would be a very significant number of factors that would need to be considered about whether or not that could 35 36 be done, and given I don't have expertise in records 37 management, I'm not really in a position to comment. 38 I was going to ask you, but you may have partially 39 Q. 40 answered this in an answer a moment ago, has consideration been given to conducting a comprehensive audit of all 41 possible repositories of documentary records in relation to 42 43 unsolved homicides? 44 As I said, I'm aware that there's - I'm aware at Α. 45 a very high level. I don't have any visibility in detail, 46 but I am aware at a high level that there is a project currently under way to get all the hard-copy records from 47

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1 police stations into Corporate Records. 2 3 And the idea would be, if you were able to tell us, Q. 4 that they would then at least be consolidated all in the 5 one place, as far as it was possible to achieve that; is 6 that --7 In the one place in terms of some of it, I would Α. 8 understand, would be stored - there's different facilities 9 that CRRIM run, so - but it would be all under the control 10 of CRRIM. 11 12 Now, in paragraph 46 you say that your understanding Q. from discussions with the UHT team in preparing this 13 affidavit is that for summons 4, which was August 2022 --14 15 Α. Mmm-hmm. 16 17 Q. -- and for the summonses issued thereafter. UHT has 18 undertaken searches for the responsive records in the 19 following ways, and then there are eight subparagraphs of 20 different kinds of searches that have been undertaken? 21 Α. Yes. 22 Now, are you saying that since August 2022, all of 23 Q. 24 these eight different methods have been checked for all summonses from the Special Commission? 25 26 Α. From summons 4. 27 28 Which was August. So are you saying that, from then, Q. 29 all of these eight methods have been done for every summons? 30 Yes. 31 Α. 32 33 Q. And did you go back, then, in or after August and redo 34 what had been done hitherto in respect of summonses prior 35 to summons 4? So with summonses 1 and 3. the PAC - there was a PAC 36 Α. 37 sweep, which we've referred to in my affidavit. 38 39 Q. A PAC sweep, I gather, means check with all the police 40 stations? 41 Α. That's correct. So all the police stations were checked because that had become identified. 42 The other 43 thing that was done was that it was identified that when 44 material had been given to Corporate Records, that the 45 naming conventions were not consistent and were varied, and 46 so further searches were done on different search terms to try and capture - to see if any further records would be 47

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1 picked up by doing broader search terms. 2 3 In terms of summonses 1 and 3, I'd have to seek 4 instructions, for example, in relation to computer systems, 5 as those - I understand those records were historic, and 6 I'm not sure - I don't know whether or not those summonses called for exhibits. 7 8 9 Q. All right, put exhibits to one side for the moment. 10 But the other - putting exhibits to one side, were these other methods, then, adopted in or after August, back for 11 12 those that had been previously responded to by means that did not include all of these different checking methods? 13 14 I'm not 100 per cent sure whether or not all of these Α. methods were done. What I have been advised is that all of 15 16 the searches that were deemed to be appropriate for 17 summonses 1 and 3 - I understand summons 2 was for an 18 appearance, so I exclude summons 2, so talking about 19 summonses 1 and 3, that all the places where it was thought 20 material responsive to the summonses would be located, all 21 of those searches have been done. 22 Right. 23 Q. And from an answer you gave earlier, your understanding or recollection is that you think that the 24 Commission was informed in October or some time after 25 26 October that these further checks and searches were being 27 undertaken? 28 I understand the Commission was informed that the PAC Α. 29 sweep was being done, which was going back to the police area commands to do. 30 31 32 Only that? You think it was just the PAC sweep that Q. 33 the Commission was told about? 34 Yes. Α. 35 36 But not all the things that are listed in Q. 37 paragraph 46? I do not know whether all of - if the Commission was 38 Α. 39 informed of all of those things. 40 41 All right. In paragraph 49, where you've just been Q. 42 talking in the paragraph before about the PAC sweep, or PAC 43 sweeps - in paragraph 49 you say that Mr Hodgetts and 44 DCI Warren determined that further steps should be taken to 45 ensure that the police had provided a complete set of 46 hard-copy records in response to summonses issued, and then 47 you say that:

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4	
1	The [nolice] determined to undertake these
2	The [police] determined to undertake these
3	steps at its own initiative
4	
5	What do you mean by saying that?
6	A. That Mr Hodgetts and UHT discovered that there may be
7	material responsive to the summonses 1 and 3 at PACs and
8	therefore they decided to go back through all the
9	schedules, like all the names that are attached to
10	summonses 1 and 3, and go to all the police area commands
11	to ask whether or not there was material - ask them to
12	search whether or not there was material responsive to the
13	summonses there.
14	
15	Q. Yes, so they were steps they were taking that they
16	realised, by then, were necessary to ensure compliance with
17	the summonses?
18	A. Correct.
19	
20	Q. So it's not really right to say that they were doing
21	it at their own initiative, is it? Weren't they doing it
22	in order to comply properly with the summonses?
23	A. Yes, because - but they identified that that was
24	a step that needed to be taken, and so they did it, because
25	they understood the - they understood their ongoing
26	obligations under the summonses and wanted to provide the
27	Inquiry with all the relevant material.
28	
29	Q. Okay. And when you say the same thing in
30	paragraph 57, that something was done at the initiative of
31	the police
32	A. Yes.
33	
34	Q you mean that in the same way?
35	A. Yes. They identified that perhaps there was material
36	responsive to the summonses that could be found by
37	a different method of inquiry, and they realised that that
38	had not been done, so they took those steps because they
39	realised they had an ongoing obligation.
40	four toou they had an ongoing obrigation.
40 41	Q. Thank you for that. In paragraph 56 you tell us that
41	Mr Hodgetts became aware of another possible need for
42	further work in April 2023, when Senior Sergeant Coady of
43	FE&TS spoke to him about one particular case, and it was
44 45	realised that the early summonses, by which I imagine you
45 46	mean 1 and 3 perhaps
40 47	A. That's correct.
71	

1 -- would need to be revisited for that additional or 2 Q. 3 different reason? 4 Α. That's correct. 5 Now, was the Inquiry told that that realisation had 6 Q. 7 been formed and that this additional work was being done, 8 starting from April? I do not know. 9 Α. 10 Do you think it should have been told? 11 Q. 12 Α. I believe that would have depended on their views on 13 the likelihood of those searches retrieving further 14 At a point where it became apparent that information. those extra searches would retrieve further information, 15 16 I agree, at that point in time or shortly thereafter, the 17 Inquiry should have been made aware. 18 19 Because as I understand it - correct me if Q. Thank you. 20 I'm wrong - the realisation, and I'm speaking a little 21 broadly, not just about Mr Seymour, was that you get 22 different results depending on what you plug in to the 23 search? 24 Α. That's right. 25 26 And that realisation only dawned on people - and I'm Q. not being critical - according to your evidence, in April 27 28 2023; correct? 29 Α. Yes. 30 Right, and so that meant, again speaking generally, 31 Q. 32 that the possibility was then live in if not your mind but 33 in the minds of Mr Hodgetts and others that maybe the 34 searches that had been done in any number of cases up to that point may not have been sufficiently comprehensive, 35 36 because there may be other search terms that really would need to be tried --37 Yes. 38 Α. 39 40 Q. -- to see what else you might turn up; correct? 41 Α. Yes. 42 43 Q. And, therefore, the realisation that was being formed 44 was that earlier productions of documents may well not have 45 been complete, because it hadn't, until then, been 46 appreciated that these other possibilities need to be 47 tried?

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Α. Yes. 1 2 3 So you would agree, wouldn't you, that as at April Q. 4 2023, when at that point the deadline for the Inquiry was 5 30 June, it would have been essential to tell the Inquiry that that possibility existed, wouldn't it? 6 7 I would have thought that that would become essential Α. 8 once they understood that those extra searches were going 9 to retrieve further documents, not necessarily at the point 10 in time that they decided to do the extra searches, because they had - they didn't know whether or not that would 11 return further material. 12 13 14 Q. They knew that it had had that effect in one case? Yes. 15 Α. 16 17 Q. And they, therefore, very reasonably, thought to themselves, well, it might have that effect in other cases. 18 Shouldn't the Inquiry have been told that as at April? 19 20 I believe that they should have told the Inquiry once Α. 21 they formed the view that those extra searches would 22 uncover further information. 23 24 Q. So when it was only a possibility, there was no need 25 to tell the Inquiry? 26 I think that's reasonable if they're double-checking Α. 27 things but they have no knowledge that that will in fact 28 produce further material. 29 30 Let me take you to 58 in your affidavit. You Q. I see. 31 refer there to one particular incident where, on 1 June 32 this year, a bit over a month ago, someone at UHT 33 identified some boxes containing hard-copy files in 34 a storage room at the UHT premises --Mmm-hmm. 35 Α. 36 37 Q. -- and it turned out that there was material in that, or in those boxes, which needed to be produced? 38 Yes. 39 Α. 40 41 Q. Now, you say that DI Warren informed you that he is satisfied that there are no other hard-copy files held by 42 43 the UHT that have not previously been produced? 44 Α. Yes. 45 46 On what basis is he satisfied of that, so far as you Q. 47 know?

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I do not know on which basis he has formed that view. 1 Α. 2 3 Q. Did you ask him? 4 Α. No. 5 Q. Are we to understand that this particular incident in 6 June, where, at the UHT premises themselves, in a storage 7 8 room, were boxes containing hard-copy files, that the discovery in that regard just happened by chance? 9 10 Α. I do not know whether that happened by chance or whether they actively looked in that room. 11 I don't know. 12 13 Q. And in relation to the PAC sweeps, which refer to the 14 police stations, was the sweep done by sending a letter or email or some communication to police stations saying, 15 "Please check for the following", or did UHT physically go 16 17 to the police stations and check themselves? A communication - I believe it was an email - was sent 18 Α. 19 to the relevant police area commands, to the Commander and 20 I believe it was the staff officer, asking them to search 21 for these documents. 22 And they were to do, what, just search in any possible 23 Q. 24 cupboard or back room or the like, or what was the nature 25 of the search they were asked to carry out? 26 I don't have a copy of the email that was sent to the Α. 27 police area commands, so I can't advise you in particular 28 detail exactly whether it was a general request, "Can you 29 please search your records", or, "Can you please look in X, Y and Z locations." 30 31 32 Thank you. Just a couple of questions about the Q. 33 Parrabell part of your affidavit. 34 Α. Yes. 35 36 In paragraph 72 you tell us that you were informed by Q. Messrs Grace and Bignell that the Parrabell investigators 37 obtained as much material as possible from sources, and I'm 38 leaving out a few words, but I don't mean you to ignore 39 40 them - by all means, read the whole thing, but you say 41 "from sources including" those listed in (a) to (e). Do 42 you see that? Yes. 43 Α. 44 45 Q. Now, are there other sources that, as you understand 46 it, Parrabell sought documents from, or just those five? My knowledge is limited to those five. 47 Α.

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1 Because that's what --2 Q. 3 That's what I've been advised. Α. 4 That's what Messrs Grace and Bignell have told you? 5 Q. 6 Α. (Witness nods). 7 8 So if they searched - sorry, if Parrabell went further Q. afield than that, you haven't been told that? 9 10 Α. That's right. 11 So, earlier in your affidavit, when you talk about the 12 Q. things that are being done now for this Inquiry, at 13 14 paragraph 46, and you list quite a number of ways of looking for documents, eight in all, some of which have 15 16 some sub-components --17 Α. Yes. 18 19 -- you don't know - again, this is not said Q. 20 critically - you don't know if Parrabell employed any or 21 all of those? 22 Α. No. 23 24 Q. You don't know, for example, whether Parrabell approached police stations or local area commands? 25 26 I do not know. Α. 27 28 Q. Or the DPP? 29 Α. I do not know. 30 31 Then I think finally, Ms Marsic, in paragraph 77 -Q. 32 there's a couple of paragraphs I want to take you to, but 33 in paragraph 77 you say that the e@gle.i file for 34 Parrabell, which, as you say, has been provided to the Inquiry - you say it's likely to be a fulsome record of the 35 36 bulk of the documents, exhibits or other material reviewed by Parrabell that was considered relevant to the Parrabell 37 exercise by investigators? 38 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 Q. Now, when you say it's "likely to be a record of the bulk of the documents", could you help us with what's meant 42 43 by that? 44 What is meant by that is I wasn't part of the Α. 45 Parrabell strike force, and I'm providing advice that 46 I have been given that the officers put the relevant 47 material on e@gle.i.

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1 2 Q. You pick up on the word "relevant", which is what 3 I was about to ask you. Do you know what criteria or 4 criterion they used for "relevant"? 5 Α. No. 6 7 So it appears - the word "relevant" appears in 77, Q. 8 which I just took you to, in the third-last line, and it 9 also appears, in slightly different form, in paragraph 78, 10 where you say that there is no record of material that was considered but deemed irrelevant? 11 That's right. 12 Α. 13 14 And that's, again, what you have been told? Q. 15 Α. That's right. 16 17 Q. And then in 84 you say it's impossible to ascertain 18 every single document or other material considered by Parrabell, because no record was kept of material that was 19 20 not considered relevant? 21 Α. That's correct. 22 So on the e@gle.i, 22,000-document storage platform, 23 Q. 24 we have, as you understand it, everything that they 25 considered and regarded as relevant? 26 Α. Correct. 27 28 But as to what they cast aside as not being relevant, Q. 29 we don't know what that was, and you don't know what that 30 was? I do not know what that was. 31 Α. 32 And it seems they don't know; is that what we 33 Q. 34 understand from how they've explained it to you? I do not know what - I do not know what their 35 Α. 36 knowledge is, but I understand that what is on e@gle.i is 37 what was relevant and that I certainly do not know what was discarded. 38 39 40 Q. No, but you say in paragraph 84 that no record was 41 kept --That's correct. 42 Α. 43 44 Q. -- ie, by them, of what they discarded? 45 Α. That's correct. 46 47 MR GRAY: Those are my questions, Commissioner.

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1 Yes, Mr Tedeschi. 2 THE COMMISSIONER: 3 4 MR TEDESCHI: Commissioner --5 Sorry, I beg your pardon. I'm sorry. I need to 6 MR GRAY: tender Ms Marsic's affidavit, which would be exhibit 58. 7 8 9 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, certainly. Thank you. 10 EXHIBIT #58 AFFIDAVIT OF MS MARSIC DATED 26 JUNE 2023 11 [SCOI.84212 0001] 12 13 THE COMMISSIONER: 14 Yes. 15 16 MR TEDESCHI: Commissioner, could I have a couple of 17 minutes to consult with Ms Marsic? 18 THE COMMISSIONER: 19 Certainly. I will go off the bench for 20 a short time. 21 22 SHORT ADJOURNMENT 23 MR TEDESCHI: Commissioner, I don't have any questions by 24 way of re-examination of Ms Marsic. 25 26 27 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. 28 29 MR TEDESCHI: Might I raise another issue, if she could be excused? 30 31 32 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, certainly. 33 <THE WITNESS WITHDREW 34 35 Commissioner, in the letter from the Inquiry MR TEDESCHI: 36 to the police of 29 June 2023, Mr Camporeale raised, at the 37 bottom of the first page, the consideration of an issue 38 noted in relation to the Terms of Reference concerning 39 40 submissions in relation to questions of procedural fairness 41 of witnesses who haven't been called. 42 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. 43 44 45 MR TEDESCHI: We're mindful of the fact that we can't do 46 our oral submissions until not only have those submissions been made by both sides but we know what your decision is. 47

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1 THE COMMISSIONER: About what? 2 3 4 MR TEDESCHI: About the question of --5 THE COMMISSIONER: The witnesses? 6 7 8 MR TEDESCHI: The issue of procedural fairness and whether 9 it is appropriate for the Inquiry to accept suggestions 10 that have been made adverse to people who haven't been 11 called. 12 THE COMMISSIONER: 13 Yes. 14 MR TEDESCHI: That's an issue on which we wish to be 15 16 heard --17 I understand. 18 THE COMMISSIONER: 19 20 MR TEDESCHI: -- and we wish to make written submissions, 21 and we need to know your decision before we can do our oral 22 submissions on hearing number 2. 23 THE COMMISSIONER: 24 Yes. 25 So I wanted to ask, Commissioner, whether 26 MR TEDESCHI: you would like to set a timetable and --27 28 29 THE COMMISSIONER: Not at the moment, thank you. I will 30 not proceed with any matter until you are given proper 31 opportunity to be heard on the matter. I have made that 32 clear the other day, but I can reiterate it now. It's 33 under active consideration, for obvious reasons, but all 34 I will tell you is, at the moment, we will let you know promptly and you will be given every opportunity to say 35 36 whatever it is you want to say about any matter concerning any witness and any finding that might be open to me as 37 a result of submissions that have been already prepared. 38 39 40 MR TEDESCHI: All right. 41 42 THE COMMISSIONER: And you will be given that opportunity 43 I hope very soon, but there are other matters beyond your 44 client's concern about that that I need to take into 45 account. Be assured, though, it is being given active 46 consideration. 47

1 MR TEDESCHI: All right. 2 THE COMMISSIONER: 3 And I'm not going to do anything unless 4 and until you are all given - your side is given a reasonable opportunity to address the question. 5 6 7 MR TEDESCHI: All right. I would like to be able to make 8 those submissions myself, and I have let my learned friend 9 know that there is a week when I am unavailable, from 10 26 July up to and including 1 August, so I just wanted 11 to --12 Well, what I will do is I will take 13 THE COMMISSIONER: 14 that into account, clearly, and as before and as has been the case to date, I will do everything possible to 15 16 accommodate your unavailability in that time. 17 18 MR TEDESCHI: Thank you. 19 20 THE COMMISSIONER: There won't be any inconvenience or 21 disadvantage as a result of you being away in that time, 22 but I'm not going to guarantee it, but as has been the case to date, I will take that clearly into account, given the 23 importance of that issue, and I fully appreciate the 24 25 significance of it. 26 27 MR TEDESCHI: Thank you, Commissioner. 28 29 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. That having been said. 30 I will now adjourn. Thank you. 31 32 AT 3.33PM THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY WAS ADJOURNED 33 ACCORDINGLY 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

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