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# QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

# Statement of Witness

Name of Witness	Lorraine Joan HAYWARD			
Date of Birth	07/12/1942			
Address and contact details	Known to Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER			
Occupation	Shift Supervisor – BYDC			
Officer taking statement	Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER			
Date taken	31/10/2012			

# I, Lorraine Joan HAYWARD state;

- 1. I am former employee of the Department Children's Services, [herein referred to as the department].
- 2. I commenced employment with the department in 1983 as a nurse at the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre [SLWYC]. When John Oxley Youth Centre [JOYC] opened in 1987, I took up the position of youth worker. I remained employed at JOYC until it was decommissioned in 2001 at which time I was transferred to the newly opened Brisbane Youth Detention Centre. I have continued employment at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre and currently hold the position of shift supervisor.
- 3. During my employment at JOYC I recall there having been several managers over the years. In no particular order I recall managers Peter Coyne, Ian McIntyre, Barry Collins, Paul Carter and a Tony Kelly. I recall that Anne Dutney was the Centre's deputy manager when Peter Coyne was the manager, and that another of the deputy managers had been Jenny Foote.

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4. I have good recollection of fellow employees who worked at JOYC over the years. Staff members I recall are:

#### Youth Workers:

Paul Hamson, Olly Isaacs, Terry Owens (deceased), Wayne 'Barney' Armstrong, Gordon Teasdale, Peter Griffin, Lex Clements, Brendan Collins, Mark Freemantle, Danny Lannen, Marj Judd, Peter McNeven, Marinna Pearce, Sabina Konnicanin, Brian Cartledge, Bruce Cassidy (later section supervisor), Warren Christensen, Michael Roch, June West, Irene Colmer, Di Fields, Jan French, Trudy Lewis (casual), Bronwyn Marshall, Mark Mills, Lola Nolan, 'Archie' Olde Wobblers, Peter Palmer, Brad Parfitt, Rodney Reston (later shift supervisor), John Walker, Jill Wesche, Narend Nath, Ken Gerke, Darren Leahy, Carmel Belford, Margaret Heur, Grace Chong, Helen Neville (Indigenous care worker), Patrick Kendall, David Lloyd, James Douglas (deceased), Chris Edwards (deceased), Bruce Goggins, Owen Morrison, and Earl Ramsden.

## Section Supervisor/Unit Managers

Col Bray, Trevor Cox, Eileen Bisby, Fred Feige, David Smith, Gordon Hopps, and Darryl Hood (deceased).

Principal Youth Workers

Ray Bentley, Lyn Draper, Rudi Pekelharing, and Gary Truloff.

Mechanic

Alex Meulenberg.

**Teachers** 

Gordon Cooper, Karen Merciadies, Peter Williams (principal), Sarah Moynihan, Cindy Ranger (Art), and Linda De Lewynn (art).

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Nurse

Lorraine McGregor & 'Kit'.

Cooks

Scott Healing (Later youth worker), Jane Mumford, Kerry Deakin and Dave Hirukino.

Kitchen/Domestic/Cleaner

Gloria McNeven, Josie Russo and Deride Duncan.

Alarm Watchers

Stephen Hayward and Maree Coyne.

Social / Case workers

Marion Thompson (case) and Gary Thompson (social).

**Psychologist** 

Jeff Manitzky

Administration

Gayle Aitkenhead, Brian Parker and Jody Preston.

- 5. I recall various issues arising over the years at JOYC. Several major issues involved lack of staff training; absence of duress systems (later address through employment of alarm watchers); an influx of older children from Westbrook who changed the dynamics of the centre, and the children generally being violent. Further, JOYC itself had not been purpose built as it contained porcelain toilets, glass showers etc. This resulted in the violent children causing extensive damage by smashing up furnishings and kicking down doors.
- 6. Peter Coyne, who was an early manager, was a fine choice for the model on which JOYC was originally designed. That is, looking after children transitioning

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from the youth justice system or from care and protection orders. However, later on after JOYC received an influx of older more violent children from Westbrook, Peter lost support and the centre lost control.

- 7. One example I can provide relates to a riot in which Sabina and I were involved in. On that occasion the older children were running through the centre, smashing portals and releasing others from their rooms. The children ran riot in the secure yard and were allegedly engaging in sex. Sabina and I locked ourselves in the 'bubble' as older male detainees tried to break in as they threatened us with rape. I recall being on the phone asking for support and was told by those downstairs, (Trevor Cox and Lyn Draper), that they were contacting Police. I clearly remember that no one came to our assistance except Peter Coyne which we were very thankful for.
- 8. I myself never had cause or reason to make complaint about Peter Coyne. I do recall at one stage putting in a letter of support for Peter. I cannot remember who I gave this to or how I came to put one in, but remember feeling the need to because of staff making unfair complaints about Peter.
- 9. During my conversation with Detective Parer she produced to me a copy of a hand written document dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 1989. I observed this document to be written in my hand and signed by me. Upon review of this document it appears to be a letter I had written in support of Peter Coyne, and from its address, I had forwarded on to the Queensland State Services Union of which I was a member. I do not have recollection of having written this letter as it was so long ago however can confirm that it is my writing and bears my signature.
- 10. During my time at JOYC I recall an inquiry which was conducted by Mr Heiner. From memory you weren't obliged to speak with Mr Heiner, but it was made known that he would attending JOYC and could go and speak with him if you had concerns or even if you didn't have concerns. From memory it was all about the functioning and management of JOYC. I recall going and speaking with Mr

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Heiner. We spoke in the conference room at JOYC and something makes me think there may have been a second person there taking notes but I'm not sure. I think I may have spoken to Mr Heiner about events at the centre such as the riots and duress alarms. I have no recollections of speaking with Mr Heiner about any allegations or concerns about sexual abuse.

- 11. In relation to allegations of sexual abuses within the youth detention system, I can only offer the following information to the Child Protection Commission of Inquiry.
- 12. I recall an occasion involving one of the young female detainees Annette Harding. From memory she had been on an Education Queensland field excursion and at some stage made the allegation she had been raped whilst on the excursion. I did not attend that excursion and did not have direct involvement in it. I think the school principal, Karen Merciadies and possibly Fred Feige had been on the excursion. I do not know how Annette had made the disclosures I just assumed it may have been to the principal. I do recall later having to sit with Annette when she was interviewed by Police who attended the centre. I believe it had been a police officer I know as Mal Elliot from the Inala Juvenile Aid Bureau who had attended and spoken with Annette whilst I was there. I cannot recall what was said during that conversation between Annette and Mal or what ended up happening after that. I think I may have been asked to sit in as I was likely to have been the most senior youth worker on staff that afternoon.
- 13. Whilst recounting this event Detective Parer she produced to me a photocopy of a typed written document dated the 28<sup>th</sup> May 1998. I reviewed this document and confirmed that it appears to be a true copy of a document authored and signed by me. From reading this document I see that it referred to me being in attendance whilst Police spoke with Annette about the incident as outlined in paragraph 12, however it names Police women Podlick and Tomsett being present. I do not recall these officers. I still believe that Mal had attended at some stage. I do not remember why I prepared that statement or who may have asked me to but

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acknowledge that it bears my signature. I do not know what happened to this document after I completed it, however as it is addressed to Peter, and I can only imagine I forwarded it to the manager of JOYC.

- 14. Another incident I recall involves a child named had been on an excursion to Wivenhoe dam and had allegedly been sexually assaulted. I think it may have involved her being in a canoe and youth worker having been involved. Again I was not on this excursion and only learned of it through whispers between JOYC staff. I think and may have been on that excursion. I do not know how this matter was dealt with at the time but remember that disappeared almost straight afterwards.
- 15. I recall whispers of youth worker who was said to have entered the room of a young person. Again I was not direct witness to this and only ever heard whispers and rumours. From memory there was comment made that after had been released from detention she and had hooked up and they had kids together. I never observed any inappropriate contact between them. I can't recall what happened to have entered who was said to have entered the room of a young person. Again I was not direct witness to this and only ever heard whispers and rumours. From memory there was comment had hooked up and they had kids together. I never observed any inappropriate contact between them. I can't recall what happened to have entered who was said to have entered the room of a young person.
- 16. There were whispers at one time, later on in the years, about a male youth worker, whose name I cannot recall, apparently having sexual relations with a male detainee for favours. I remember this was said to have occurred in the Stradbroke wing, which was built later in the years of JOYC. I did not witness any of those events and do not recall who was involved.
- 17. Whilst was manager there were whispers that one of the female youth workers, had entered one of the male detainee's room. The male detainee had been around 16 years old I think. Again I do not know the circumstances and did not witness anything myself. just disappeared from the centre after that.

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- 18. Another incident I can recall related to a female youth worker, who I would describe as having large boobs. Apparently she had been involved in some sort of sexual incident in the laundry area with one of the older male detainees. I learned of this incident through staff whispers and do not have direct knowledge of this event. This female youth worker just disappeared from the staff after that.
- 19. Other information I recall is that I heard through the grape vine that the old manager of JOYC, was said to have been charged for child pornography some time after he had left JOYC. I cannot recall how I learned of this information and can not offer any direct knowledge about this allegation.
- 20. The final allegation of sexual abuse I can recall occurred some 3-4 years ago. A female youth worker was rumoured to have been entering in to the room of an 18 year old Maori detainee at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre. I remember it came to light or was spoken about after the male detainee had been released. He had returned to New Zealand and the youth worker was rumoured to have returned with him. Shortly after he had apparently dumped her. Again I do not have direct knowledge of this matter and provide hearsay information only. I think this incident may have occurred whilst was the manager and that the incident had occurred in the unit.
- 21. Other than the document referred to in paragraph 13 of this statement, at no time have I ever made report of any sexual abuse allegations during my time in youth detention centres. I have not done so as I have never directly observed any incident nor have I had disclosures made to me directly.
- 22. During my employment at JOYC I recall that I was asked to be involved in the Forde Inquiry. I remember having to attend court and giving evidence on the stand about handcuffing incidents which had occurred at JOYC. At no time was I asked by the Forde Inquiry about sexual abuse allegations and do not recall there being issues to raise. I remember that when the Forde Inquiry was on court had been in Brisbane and that before I gave evidence the Inquiry had come and talked

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with the kids at the Centre first. I became involved after being summonsed. From memory I recounted my knowledge of child having been handcuffed to a drain pipe. My involvement in that matter was that I had come on to shift and had still been handcuffed to the drain as a result of the earlier incident.

- 23. At no other time have I ever been approached by or asked to make statement or submission to any person, union or body in relation to sexual abuse allegations in any youth detention centre.
- 24. On the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 Detectives Parer and Mison attended my workplace at which time I provided them with my knowledge of these maters.
- 25. During our conversation Detective Parer produced to me a copy of a typed statement which outlined an assault of youth worker Paul Hamson. I have recollection of writing this document and did so of my own accord in support of Paul. I remember having provided report to Peter Coyne verbally immediately after this incident and later prepared the type written statement. I acknowledge that the copy shown to me is a true copy of the document authored by me bearing my signature.

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26. As I have been employed for some time in the youth detention centre, from my personal observations, I can confidently state that I have seen a lot of improvements in the management of youth detention centres over the years. These days there is a lot more structure, ongoing training and good support of staff and children.

## Lorraine Joan HAYWARD

### Declaration

This written statement by me dated	4 <sup>th</sup> Novemb	4 <sup>th</sup> November 2012		and contained in the pages numbered					
1 to 9 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.									
Signed at Wacon	Signature this	16	day of	NOVEMBER	20 <u>1</u>				
Witnessed:	Signature								
Name Devist Paren	Rank		22c	Reg. No.	10136				

Signature of Witness:

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Signature of Officer:

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