

Date: 6.12.2012Exhibit number: 236

**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Michael Joseph Ormond Roch
<i>Date of Birth</i>	
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Detective Senior Sergeant Barber
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired Pilot
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber
<i>Date taken</i>	

I, Michael Roch state;

1. I am a former employee of the John Oxley Youth Centre (JOYC). I commenced working for the Department of Communities as a training officer at the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre in Wilston in the early eighties. I don't recall exactly which year in the early eighties I started. I worked at the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre for about eighteen months and was then transferred to JOYC at Wacol when it opened. I worked at JOYC until about 1988 when I transferred across to (Queensland) State Government Security Services. I retired from the State Government Security Service in 1999.
2. On 5 October 2012, Detective Sergeant Fabian Colless and Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber attended my residence and spoke with me regarding my experiences at JOYC and some events that followed.
3. I advised the Detectives that I suffered a stroke in 2007 and since then have had some trouble recalling past events.
4. During my time at JOYC, I remember working with a Trevor Cox, and a woman called Lorraine. I also remember a Colin Bray, I think his name was, and Lynne Draper. She was a Senior or something. I can't remember the others.

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5. Detective Colless showed me a list of names and I recognised; Margaret Judd; Peter McNeven; Bruce Cassidy; Marina Curs; June West; Colin Bray; Darrel Hood; Archie (Geradus) Olde-Wolbers; Jane Thurback; Ilene Bisby; Jan French; Lynne Draper; Gordon Teesdale; Trevor Cox; Sabina Konnicanan; Marianna Pierce; Lorraine Haywood; Peter Coyne; Ray Bentley; Jimmy Douglas; Bruce Goggins; Peter McNeven; Arie Peckleherring; Teesdale; Tony Van Blimeren; Robinson; Ilene Bisby; Lorraine McGreggor; Lex Clements; Bruce Cassidy; Ted Kozawski; David Smith. I recognised these names as people who worked JOYC while I was there.

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6. I also remember there was a very nice woman at JOYC. She was a senior supervisor there. She was in a wheelchair. Her name was Jenny. I got along very well with her.

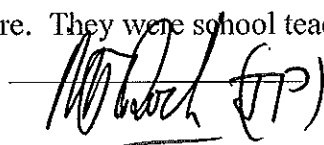
7. I worked at JOYC for about 18 months before I transferred across to the State Government Security Service as I wasn't happy at JOYC.

8. Towards the end of my time at JOYC, the centre was run by a fellow called Peter Coyne who was in his late 20's, completely immature, and did a lot of harm. In my opinion, the centre was very badly run. Coyne just ignored us most of the time, but then he expected you to do exactly as he said. He used to come out with these clichés and things like 'Winners are grinners'. A lot of the staff were dissatisfied with the way JOYCE was run.

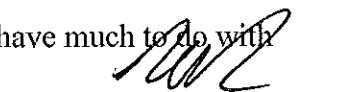
9. I remember there was an incident one day when the teachers took the kids out on a group picnic. There were teachers there as well, apart from training officers. The teachers didn't supervise them properly and a young girl, Aboriginal girl, Annette, was taken somewhere and raped by the boys in the party.

10. I didn't go on that excursion and I don't remember who the workers were that went. The excursion was to some forest, or some woods, or some park somewhere. They were school teachers and we didn't have much to do with

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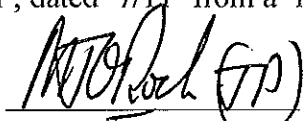


them. They had their own common room and all that sort of thing. We were training officers and they were teachers.

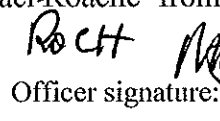
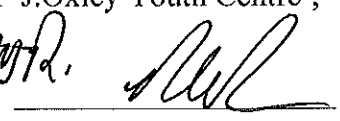
11. Everyone knew about it. Annette probably told the other kids, and then we would have heard about it. Annette was about 15 or 16 at the time. I had had conversations with Annette herself. If she wanted to talk about it, I would have listened, but from memory, she didn't really want to talk about it. I wouldn't have broached it with her because it would have been upsetting. I don't think I ever really discussed it with her.
12. I wrote a letter to the head office of the Department and I think there was going to be a general meeting, but I believe Peter Coyne had a chum in head office, I can't remember his name, and the meeting was squashed.
13. After writing the letter and the meeting being squashed I didn't write or complain to anybody else, I just lived with it.
14. Detective Colless showed me a document dated the 3 October, 1989. It was signed, 'Yours sincerely, Very Concerned'. It's not my handwriting and I do not know who might have written it.
15. I think we were in some union, the QSSU, and we were under some secrecy agreement. We couldn't discuss anything outside. I don't recall writing any letters or statements or anything to the Union about any problems at JOYC
16. Detective Colless also showed me a document that appeared to be a telephone message to a 'BGM' possible Brian Mann from the Queensland State Services Union (QSSU) from a Mr Michael Roche. The message stated, 'John Oxley Youth Centre, meeting at Children's Court, 10-00, 9/11/88'.

17. Detective Colless also showed me another document, second telephone message for 'Brian', dated '7/11' from a 'Michael Roche' from 'J.Oxley Youth Centre',

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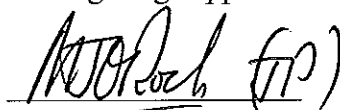
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stating, 'Re: The meeting on Wednesday is now at the John Oxley Youth Centre at 10am, not at the Children's Courts'.

18. I recall calling a meeting about the bad administration at JOYC. These messages may have been to do with that meeting. I called a meeting because morale was so bad. I vaguely remember the name Brian, however I don't recall ringing the QSSU and leaving a message. I think somebody named Pettigrew or something, who was a buddy of Coyne's, had the meeting squashed. I don't know why the meeting was originally to be at the Children's Court.
19. I remember after I left JOYC there was an investigation. We were all interrogated, and I gave a statement. I could remember more than I can now. It took place in one of those government buildings, near the law courts, towards the river. One of those older sandstone buildings. I can't remember where exactly. It was in one of the rooms there, in the late '80s, but probably about a year after, or something like that.
20. It was run by this fellow. I don't remember his name. He was a retired judge or something like that. He was very good, right on the ball and very nice fellow. I'm pretty sure there was a woman with him. There may have been other people. I'm not sure. It was recorded. They had a tape recorder, one of the big old fashioned ones on the table. He was shortish, he had brown hair, medium build, very pleasant looking face. I don't remember the date I was interviewed. I was interviewed alone.
21. He asked me my opinion of how the John Oxley was run and the general morale. I don't recall if he asked the questions, I think I probably volunteered the information as I was totally disgusted with Peter Coyne.
22. I told him, very clearly, that I thought it was very badly run. The administration was extremely immature, and Peter Coyne caused a lot of harm there, targeting staff rather than giving support to the staff. There was a complete lack of firm,

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positive supervision with the administration. It was very poor. Morale was not good.

23. I think the focus of the inquiry that was the management of JOYC, but I'm pretty sure I told the retired judge about Annette. I'm going back 30 years, but I am 80% sure. There is 20%, as I said, with my memory as it is, but I'm pretty sure it would have.
24. After talking to the retired judge I didn't talk about JOYC with anyone else, but I think Trevor Cox was also called to speak to the ex-judge, and I think probably Colin Bray would have, and a woman, very nice, called Lorraine. I can't remember her surname, but she would have been in her late 40's.
25. After I gave a statement, we were informed it was illegal or something and it was squashed by Anne Warner. I remember that Anne Warner, who I think was the Police Minister then, had authorised it all to be destroyed and deleted from all records.
26. Many years later I heard about Ford inquiry. I think it was on the media or something. I never gave evidence in the Ford inquiry.
27. In 2002, I went to England. I remember a fellow, Bruce Grundy, came to where I was boarding at the time before I left. It would have been 2001-2002. He was the first person that asked me about the rape. He did a lot of investigation behind the scenes, why the other inquiry was hushed up. I know he gave Annette all the support. He was very easy to get along with. At one interview, just before I went overseas, he came with a newspaper reporter, a woman, and interviewed me. It would have been 2001 or early 2002 before I went to Europe. There was an article written about it the paper.
28. When I got back from the U.K. in 2004, I was living at Deception Bay. I think Bruce Grundy got an inquiry with Bronwyn Bishop going. I think it was a public

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inquiry. Bruce Grundy contacted me and brought me into to talk to the committee. How he found me, I don't know.

29. Detective Colless showed me a document which appeared to be a document from the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs chaired by Bronwyn Bishop and I saw my name on the document, Mr Michael Ormond Roch.
30. I believe she was conducting an investigation into Peter Coyne and all the rest of it because the other one was apparently squashed or declared illegal.
31. When I spoke to Bronwyn Bishop, I just went through the thing of the rape and of Peter Coyne. It was in some television studio in Brisbane, upstairs somewhere, but I can't remember which building. Bronwyn Bishop was the chairman, she was on the board and there were other politicians there.
32. I told Bronwyn Bishop, that basically, I was on duty, I did not attend the excursion, and we were told not to talk about it. I think other people were interviewed, but I was interviewed on my own.
33. I think Bronwyn Bishop had other Queensland politicians there. There was a board there, of at least a half dozen people. I think that was of the government that was in office.
34. Detective Colless brought my attention back to the document that appeared to be from the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, and a question that was put to me by the Chair, "Why was he (Heiner) interviewing you?"
35. I read on the document that I replied, "Concerning this incident with this little girl, and I believe it was to do with some documents that were disposed of."

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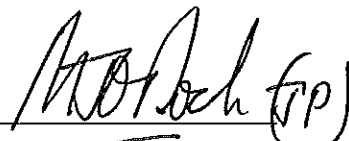
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36. My recollection is that this was right. The documents were relating to this incident. They were destroyed. When I was interviewed by Heiner, he was also interviewing in relation to the documents as well.
37. I also read on the document another question put to me by another committee member, Mr Zeckus who asked, "Was it part of the Heiner inquiry?"
38. I read on the document that I replied, "This is what I do not know. Mr Grundy would be able to answer that, I would say, without any problem."
39. I believe that I would have deferred to Mr Grundy because he had far more knowledge of what went on. He told me where it was, and I can't remember exactly where it was, but he seemed to know all about it.
40. When I went to see Bronwyn Bishop, I went by myself and met Mr Grundy there.
41. Detective Colless also showed me a document which appeared to be a transcript of a phone interview between a 'Michael' and Steve Austin of the ABC Morning Radio program, dated 7 November, 2001. I recall giving a phone interview on the radio with a radio announcer by the name of Steve Austin, however I don't really recall the content of the conversation.
42. Detective Colless also asked me if I knew a man by the name of Colin Dillon. I knew Colin Dillon from working at police headquarters. When I started with the State Government Security Service, I initially worked at the Supreme Courts complex in George Street, but in the late 80's I transferred to police headquarters.
43. I would describe Colin as well built, he had all his hair. Black or very dark and dark skinned, I think he was Aboriginal. He was one of those, you know, higher up, but he was a very decent sort of fellow. It wasn't our place to go out of our way, but if he wanted to stop by for a chat, I would.

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- 44. I don't think I would have ever spoken to Mr Dillon about the matter with Annette because that wouldn't have been my position to do so, unless he brought it up. So I'm pretty sure I would not have. It wouldn't have been appropriate.

- 45. After speaking with Detective Colless and Detective Barber, I agreed to provide a statement outlining the above information to the best of my recollection.

Michael Roch

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 5/10/12 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 8 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Michael Roch (JP) Signature
Signed at Buena Vista this 12 day of November 20 12

Witnessed:

Perce Brewer Signature
Name Perce Brewer Rank Inspection Reg. No. 7160

Witness signature: Michael Roch (JP) Officer signature: Perce Brewer