

Exhibit 128 A

Exhibit 128 A was ordered to be de-identified and is published
under

Exhibit 126 B

QCPCI

QCPCI Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 29.11.2022

Exhibit number: 128 B



QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Statement of Witness

Name of Witness	[REDACTED]
Date of Birth	
Address and contact details	Townsville, North Queensland
Occupation	
Officer taking statement	Jason Schubert
Date taken	

I, [REDACTED] state;

1. I am the mother of four children.
2. My family's first involvement with the Department of Child Safety was on [REDACTED] when they removed my two daughters and son.
3. On [REDACTED] my two daughters, then aged [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were removed from my care and placed with their father who, for some time, had made threats of taking my children. Their father is a Queensland Police Officer and I believe has manipulated the child safety system to his advantage.
4. My [REDACTED] year old son was also removed at the same time, and placed in kinship care with his maternal grandmother, and has been there ever since.
5. On [REDACTED], our newborn son, [REDACTED], was removed from my care when he was only seven hours old. Hospital staff stalled my husband ([REDACTED]) and myself in the labour ward while [REDACTED] was removed by a 'circus' of roughly 50 Queensland Police Officers, including at least two detectives, uniformed officers, a SWAT team. Also present were child safety officers and hospital security staff.
6. Although his maternal grandmother was an approved carer, [REDACTED] was placed with an anonymous 'departmentally approved foster carer.' I was not allowed to breast feed my

Witness signature: [REDACTED]

Officer signature: [Signature]

JP (MAG)

son and instead he was fed formula from a stranger.

7. [REDACTED] was returned to me twelve days later, however [REDACTED] and I are now forced to live apart until we can satisfy the department that [REDACTED] is no threat to our children or anyone else.
8. Although our children have not suffered abuse from either myself or [REDACTED], the department claims the children are at "unacceptable risk of future harm." This decision is based solely upon [REDACTED] criminal history.
9. [REDACTED] crimes were mainly drug related, with two armed robberies which were committed in support of a drug habit he no longer has.
10. [REDACTED] has paid his debt to society and cannot change his past.
11. [REDACTED] has not been charged with an offence within the past seven years and has never committed crimes against women or children.
12. Whilst in prison [REDACTED] participated in a Psychological Intervention Program for nine months prior to release which enabled him to acknowledge his mistakes, develop new behaviours, identify his strengths and move forward.
13. Since release, [REDACTED] has become a fully participating member of society. He does not drink, he does not take drugs, he goes to work and pays his taxes. He does not commit any crimes or associate with anyone who does.
14. Although we made numerous attempts to communicate with the department during the first year, the department made no attempt to contact either myself or [REDACTED], in relation to an investigation or assessment until [REDACTED]. We constantly urged them to begin their investigation and assessment on [REDACTED], with a view to working toward reunification, however the department told us they had all they needed.
15. We have shown from the start, our willingness to work with the department and undergo whatever they require of us to work toward the reunification of our family. We have urged the department to provide us with their requirements, for example, courses, drug

Witness signature: [REDACTED]

Officer signature: [REDACTED]

and alcohol testing and any number of other available resources, but nothing of the sort was offered for us as parents to prove our abilities.

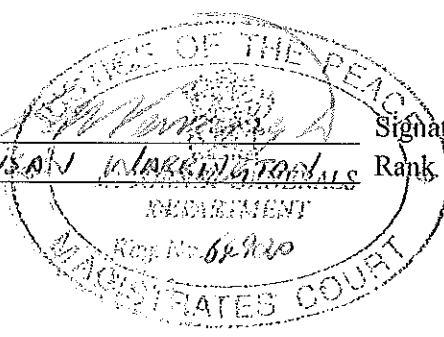
16. The daily strain we are under is enormous and torturous, especially now we are forced to live apart. Our family is now unable to function as a normal loving family should. Our children were sad and confused as to why none of them can spend time with [REDACTED] as a family anymore, yet [REDACTED] can spend any amount of time with our friends and their children.
17. We have maintained our willingness to work with the department to satisfy their concerns in order for our children to be reunified as a family and live in a normal family environment. I firmly believe it is in my children's best interest to know us, to know our culture, and for us to have input into their lives.
18. Since the publication of the Family Inclusion Network's submission to the Commission of Inquiry (in which we provided our case study and names) and subsequent meeting with the Commissioner in Townsville there have been positive movements towards reunification. I am unaware whether the reunification was assisted through our work with the Family Inclusion Network and their submission.

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 26/11/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 3 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed at [REDACTED] Signature
TOWNSVILLE this 26TH day of NOVEMBER 20 12

Witnessed:

Name SUSAN MARRINGTON Signature
Rank JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (MRM.C) Reg. No. 64920


Witness signature: _____

Officer signature: _____