

Date: 21.1.2013Exhibit number: 259

**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION  
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Our reference:

**Statement of Witness**

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Damien Lionel BUTLER
<i>Date of Birth</i>	5/9/69
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Commission of Inquiry
<i>Occupation</i>	Teacher
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Inspector Peter Brewer
<i>Date taken</i>	27/11/12

I, Damien Lionel Butler state;

1. I am currently employed by the Education Queensland as a Primary School Teacher. I was employed in Government back in the early 1990's as a Youth Worker at the John Oxley Youth Centre (JOYC) and later at the Brisbane Youth detention Centre.
2. I recall that it was about 1991 or 1992 that I commenced employment at JOYC and in the time I was there I held a few different positions but initially commenced as a Youth Worker. I then went on to being a Casual worker and then the Program's Manager for activities at the Centre. I remained on full time till around 2005 when I then went back to University.
3. I recall that at the time I started the Manager's first name was Ian, but can't be sure of the last name. I also remember a few names of other staff I worked with being Ollie Isaacs, Rodney Reston and Simon Nance. Some of the supervisors were Col Bray and Trevor Cox. I did not have any real contact with other employees after I left the Centre. I have heard of Peter Coyne as a previous Manager, but he had gone before I worked there.
4. On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 I was contacted by detectives from the Child protection Inquiry and explained the Terms of Reference to the Inquiry regarding the Government response to allegations of sexual abuse in Youth Detention Centres.

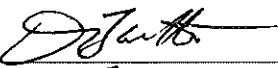
Witness signature.......... Signature of officer..........

5. In the time I was employed within the Detention Centre environment I do not have any first hand knowledge or information concerning any incident of a sexual nature. I recall that there was an incident back in the early 90's around 1992 or 93 when I first started there. Something had happened and an allegation was raised and the worker involved just left that same day and didn't come back. It is my understanding that these things were taken seriously but I don't know specifics of any complaints or persons involved.
  
6. It would be my expectation that if I discovered information of this nature that I would report this to my supervisor and it would be reported and dealt with.
  
7. I have not ever given evidence to any inquiries or provided a statement to anyone over issues at Youth Detention Centres.

**Damien Butler**

**Declaration**

This written statement by me dated 27/11/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 2 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
 Signed at Basnah this 4 day of December 20 12

Witnessed:

  
 Name Mark Winrow Rank Principal Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_