

Date: 21.1.2013Exhibit number: 260

**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Our reference: [cDocs document number]

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Maurice Crothers
<i>Date of Birth</i>	31/08/1964
<i>Address and contact details</i>	
<i>Occupation</i>	Principal Advisor
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Sergeant J A MISON
<i>Date taken</i>	07/12/2012

I, Maurice Crothers state;

1. I am 48 years of age.
2. I am a Principal Advisor with Offender Rehabilitation, Queensland Corrective Services.
3. I am a former employee of the Department of Family Services, [herein referred to as the department].
4. I started working for the department in about 1986 at the Warilda Receiving and Assessment Centre. Warilda was a facility for processing wards of the state. I was employed at Warilda as a senior youth worker.
5. In January 1989, I went through a department redeployment activity, due to Warilda closing down. I was placed as a youth worker at the John Oxley Youth Centre, [herein referred to as JOYC].
6. When I started duties at JOYC, Peter Coyne was the manager. I remember some other staff working at JOYC including: Trevor Cox, Brad Parfitt, Irene Colmer and Fred Feige.

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

7. I remember on my first day at JOYC I met with the manager Peter Coyne. On this first day, Peter Coyne told me that some staff at JOYC thought that his approach to running the centre was a bit strange.
8. Whilst I was working at JOYC, I was a member of the Queensland State Services Union.
9. When I was working at JOYC, I was aware some of the staff were disgruntled. I don't know exactly what the staff were unhappy about. Being new to JOYC I stayed out of these staffing issues.
10. The first time I had heard about the Heiner Inquiry, was when I read the paper a couple of days ago. I have not attend any inquiry, nor have I provided any statement or submission to any investigation or inquiry about JOYC. I have also not provided my union with any statement or report about my time at JOYC.
11. I am not aware of any child sexual abuse at JOYC.
12. In total, I only worked at JOYC for about 4 months. I know I definitely left JOYC before the June 1989. I left JOYC because I thought there was little prospect of me being appointed to a permanent position. I remember one day I noticed my name was not on the roster for one particular month. As a result, I contacted my departmental human resources caseworker and sought a transfer. I subsequently obtained a further departmental redeployment activity whereby I was transferred to the youth unit. The youth unit helps locates homeless youth on the streets.

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 7/12/12 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 2 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Signature] Signature
 Signed at BRISBANE this 14 day of DECEMBER 20 12.

Witnessed:
[Signature] Signature
 Name J. A. MISON Rank Det Sgt Reg. No. 8065

Witness signature [Signature] Signature of officer.....
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