

Date: 22.1.2013

Exhibit number: 273



**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Our reference:

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	David Reginald Jefferies
<i>Date of Birth</i>	11/08/1943
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Commission of Inquiry
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Inspector Peter Brewer
<i>Date taken</i>	14/12/2012

I, David Reginald Jefferies state:

1. I am a married man and I reside at an address known to the Commission of Inquiry. I was previously a sworn officer within the Queensland Police Service attaining the rank of Assistant Commissioner.
2. I have served in various capacities in the Police Service however in the period between 1982 and 1991 I was involved in the operation and management of the Brisbane Juvenile Aid Bureaux (JAB). The JAB was responsible for dealing with both child victims and alleged child offenders. The philosophy of the JAB was to provide an early intervention and investigative response to child related offences. In the early 1990's a number of specialist investigations squads were set up dealing with child abuse, sexual exploitation and missing persons as a result of an expanding need for the services of JAB personnel.
3. In 1988 I was an appointed officer at the substantive rank of Inspector and was involved in the oversight, control and administration of the Juvenile Aid Bureaux (JAB) for the State of Queensland. I often was the contact point for external agencies seeking information and assistance from the QPS and coordinated the response of JAB officers to incidents and events as they arose.

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DR Jefferies witness to signature
Signature of officer..... *P. Brewer*

4. Part of my role also involved consultation and development of partnerships with other agencies that supported, or were involved with, children at risk. These agencies and Departments included Education, Health and Family Services and other Non Government entities. At this time a number of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Teams had been established by the Queensland Government throughout the State and these were active in providing inter agency collaboration and oversight to the investigation and response to child protection issues.

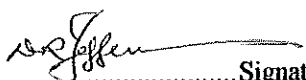
5. I was aware of the John Oxley Youth Centre (JOYC) which was located at Wacol. This was a location to which I would have sent JAB staff for the investigation of child related offences. I am aware that in 1988 the Manager of the Centre was Mr Peter Coyne and it was not uncommon for us to speak about matters and arrange the attendance of JAB personnel to JOYC when required.

6. I do not have any specific recollection of any events or conversations with Mr Coyne or other JOYC staff involving an incident with Annette Harding in 1988 but can say that it is likely I may have been contacted to arrange the attendance of JAB staff. I am aware that at this time not all JAB staff had been trained in specialist child protection investigations, and gathering evidence from potential child victims.

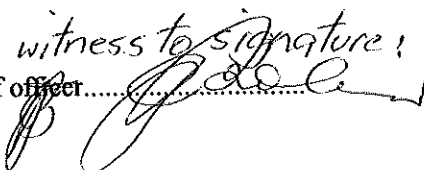
7. The procedures covering police investigations of sexual abuse matters were contained within volumes of the Queensland Policeman's Manual General Instructions. I have obtained a copy of the relevant instructions for this period and can say that general guiding principles were provided for these types of investigations. A specialist Rape Squad had also been established to deal with adult victims. The gathering of evidence and the protective needs of the child victim were considered of the utmost importance to any investigational response, however effecting this was dependent on the level of cooperation and assistance provided by the victim and or family to assist the investigation.

8. On the 14th September 1983, the Commissioner of Police issued Circular 102/83 to members of the Service setting out the procedures related to Reported Child Abuse. All JAB staff were required to comply with these instructions. I produce a copy of that Commissioner's Circular 102/83. These instructions were later incorporated as part of the General Instructions at G.I. 9.499. I produce a copy of those General Instructions 9.499.


Witness signature
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Signature of officer


witness to signature:


9. Guidelines were later established by the Director of Public Prosecution regarding the continued prosecution of sexual offences matters where victims, including child victim's rights were considered and respected wherever possible.


D Jefferies

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 14th Jan 2013 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 3 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed at Busbane  Signature this 14th day of January 2013

Witnessed:


Name Jill Maria BOLEN Signature Rank  Reg. No. 





Queensland Police Department
COMMISSIONER'S CIRCULAR

Circular Number	102/83
Date	14 / 9 / 83

Ref. No. 664 M 2

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENTS: SUPERINTENDENTS: DISTRICT OFFICERS AND
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF BRANCHES, SECTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENTS.

PROCEDURE IN RELATION TO REPORTED CHILD ABUSE

Following the introduction of a new system in June 1980 for Investigating Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) cases, action has been taken to establish teams at various major and regional centres throughout the State.

As you are no doubt aware, the core of a SCAN team consists of a medical practitioner, a child care officer, and a police officer. Because of the specialised skills needed to adequately deal with a large volume of reported child abuse cases, a "Child Abuse Unit" has been set up as an integral part of the Juvenile Aid Bureau in Brisbane.

The Child Abuse Unit, which will undertake SCAN functions, will deal with cases of child abuse in the North Brisbane and South Brisbane Regions and the Redcliffe Police District.

For the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse and neglect cases it should be borne in mind that child abuse is any act or omission that endangers or impairs a child's physical or emotional health and development.

The Australian Council of Welfare Ministers has adopted the definition of child abuse as -

A non accidentally injured or maltreated child is one who is less than 18 years of age whose parent or other person having the care of the child has inflicted or allowed to be inflicted on the child physical injury or gross deprivation which has caused or created a substantial risk of such physical injury or gross deprivation to arise or exist. This definition includes sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.

Section 76M of the Health Act defines the term "child" for the purposes of Division XIB - Maltreatment of children - as meaning a person under or apparently under the age of 17 years.

The Child Abuse Unit will be staffed from 0800 hours to 2200 hours Monday to Saturday and from 0800 hours to 1600 hours on Sundays and may be contacted through the Reception Officer, Juvenile Aid Bureau, Brisbane, on telephone (07) 226 6430, who will be responsible for advising the Officer in Charge of the Child Abuse Unit.

The Reception Officer at the Metropolitan C.I. Branch, Brisbane will receive all calls at all other times on telephone (07) 226 6685 or (07) 226 6686 and will have a responsibility for deciding whether the matter is such to call out the Child Abuse Unit immediately or whether attention to the matter can be delayed until the following morning. The following criteria for contact must be present -

- (a) Any request for assistance from a Medical Practitioner whether at a Hospital or not;
- (b) Cases of sexual abuse where the child needs to be interviewed and/or examined;
- (c) Cases of physical abuse where the child is not admitted to Hospital;
- (d) Where other children in the family are exposed to risk of sexual or physical abuse; or
- (e) Where any child appears to be at risk and concern is felt for his protection.

Where the matter occurs outside the ambit of this criteria, cases of suspected child abuse are to be reported to the Officer in Charge, Child Abuse Unit, Juvenile Aid Bureau at 0800 hours the following day.

All other instances of suspected child abuse which do not occur within the confines of the definition are to be investigated following recognised police procedure. However, such reports are to be referred to the Officer in Charge, Child Abuse Unit at the first available opportunity for his information.

Although the content of this Circular only has specific application for the North Brisbane and South Brisbane Police Regions plus the Redcliffe Police District, it has been distributed to all District Officers throughout the State for information.

Should it be so desired, there is no objection to the principles outlined herein being suitably adapted to meet local requirements.

J.M. Lewis

T.M. LEWIS
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

(b) Country AreasMonday to Friday (9 am to 5 pm)

Local Department of Children's Services Area Office.

All other times including public holidays

District Manager, Department of Children's Services.

***9.499. - SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (S.C.A.N.):**

The State Government has introduced a system involving medical practitioners, hospitals, Department of Children's Services officers and police for the purpose of reporting and dealing with suspected child abuse and neglect cases.

Overall control of the scheme is the function of the Co-ordinating Committee on child abuse; however, day to day work is carried out by S.C.A.N. teams each of which consist of a medical practitioner, a child care officer from the Department of Children's Services, a police officer together with any other interested persons who may be able to assist at the invitation of the core team members.

(a) Centres from which S.C.A.N. teams operate - S.C.A.N. teams operate from the following centres -

(i) Hospital based S.C.A.N. teams -

Atherton	Emerald	Redcliffe
Ayr	Gladstone	Rockhampton
Beenleigh	Goondiwindi	Roma
Bowen	Gympie	Southport
Brisbane	Ingham	Stanthorpe
- Royal Children's Hospital	Innisfail	St. George
- Mater Children's Hospital	Ipswich	Thursday Island
Bundaberg	Kingaroy	Toowoomba
Cairns	Lockreach	Townsville
Charleville	Mackay	Warwick
Charters Towers	Maryborough	
Cherbourg	Moranbah	
Chinchilla	Mt. Isa	
Dalby	Nambour	

(ii) Community based S.C.A.N. teams -

Inala (based at Community Health Services Centre, Wirraway Parade, Inala);

North Brisbane (based at Nundah Department of Children's Services, 82 Buckland Road, Nundah); and

All other instances of suspected child abuse which occur outside the confines of the definition are to be investigated following recognised police procedure. However, such reports are to be referred to the Officer in Charge, Child Abuse Unit at the first available opportunity for his information.

(e) Unilateral decision making - No member of a S.C.A.N. team, including a member of the Police Force acting in that capacity, is to act unilaterally except in emergent circumstances. Should problems arise which cannot be resolved by the team, the member of the Police Force concerned will immediately advise his District Officer or Commissioned Officer in Charge and the other core team members will advise their respective superiors.

(f) Protection of children - The predominant factor in all cases of child abuse is the protection of children. Investigation by S.C.A.N. teams should be victim oriented rather than offender oriented. The first consideration should be the assurance of the child's safety.

(g) Central Register System of child abuse - A Child Protection Register containing a comprehensive record system in relation to child abuse, including past instances of known abuse and information necessary to determine risk to children is maintained by the Registrar, Child Protection Register, Department of Children's Services, G.P.O. Box 806, Brisbane, Queensland, 4001. Register checks may be made on telephone (07) 227 6335 and the Registrar may be contacted in relation to other matters on telephone (07) 227 6032.

Access to this information is restricted to 'authorized persons' as defined in Regulation 3 of the Maltreatment of Children Regulations and includes specific medical practitioners, Department of Children's Services officers and Police Department officers. The relevant authorized police personnel as listed in that Regulation are as follows -

- (i) The Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners;
- (ii) The Regional Superintendents assigned to the following regions -
North Brisbane, South Brisbane, Far Northern, South Eastern, North Coast, Central, Southern and Northern;
- (iii) The Commissioned Officers assigned to the following districts -
Bundaberg, Beenleigh, Cairns, Charleville, Dalby, Gold Coast, Gympie, Innisfail, Ipswich, Longreach, Mackay, Maryborough, Mount Isa, Oxley, Redcliffe, Rockhampton, Roma, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick;
- (iv) The Superintendent, C.I. Branch, Brisbane, the Inspector, Juvenile Aid Bureau, Brisbane and Detective Inspector, Juvenile Aid Bureau; and
- (v) Officers in Charge of the following stations -
Atherton, Ayr, Bowen, Charters Towers, Cherbourg, Chinchilla, Emerald, Gladstone, Goondiwindi, Ingham, Kingaroy, Moranbah, Stanthorpe, St. George and Thursday Island.