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QCPCI Reference:

Date:

6.12.2012

Exhibit number:

230



**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Peter Roy Mc Neven
<i>Date of Birth</i>	
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Det. Senior Sergeant Barber
<i>Occupation</i>	Limousine Driver
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber
<i>Date taken</i>	

I, Peter Roy Mc Neven state;

1. I am a former employee of the John Oxley Youth Centre (JOYC). I commenced working for the Department of Children's Services at the Wilston Youth Centre as a kitchen hand in the early 1980's. I don't recall exactly which year in the early 1980's I started working at Wilston. I worked at Wilston for about five or six years. About seven to twelve months after the JOYC facility opened, I accepted an offer to transfer over to the JOYC as a youth worker. I worked at JOYC as a youth worker for about two to three years and then resigned from the Department in 1991.
2. On 11 October 2012, Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber and Detective Sergeant Fabian Colless attended my residence and spoke with me regarding my experiences at JOYC and some events that followed.
3. I recall the manager at JOYC while I was there was a Peter Coyne. The deputy manager was Ray Bentley when I started.
4. I also recall a number of other workers at JOYC while I was there. I remember Margaret Judd; Sabina Konicanan; Michael Roch; Darryl Hood; and Lorraine Haywood. These people all started at JOYC when I did.

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5. I recall while I was at JOYC there was an incident where a number of children were handcuffed outside in the secure yard. I remember there was an investigation afterwards into allegations by one of the children's parents that their son was being mistreated. I don't recall the child's name. I remember in the mid 1990's, after I left JOYC, someone came around and interviewed me and I later had to go into town and give evidence and was cross examined. It Inquiry was during the mid 1990's. I don't recall the name of that Inquiry.
6. While I was at JOYC there was another inquiry. I think it was about the same incident, the handcuffing and I think that led to Peter Coyne being moved on. I'm not sure if it was just about the handcuffing.
7. I recall Peter wanted everyone to conform to his way of thinking and his way of doing things. The centre was very divided between the staff; those that supported Peter Coyne and those that didn't. Coyne wanted to get rid of all the experience. He wanted people with degrees.
8. We weren't happy with the way things were so we all decided to write a letter to the head of the Department in the city, above Peter Coyne. I believe Sabina, Marge Judd, and Michael Roch all wrote a letter. I don't recall what I wrote in my letter.
9. Detective Barber then showed me a document that appeared to my letter. I read the letter and agreed that it was the letter I wrote.
10. I remember someone came and saw us at JOYC and chatted to us and got our opinion on how things were going and what we thought. It was probably towards the end of my time there. It might have been around 1988 or 1989. The meeting was at JOYCE.
11. Later, someone came and interviewed us at JOYC. I don't recall who it was that came and saw us. It could have been someone from the Department. I don't think it was anyone from our Union. They spoke to us individually in the conference room and took notes. There was only one or two people in the room. I think it was a man and a woman. I don't recall their names.

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12. I remember they asked me about the incident with the handcuffing, but I think it was more involved, regarding the stuff that concerned us, the management side of it and how everyone was starting to get divided. I don't recall how long the interview went for and I don't recall if it was recorded.
13. I don't recall ever being asked any questions about child sexual abuse and I never provided any information about child sexual abuse.
14. I didn't discuss the outcome of the interview with anyone.
15. Several months went by and then Peter left.
16. Detective Barber showed me a list of names and I recognised some of the names and their role; Jill was a youth worker; Marge Judd was a youth worker; Bruce Cassidy, was a senior; Mark was a youth worker; Brian Cartilage; June West was a youth worker; Scott Healing was a youth worker; Irene was youth worker; Paul Hanson was a youth worker; Colin Bray was a senior; Christopher Edwards was youth worker; Darryl Hood was a youth worker; Jane Mumford was a cook; Jane Thornbeck was a youth worker; Ilene Bisby was a senior; Jane French was a youth worker; Lynn Draper was the deputy manager; Gordon Teasdale; Trevor Cox was a senior; Sabina Konicanan; Marianna Pearce; Lorraine Haywood was a senior; Warren was a youth worker; Peter Coyne was the manager; Foote was the deputy manager; Anne Dutney was deputy manager at one stage; Ray Bentley; Lola Nolan was a youth worker; Peter Palmer was a youth worker; Michael Roch; David Smith; Lorraine McGregor was a nurse; Fred Fiege was a youth worker; Lex Clements was a youth worker; Trudy Parker was in the office; and Josie Russo might have been a cleaner.
17. Detective Barber also showed me a document signed 'Very Concerned'. I had never seen this document before and did not recognise the handwriting. I did not write the document and could not assist with identifying the author.
18. Detective Barber also asked me if I knew a man by the name of Bruce Grundy. I advised Detective Barber that I did not know anyone by that name.

Signature of Witness:



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19. I have only ever been involved in the inquiry in the mid 1990's as I described. I have not been involved in any other investigation, inquiry or hearing regarding my time at JOYC. I have never been approached by the media or any other person.
20. I haven't kept any records, and do not have in my possession any books, documents, or writings, including any electronic records, connected in any way to my employment at JOYC.
21. I also advised Detective Barber that after leaving JOYC I had a relationship with [REDACTED] who had been a detainee at JOYC. [REDACTED] and I later had children together but have since separated.



Peter Roy Mc Neven


Declaration

This written statement by me dated 12/11/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 4 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Signature

Signed at Brisbane. this 12th day of November 20 12

Witnessed:


Signature

Name B. Barber Rank Det. Senior Sergeant Reg. No. 6382

Signature of Witness: _____

Signature of Officer: _____