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QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION  
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Arena PERCIVAL nee KARATZIS
<i>Date of Birth</i>	22/11/1965
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Occupation</i>	Psychologist
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Date taken</i>	11/09/2012

I, Arena PERCIVAL nee KARATZIS state;

1. I am a former employee of the Department of Family Services [herein referred to as the Department].
2. I commenced employment with the department around March 1989 through to August 1989 (8 months total). During this period I undertook the position of Youth Worker at the John Oxley Youth Centre [herein referred to as the centre]. My primary responsibilities whilst at the centre included the general supervision of the children throughout their daily and occasional evening routines. I performed the role of youth worker for a period of 7 months and later performed the role as acting Family Services Officer for a period of 1 month.
3. At the time of my employment I recall the manager of the centre as being Peter COYNE. Other senior management included Anne DUTNEY - deputy manager and Col BRAY - senior youth worker.
4. Other general staff members I recall included Jeff MANINSKY and Marion WILSON. I recall both of these persons as Jeff was the facility's psychologist

Signature of Witness: *Arena Percival*

Signature of Officer: *Denise Parer*

and Marion the social worker. I myself had entered employment at the centre as a psychology graduate; hence I developed stronger relations with those persons having a shared interest to me.

5. I also recall working with Trevor COX, who from memory may have been a teacher, Lyn DRAPER a senior youth worker, and Peter McNEVEN a youth worker.
  
6. I have some recollection of an incident that occurred at the centre during my period of employment involving sexual abuse allegations. I recall that this incident involved Police attending the centre to speak with a male detainee [REDACTED] who had allegedly sexually assaulted another male detainee at the centre. I recall learning of this incident third hand and have no direct knowledge of the sexual assault nor do I know the outcome. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
  
7. On another occasion I recall refusing a visitation to a male person who had presented himself at the centre claiming to be a family friend of a male detainee. Through initial conversations with this male I became concerned about his intentions (what appeared to be grooming behaviour) and subsequently declined the visitation. I recall this incident as having occurred whilst I was acting Family Services Officer and believe I would have made written notation of some form about this matter at the centre.
  
8. At no time during my period of employ did I see or have any conversations with any persons relating to management concerns.
  
9. Further, at no time during my employ at the John Oxley Youth Centre did I supply any statement or letter to any person or body about the John Oxley Youth Centre.

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Signature of Witness:



Signature of Officer:



10. I do not personally know any person by the name of Heiner, nor have I ever been approached or requested to provide any evidence or details of sexual abuse alleged to have occurred at the John Oxley Youth Centre.
  
11. In late 1999 / early 2000, I became aware of allegations relating to mistreatment of children at the John Oxley Facility around the time of my period of employment. I learnt of these allegations through newspapers and news articles. I remember feeling shocked at learning of these allegations as I had never witnessed any proof or substance to the allegations whilst employed there.
  
12. On the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012 Detective Parer attended my home address during which time I provided her with my knowledge of this matter. During this conversation Detective Parer produced to me a photocopy of a hand written document dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1989 signed 'Very Concerned'. I am able to state that I am not the author of this document nor recognise the handwriting on the document.

Arena PERCIVAL

**Declaration**

This written statement by me dated 12/09/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 3 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
Signed at ANVERLOY this 12<sup>th</sup> day of SEPTEMBER 20 12

Witnessed:  
[Signature]  
Signature  
Name DEWISIE PARER Rank DSC Reg. No. 10736

Signature of Witness: [Signature] Signature of Officer: [Signature]