

This document has been redacted for Public Interest Immunity claims made by Victoria Police. These claims are not yet resolved.

From: Nicola Gobbo
Sent: Mon, 7 May 2007 08:10:05 +1000
To: Rowe, Paul
Subject: Re: Mr Bickley
Importance: Normal

Thanks, I'll play with the document and send it to him.

----- Original Message -----

From: [Rowe, Paul](#)
To: [Nicola Gobbo](#)
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2007 7:30 AM
Subject: RE: Mr Bickley

Nicola,

I have read the attached document and agree with everything. One thing of note is that you refer in depth to conversation you personally had with Mr Bickley which in my opinion may encourage Phil to proceed with the subpoena: i.e. you are the only person that could give this evidence. In any event I would be more than happy for Phil to run this line as part of the plea. I would have no objections and in fact support this version of events.

If you need anything else let me know.

thanks

Paul ROWE
Detective Senior Constable 31741
Purana Taskforce

PH: [REDACTED]

DX: ^{PH} [REDACTED]

From: Nicola Gobbo [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 5 May 2007 15:19
To: Rowe, Paul
Subject: Mr Bickley
Importance: High

Dear Paul,

Please find attached notes re: Mr Bickley which I propose to send to his Counsel with the confirmation that you would not be in a position to dispute these matters were he to say them as part of the plea. I hope this will result in me not being subpoenaed. Can you please let me know what you think as soon as you can?

Regards,

Nicola.

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Nicola Gobbo
Barrister
Crockett Chambers
[REDACTED] 530 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000
PH [REDACTED]
FAX [REDACTED]

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This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

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From: Nicola Gobbo
Sent: Sat, 5 May 2007 15:19:16 +1000
To: Rowe, Paul
Subject: Mr Bickley
Attachments: Mr Bickley.doc
Importance: High

Dear Paul,

Please find attached notes re: Mr Bickley which I propose to send to his Counsel with the confirmation that you would not be in a position to dispute these matters were he to say them as part of the plea. I hope this will result in me not being subpoenaed. Can you please let me know what you think as soon as you can?

Regards,

Nicola.

Nicola Gobbo
Barrister
Crockett Chambers
Level 7 530 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000
PH 99142707
FAX 99142777

Mr Bickley

ARREST & REMAND:

- Prior to **Mr Bickley**'s arrest in mid August 2005 I had neither met him nor had I heard of him
- On the morning following his arrest I received a telephone call from D/S/C Paul Rowe (then MDID now Purana). He made some comment about me not returning his call (apparently he'd left a message on my old mobile number) and informed me that **Mr Bickley** had been arrested and charged with trafficking not less than a large commercial quantity of MDMA and was in the Custody Centre pending a Filing Hearing that morning. I asked D/S/C Rowe who he was, as in had I acted for him before and whether he'd been in trouble before. He told me **Mr Bickley** was a "clean skin" and possibly thought that I knew who **Mr Bickley** was even though I said I hadn't heard of him. I later learnt that **Mr Bickley** had been given my mobile number by Tony Mokbel in case he was arrested and required a lawyer.
- I informed D/S/C Rowe that I would not be able to attend Court due to another commitment but that I would arrange for a solicitor to see **Mr Bickley** and appear for him at his Filing Hearing. I telephoned Tony Hargreaves, told him what I'd been told and asked him if he would appear for **Mr Bickley**
- Later that day I visited **Mr Bickley** in the Custody Centre. I can't recall whether I saw him twice that day or only once that day and then again on the following day. The reason I say this is that I recall introducing myself to **Mr Bickley** and him saying to me that he had seen Tony and understanding that I had sent him. I recall **Mr Bickley** saying at some point that he couldn't understand why Zarah had been to visit him as well as Tony Hargreaves which is why I think I may have seen him twice on the same date. In any case, he was bewildered and did not appreciate the seriousness of his charges. I recall specifically his

shock when I told him that the most serious of his charges carried life imprisonment.

- Mr Bickley told me that he had been informed that Tony Mokbel would be paying his legal fees and that he would only pay if Zarah was his solicitor. He had been seen by Zarah when he told me this (which is why I think I saw him twice on the first day.) He was naïve and confused about which lawyer he should have to act for him. I made it clear to him who I would have to act for me if I were charged.
- I gave Mr Bickley some basic advice that one provides to anyone arrested (that is in relation to co-accused, bail applications, restraining orders etc..) It was apparent that he had been given different advice by Zarah in respect to some matters.
- Mr Bickley gave me certain instructions that lead me to conclude that Tony Mokbel was somehow involved in his charges/investigation, although at that stage I didn't know exactly how, nor did I have any details.
- I understand that Tony Hargreaves was subsequently told by Mr Bickley that his services weren't required and that Zarah was acting for him.
- I was subsequently asked questions about Mr Bickley's arrest by Tony Mokbel and then briefed by Zarah to appear at a bail application for Mr Bickley. I went to see him at Melbourne Assessment Prison as I had received no instructions from her. My recollection is that when I got there Zarah was already in seeing Mr Bickley.
- I was unable to have certain discussions with Mr Bickley as a consequence of her being present.
- By this time I believe ████████████████████ had been granted bail, ████████ Zarah knew about his bail application as she'd been present and taken notes.
- On the day Mr Bickley's bail application was listed I had formed the view that I had a potential conflict and telephoned D/S/C Rowe before Court in relation to a Remand Summary (and to determine a potential conflict which was in part dependent upon what was to be alleged by the Police.) My instructing solicitor (from whom one would ordinarily

receive instructions about issues such as a conflict) took the view that there was no conflict of interest.

- I recall speaking to D/S/C Rowe and his Sergeant (Steve Mansell) at Court and then withdrawing the bail application. Subsequently, I did not appear for **Mr Bickley**
- I understand that via a friend of his, **Mr Bickley** engaged a different solicitor due to being unhappy with Zarah, and then applied for bail.

POST BAIL:

- After **Mr Bickley** was granted bail he remained in contact with me. He often said he couldn't get hold of Theo Magazis (who replaced Zarah as his solicitor) and had numerous questions about his case. I couldn't tell him anything specific about the strength of the evidence against him at least until reading his hand up brief.
- I recall that **Mr Bickley** received his hand up brief in late December 2005 as he came to visit me while I was in the Epworth Hospital and had his brief with him.
- I formally received his brief of evidence from Theo Magazis with a view to settling his matter prior to or at the committal; ultimately **Mr Bickley**'s committal was adjourned a couple of times and then he accepted a straight hand-up brief.
- I have maintained contact with **Mr Bickley** on the basis that he has sought advice from me numerous times in relation to family law proceedings, his criminal charges, his restraining orders and other confidential matters. I have made it clear to him that while I am happy to assist him, I would never be able to appear on a plea for him because it would be necessary to refer to Tony Mokbel (for whom **Mr Bickley** was working) and I couldn't due to a conflict of interest.