

**Royal Commission
into the Management of Police Informants**

STATEMENT OF **Ms Lane**

- 1 My full name is **Ms Lane**
- 2 I am employed by Victoria Police as a Business Application Advisor.
- 3 I make this statement in response to a request from the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants dated 23 May 2019. This statement is produced to the Royal Commission in response to a Notice to Produce. ■

Educational background and employment history (Q1)

- 4 I have worked at Victoria Police since 1976. I am not a sworn member of Victoria Police. A summary of the major roles I have undertaken at Victoria Police is as follows:
 - (a) 1976-1980: Clerical support – [REDACTED] Course and relieving duties;
 - (b) 1980-1993: Station Clerk duties – [REDACTED] Police Station and relieving duties;
 - (c) 1993-2002: Roster/Property Officer – [REDACTED] Police Station;
 - (d) 2002-2015: Analyst and Senior Analyst – Intelligence and Covert Support, including HSMU, [REDACTED] and secondments and projects;
 - (e) 2015-2019: Business Application Advisor – [REDACTED]

Involvement or association with investigations relating to Ms Gobbo (Q2)

- 5 From 2003 until 2014, I was an Analyst and then Senior Analyst at the Human Source Management Unit (HSMU). My role was purely an administrative role that involved entering information into and maintaining the database of human sources kept by the HSMU. In my role I was not required to keep an official diary. I kept a diary from May 2010 to June 2014 primarily to record when I was on duty. My lawyers have reviewed the diary and have not identified any entries relevant to the Commission.
- 6 I did not review or analyse intelligence provided by sources.
- 7 I have been informed that Ms Gobbo was registered as a human source while I was at the HSMU. I do not recall Ms Gobbo or her human source registration numbers.

How I learned, or was given reason to believe, Ms Gobbo was providing information (Q3)

- 8 In my role as an analyst, it is possible that I saw documents that disclosed Ms Gobbo's identity, but I do not recall seeing any such documents. My usual practice was only to

ever refer to sources by their registration numbers. A source's identity was generally not relevant to my duties.

- 9 I have been shown a memorandum dated 25 October 2007, which records that the HSMU received certain human source files¹. I am informed that one of these is for a human source registration number relating to Nicola Gobbo. I have no recollection of this memorandum or receiving documents or files relating to Ms Gobbo.
- 10 I have been shown an email that I sent to Officer Sandy White on 22 January 2008, which refers to a number change and contains an eight-digit number². I have been informed this is another human source registration number for Ms Gobbo. I recall at some point that a source had their registration number changed because the SDU had some concerns about the existing number, but I do not recall any further detail about this.
- 11 At times, I was asked by members of the HSMU or the SDU to check whether the records for active files were up to date. I have been shown an email I sent on 17 December 2008 to Officer Sandy White, Officer Black and an SDU analyst with an attachment listing active sources by their registration numbers³. I am informed that the bottom two rows of the attachment refer to Ms Gobbo and identify that certain documents were missing. It was not part of my role to ensure that source handlers brought their files up to date. That would have been dealt with within their chain of command. My task was an administrative one.
- 12 I have been shown three emails that I sent in May, October and December 2009⁴. These emails indicate that the source referred to was no longer active, but the record could not be closed without the source handlers confirming that all documents had been uploaded. I have also been shown an email from February 2010, in which Officer Sandy White instructs that a file be written off⁵. I am informed that these emails refer to Ms Gobbo and were saved to her HSMU file. I do not recall these emails or deactivating her file, but these emails are consistent with the administrative processes I followed for any HSMU files.

¹ VPL.0100.0121.0267 at 0330.

² VPL.6025.0006.2584.

³ VPL.6025.0007.5276; VPL.6025.0007.5277.

⁴ VPL.0100.0121.0267 at 0279-0281.

⁵ VPL.0100.0121.0267 at 0282.

13 I have been shown emails I received in March 2010⁶, October 2011⁷ and March 2012⁸, asking that certain files be reactivated or deactivated. This was necessary because once a source was no longer active, only the HSMU had ongoing access. I am informed that these requests relate to Ms Gobbo. As the emails show, I undertook the administrative task of enabling and disabling access as instructed.

Awareness of others (Q4)

14 Other than Ms Gobbo's handlers and controllers within the SDU, I do not know who knew that she was a human source.

Authorisation of the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (Q5)

15 I do not know who authorised Ms Gobbo's use as a human source.

Personal contact with Ms Gobbo (Q6)

16 I do not believe I have ever met Ms Gobbo.

Information & assistance received (Q7 & Q8)

17 I do not know what information or assistance Ms Gobbo gave.

Concerns raised as to the use of a legal practitioner as a human source (Q9)

18 I have no knowledge of these matters.

Concerns raised as to the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (Q10)

19 I have no knowledge of these matters.

Awareness about disclosure in relation to Ms Gobbo (Q11)

20 I have no knowledge of these matters.

Other human sources with obligations of confidentiality or privilege (Q12)

21 I have no knowledge of these matters.

Training (Q13)

22 I have completed the Human Source Management [REDACTED] Course, as part of a process of testing the functionality of the [REDACTED] course. Otherwise, the topics in Question 13 have not been part of my roles at Victoria Police.

Other information (Q14)

23 I have nothing further to add.

⁶ VPL.0100.0121.0267 at 0283-0284.

⁷ VPL.6025.0005.9194.

⁸ VPL.0100.0121.0267 at 0285.

Dated: 10 September 2019

Ms Lane