

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

**STATEMENT OF Mr Lane**

1. My full name is Mr Lane
2. Until 18 October 2018, I was a [REDACTED] attached to the [REDACTED] at Victoria Police. I am now retired.
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 will be produced to the Royal Commission in response to a Notice to Produce.

**Educational background and employment history (Q1)**

4. I joined Victoria Police in 1976 at the age of [REDACTED]. In [REDACTED] 1978, I graduated from the Victoria Police Academy.
5. From 1978 to 1984, I performed uniformed duties at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Police Stations.
6. From 1984 to 1987, I was attached to the [REDACTED] Criminal Investigations Branch and the [REDACTED]
7. From 1987 to 1989, I was attached to the [REDACTED] Criminal Investigations Branch.
8. In 1989, I was promoted to [REDACTED]. From 1989 to 1991, I was [REDACTED] performing uniformed duties at [REDACTED] Police Station.
9. In 1991, I was promoted to [REDACTED]. From 1991 to 1996, I was [REDACTED] attached to the [REDACTED]
10. From 1996 until my retirement in October 2018, I was a [REDACTED] attached to the [REDACTED]. That unit was previously known as the [REDACTED]

**Involvement or association with any investigations that had dealings with Ms Gobbo (Q2)**

11. To the best of my knowledge, I have not had any involvement or association with an investigation which had any dealings with Ms Gobbo.
12. I am not aware of receiving, and have no reason to suspect I received, or worked on any investigation which received, any information sourced from Ms Gobbo.
13. For the purpose of preparing this statement, I have not reviewed my police diaries. This is because I do not believe those diaries would contain any entries related to Ms Gobbo or otherwise relevant to the Commission's terms of reference. I have not had access to, and have not reviewed, my Victoria Police emails for that same reason.

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

14. I first became aware that Ms Gobbo provided information or assistance to Victoria Police via reporting in the media. I was not aware that Ms Gobbo was 'Lawyer X' until her identity was revealed in the media.
15. For the purposes of preparing this statement, I have been informed that the Commission has been provided with a list of people at Victoria Police who are said to have been aware that Ms Gobbo was a human source, and that my name is on that list.<sup>1</sup> Despite my name being on that

<sup>1</sup> Exhibit RCI12.



list. I confirm that was not the case. I was not aware that Ms Gobbo was a human source until that fact was publicly reported. I do not know why my name is on the list.

**Awareness of others (Q4)**

16. Aside from whoever was acting as Ms Gobbo's source handler or handlers, I am not aware of other members of Victoria Police or any other organisation who were aware that Ms Gobbo was providing information or assistance to Victoria Police.

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

17. I do not know who was involved in the authorisation or continued authorisation of Ms Gobbo as a human source.

**Personal contact with Ms Gobbo (Q6)**

18. I do not believe I have ever met or had any other personal contact with Ms Gobbo.

**Information & assistance received (Q7 & Q8)**

19. Save for what has been reported in the media, I have no knowledge of any information or assistance given by Ms Gobbo to Victoria Police.

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

20. I have no knowledge of these matters.

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

21. I have no knowledge of these matters.

**Awareness about disclosure in relation to Ms Gobbo (Q11)**

22. I have no knowledge of these matters.

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

23. I am not aware of any such human sources used by Victoria Police.

**Training (Q13)**

24. My recollection of the relevant training or retraining I have received is as follows:
- a) Obligations of disclosure – I cannot recall receiving specific training on this topic;
  - b) Right to silence – this was covered in Detective Training School (DTS) and the Sub-Officers' Course (now known as the Sergeants' Course);
  - c) Right of an accused person to legal practitioner – this was covered in DTS;
  - d) LPP – this was covered in DTS;
  - e) PII – this was covered in DTS and in the [REDACTED] Training Course;
  - f) Professional and ethical decision-making – this was covered in various online courses I have undertaken over the years, the details of which I cannot specifically recall.

**Other information (Q14)**



25. I have nothing further to add in response to question 14.

Dated: 4 October 2019



Mr Lane