

Wit_F_280812.005

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Time is now 12.54 pm on the 28th day of August 2012. Detective Inspector John O'Connor about to ring Witness F on her mobile.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Nicola, John O'Connor.

WITNESS F: Hey, John, how are you going?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Good. You've got a cold, have ya?

WITNESS F: A little bit, why?

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, just - you sound like you've got a cold, that's all.

WITNESS F: Yeah, no, I'm just - I've just been - been flat out and probably done too much, that's all.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: John, do you, I - I've sort of been playing tag with you since last week.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, sorry, I've been - I - I rang - rang a few times yesterday and I - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah.

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DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: I got tied up in - - -

WITNESS F: I - I apologise - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Tied up in the afternoon.

WITNESS F: I apologise because the media has been driving me
mental.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: The media? Yeah.

WITNESS F: Yep. So they ring from blocked numbers, obviously
you do too.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: And so I just don't answer the calls.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, it's all right. I left a
message and I tried - tried. I assumed you were tied up
with something so -

WITNESS F: Yeah, I actually went into a courtroom yesterday
with a friend of mine so -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, did ya? O.K.

WITNESS F: Yeah, that was a bit of a shock to the system.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: I didn't appear or anything like that, I just went there.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: But, John, last week, the people from Purana went to get into - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Sorry, you have to - - -

WITNESS F:

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Sorry, people from?

WITNESS F: The police from Purana went to see [REDACTED] to see whether or not he was going to sign that statement that I drafted for him.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, oh, sorry, you're talking about [REDACTED]?

WITNESS F: Yeah.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

WITNESS F: And I understand that he was [REDACTED] and signing the statement so I wanted to know what your thoughts are on me [REDACTED] in

those circumstances considering that it might come out down the track when he's a witness. And, secondly, it causes me enough drama that he signs the statement because I'm linked to him so - so - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: How, sorry, how are you linked to him, Nic?

WITNESS F: The whole - the whole world knows that I acted for him for [REDACTED].

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: All right, O.K., yep, yep.

WITNESS F: And I've already - I've already had phone calls where people are saying, "You should've told us. You didn't tell us he was a dog," blah blah blah, the usual.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: Now, if I hesitate to - to [REDACTED] him, if it's ever gonna surface, the subpoena, that's my concern.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: But who - who told you that he's - he's signed a statement and - and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WITNESS F: [REDACTED]

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: [REDACTED] has told you?

WITNESS F: [REDACTED]

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, they're [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] are they?

WITNESS F: They were [REDACTED] like, the last [REDACTED]
months, until last [REDACTED] And after Purana saw him
they came and said, [REDACTED] and they [REDACTED] and
then [REDACTED] has been telling the [REDACTED].

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: That - that he's - that's he's
a - - -

WITNESS F: That he has been [REDACTED] and he's
signing his statement.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh.

WITNESS F: You don't get [REDACTED]
signing a statement, there's no point.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep, yeah, well, sorry, I don't -
yeah, that's all right. So what - your concern is the -
in relation to that [REDACTED] - the Melbourne part of the
[REDACTED] - - -

WITNESS F: Yes, yes.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: As to how it causes you any -

does that cause you any issue in relation to your safety.
Is that right?

WITNESS F: No, what I'm saying is assume that [REDACTED] is a
witness.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: Assume that somebody issues a subpoena.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: Then it is going to become public knowledge that I
have [REDACTED] about him. That is my concern.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep. But we haven't - nothing's
been [REDACTED] yet, Nicola. You've been given
the name of the detective out at Broadmeadows CI, and I
believe you've been in contact with him.

WITNESS F: Yes and I postponed it [REDACTED] when I heard
about this on [REDACTED] afternoon, especially considering
the way I heard it was people ringing me saying, blah
blah blah, "You - you acted for him, you saw him every
day, how come you didn't tell us," blah blah blah. And I
suppose it's gunna get worse, if the day comes when he
actually gets called to give evidence, which the police
indicated to him they would be doing, because he's gunna
be asked the obvious question, which is, "How did this
statement come about?" And if he tells the truth he's

gunna say, "Well, she wrote it, not me."

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Well, you - but - you - who -
who is the informant from Purana?

WITNESS F: Jason Kelly.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, well, I would assume that
Jason would've typed up the statement, not you.

WITNESS F: Jason typed it, but I wrote it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, but, you've - yeah, but -
if Jason typed - you're saying, what, you hand wrote it?

WITNESS F: Yep.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, well, that's, with [REDACTED]
there?

WITNESS F: No, no, I was locked up in [REDACTED] in the city
when the whole Petra saga was going.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

WITNESS F: And Purana wanted a statement done so [REDACTED]
couldn't [REDACTED] I wrote it without him.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: So you wrote [REDACTED] a statement
without him?

WITNESS F: Yep.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: All right.

WITNESS F: John, it is my worst nightmare that he ever signs that statement. And I always thought - for the last three years I thought there was no way he was gunna sign it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah. And according to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] he has signed it?

WITNESS F: Yes.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: All right, all right, well, I'll - I'll make some inquiries and - and get back to you, but I don't - I've got no knowledge of this so - at this - so - - -

WITNESS F: No, well, I mean, just - just - for the sake of the discussion - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

WITNESS F: Assume I'm correct, for the sake of the discussion.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: I'm - I'm first of all telling you about it 'cause

it's yet another thing that you don't know that you need to know because it does impact upon my safety.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Mm.

WITNESS F: And secondly, I wanna know whether you've got a view about whether I should or shouldn't go down the path of [REDACTED], given that he's - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Making a [REDACTED] for - - -

WITNESS F: Yes, yes, sorry, [REDACTED], yes.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah. Well, [REDACTED] up to you, Nicola, you're the one who's, I think, a [REDACTED]

WITNESS F: [REDACTED] and, yes, I'm the one out of pocket.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: But - but - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: So that's - - -

WITNESS F: I - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: That's a decision - that's a

decision for you. If you wanna - if you wanna pursue that matter, you know, you've had - like, you've had plenty of time to - to think - think about it, and you - and you say that the [REDACTED] stuff is a complicating factor, if what [REDACTED] has told you is correct, but one of the things that you - as I said to you on day one, when you mentioned to me as to whether or not you should [REDACTED], I said, "Well, it's a matter - it's a matter for you." It's not - not for me to say, "Yes, Nicola, you [REDACTED]," or "No, you should not." It's - you're the one who's [REDACTED] in this matter for - a [REDACTED] matter that needs - that - and Victoria Police will [REDACTED], but my understanding of what you've told the detective at Broadmeadows is that you're only going to - you just want to [REDACTED] and have no further police action. Is that right?

WITNESS F: Correct.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: Correct.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

WITNESS F: I need a [REDACTED] to be able to deal with [REDACTED].

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: [REDACTED] - so you can get [REDACTED] [REDACTED], yeah.

WITNESS F: Yeah, they've - they've got proof that it wasn't me. I've - I've spoken to them.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: But they need a [REDACTED]

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep. So, well, that's, again, that's a matter for you.

WITNESS F: And that's right, it would go back to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 'cause Con's made it sound like it was a
[REDACTED].

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, it's a - it's a - you - a report. You - - -

WITNESS F: Yeah, it's an [REDACTED], I know what it is.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, so - so, look, that's - Nicola, that's a matter for - it's a matter for you.

WITNESS F: Yeah, look, at the end of the day, if - if he's a Crown witness and he's relied upon in some significant prosecutions and it turns out that somebody subpoenas something that proves he's dishonest thief, well, that's just too bad.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep, that's, yep, that's - I - I

- I'm not - I'm not party to this Purana stuff so - - -

WITNESS F: No, and I'm not - all I'm saying is if this went on with your office having knowledge of it two years ago, well, over - three years, actually, but ending two years ago, so they - it's just another problem from my point of view 'cause the people that [REDACTED] puts in his statement, bearing in mind I wrote the damn thing and it's [REDACTED] pages long, he puts in [REDACTED]

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep.

WITNESS F: And in much the same way that I got the blame for
Mr Thomas and I got the blame for Mr Cooper I have now
got the blame for this as well.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Um - - -

WITNESS F: And all I'm letting you know is, it's there. Go and confirm what I'm saying if you want to, but just so you know, that's another issue as far as my safety's concerned and it may impact on what you're hearing or not hearing.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah - no, I appreciate you ringing and - and letting me know. And I apologise that we've been playing - - -

WITNESS F: No, that's all right.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: - - - phone tag.

WITNESS F: Well, I've got the Dale media people who are trying
to write, yeah, a nice story, driving me mental, so I'm
.....

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, is that court case going, is
it?

WITNESS F: No, it's - they had another mention and it got put
off until the 7th - 6th of - 6th of September next week.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yep, all right.

WITNESS F: I might just do something crazy and disappear.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Oh, that's - that's, again,
Nicola, that's up to you.

WITNESS F: I know, I wasn't asking, I was just saying I might.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, no, I'm just - yeah, just
letting you know.

WITNESS F: All right, well, anyway, if you, you know, you
might find out that - all wrong. I suspect you won't
because [REDACTED] and I don't know what's
happened because he's gone from speaking to me to not
speaking to me. I certainly hope it's not a situation

like what's occurred with ^{Mr Cooper} where, quite unlawfully, John, a condition of his parole is that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] which I find remarkable that it's good enough from Victoria Police's point of view that I support him financially and emotionally over seven years while he's giving evidence against 36 people, but then at the end when he gets released, they say to him, a condition of your parole is that you have [REDACTED] Oh, don't get me wrong, it suits me, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] But the fact of the matter is you can't keep - you can't do things like that.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, well, I - Nicola, I've got nothing to do with the Parole Board and - - -

WITNESS F: No, I'm not - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No.

WITNESS F: Again, I'm not - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No.

WITNESS F: - - - I'm not - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No.

WITNESS F: - - - suggesting for one moment, I'm letting you know. It's a fact, it's happened and, I think, you know - you know, your office should know about this stuff in

the event that it becomes public or something happens about it, that's all.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Nuh, I appreciate - appreciate you letting me know.

WITNESS F: I don't - I don't actually expect you to do anything, other than the recording of a conversation or I'm telling you, because down the track if something happens, well, you know about it.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, no, I appreciate you ringing and - and letting me know.

WITNESS F: And it wasn't actually the Parole Board imposing the condition, or it may have been the Parole Board imposing it, but the - the specification of that being the condition came from Victoria Police from [REDACTED]

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah, well, again, it's not - I can't comment on that so - - -

WITNESS F: So it may be that down the track ^{Mr Cooper} does something about it publicly which is what he's - what he indicated he was going to do.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

WITNESS F: Anyway, I'll let you go and see if you can find out what's going on, but otherwise I don't - I mean, I don't

really need you to tell me that it is, I - I accept from what I've been told it is.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Well, no, no, Nic - Nicola, I won't be - I won't be calling you back telling you what it is or - or it isn't because it's a - a - I - I wouldn't be telling you about any - - -

WITNESS F: No, no, and if I'm wrong - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: - - - any matters if it was but I - but it - - -

WITNESS F: - - - that's ex - that's exactly what I'm saying, John, I - - -

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Yeah.

WITNESS F: - - - don't expect you to.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: No, but I appreciate your ringing me and letting me know.

WITNESS F: All right, I will talk to you when the Dale fiasco start.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Take care, bye-bye.

WITNESS F: See ya, bye.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Bye.

DETECTIVE INSPECTOR O'CONNOR: Time is now 13.07, stop
recording.

END OF RECORDING