INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ASWICAC

STATEMENT IN THE MATTER OF: Operation Nickel - File No. E12/1944

PLACE:

GLENDENNING

NAME:

Joseph Steven BARTOLO

ADDRESS:

Known to ICAC

OCCUPATION:

Director

TELEPHONE NO: Known to ICAC

DATE:

8 October 2013

States: -

- 1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in Court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
- 2. I am 51 years of age.
- 3. I am the current Director of a company trading as J & G Plant Hire Pty Ltd and another company trading as J & G Excavations and Asphalting Pty Ltd. Both . J & G Excavation and companies operate from Asphalting Pty Ltd have operated for approximately 20 years and J & Plant Hire Pty Ltd has operated for approximately four (4) years. J & G Plant Hire Pty Ltd specialises in asphalting and road constructions.

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- 4. I am the current holder of a class Heavy Combination driver's licence with the New South Wales Roads and Maritime Services ("RMS"), formerly known as the Roads and Traffic Authority ("RTA"). I have held this class of license for approximately 20 years.
- 5. I was the registered owner of a 1994 Mitsubishi FV418KS Tipper truck, white in colour bearing New South Wales registration plate details UFY-683. The truck was registered through my company, J & G Plant Hire Pty Ltd. The Gross Vehicle Mass ("GVM") for this truck was 25,400 kilograms.
- 6. I was the registered owner of this truck between 27 April 2010 to 12 June 2013 when I sold the truck to CPC Civil Pty Ltd. CPC Civil Pty Ltd are located at
- 7. I have never removed registration plate number UFY-683 (NSW) from the vehicle whilst I was the registered owner. Nor did I ever allow any other person to use registration plate number UFY-683 (NSW) on their vehicle.
- 8. It is my understanding from discussions with my sons, that they were formally assessed for their heavy vehicle licenses by a heavy vehicle assessor by the name of Christopher Binos.

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- 9. Christopher Binos came to our work address to collect when they were to be assessed for their heavy vehicle licenses by him. Christopher Binos left with .
 in truck number UFY-683 (NSW).
- 10. Christopher Binos was recommended to us by one of my Plant Operators, who had previously been assessed and obtained his Heavy Combination license through Christopher Binos.
- 11. I cannot recall exactly when were assessed by Christopher Binos for their heavy vehicle licenses but I am aware that they were assessed individually competent and received their Heavy Rigid ("HR") class of licences from the Roads and Maritime Services approximately mid last year (2012).
- 12. I do not know of a business or company trading as Ace Truck Training Group or Forklift Training and Licensing Pty Ltd.
- 13. I have never rented, loaned or leased my vehicle UFY-683 (NSW) to Christopher Binos, Ace Truck Training Group, Forklift Training and Licensing Pty Ltd or any other person or company to be used for any heavy vehicle assessment training.
- 14. I am unable to locate any work or business diaries and/or other work related documentation relating to the travel movements for truck number UFY-683 (NSW) between August 2012 to October 2012.

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- 15. I cannot recall the exact movements and/or the locality of truck number UFY-683 (NSW) between 20 August 2012 to the 8 October 2012 inclusive but it would have been used in the normal course of business by myself or my staff members between those dates for work related activities and/or jobs.
- 16. Between August 2012 to October 2012, the only occasion that truck number UFY-683 (NSW) was ever used for any heavy vehicle assessment for any applicants was only on two occasions when my sons, used this truck to be formally assessed individually by Christopher Binos for the heavy vehicle licenses.
- 17. I am aware from these occasions that the truck was "off the road" for an entire day as their assessments took approximately 8 hours on each occasion to complete their heavy vehicle assessments.
- 18. I am able to state that this vehicle was not used on any other occasions for any heavy vehicle driving assessment training or testing.
- 19. On 8 October 2013, Investigator Evarna Hart and Senior Investigator Michael

 Kane from the Independent Commission Against Corruption ("ICAC") asked me
 about my knowledge of a number of persons who had been recorded as using my
 vehicle, registration number UFY-683 (NSW), on various dates between 20

 August 2012 to the 8 October 2012 inclusive for heavy truck license assessments.

 I am able to state the following:-

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20. I do not know the following persons:-

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21. Nor have any of these persons ever been given access to my vehicle, UFY-683 (NSW) at any stage to undertake any heavy truck driving assessments.

22. As previously stated in this statement, the vehicle was used on a daily basis by myself and/or my staff member during the normal course of our business.

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23. I would never allow any person not associated with my family or business or without the appropriate class of license to drive this vehicle.

NSW ICAC

Signature

Witness

M.W. Kane

Senior Investigator

8/10/13