

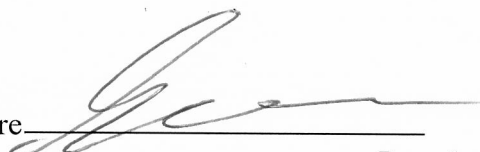
INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION**STATEMENT IN THE MATTER OF: Operation DASHA**

PLACE: ICAC
NAME: Simon Berry
ADDRESS: 7-255 Elizabeth Street Sydney
OCCUPATION: Investigator
TELEPHONE NO: 82815999
DATE: 4 April 2018

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 44 years of age.
3. I am currently employed with the Independent Commission against Corruption ("ICAC"). In May 2015, I was assigned to investigate allegations relating to Operation Dasha.
4. As part of my duties I contacted a number of people to obtain statements and or conduct interviews.

Signature _____



Witness _____

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STATEMENT IN THE MATTER OF: Operation DASHA
NAME: Simon Berry

5. As a result of investigation I became aware that Ms Karen Jones (“Jones”) applied for the Role of Director Planning Canterbury City Council (“CCC”) in 2014 and was subsequently invited to participate in an interview for that position. Ms Jones did participate in the interview for that position on 17 November 2014.

Exhibit 1: I produce and hereto attach an email dated from 31 January 2017 Simon Berry and Ms Karen Jones.

6. On 31 January 2017 I spoke with Ms Jones. As a result of that conversation sent an email to her relating to our conversation.

Exhibit 2: I produce and hereto attach RESOLVE entry dated 5 February 2018 from Simon Berry

7. On 5 February 2018, I spoke with Ms Jones and as a result of that conversation I created a case note in RESOLVE concerning the conversations I had with Ms Jones.
8. On 29 March 2018, I telephone Ms Jones on her mobile telephone and spoke with her about ICAC proceeding to a Public Inquiry I said to her “Can you recall if you received the interview questions prior to you attending the panel interview.”
- She said “No I didn’t”

Signature _____



Witness _____



Simon Berry

From: Karen Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 31 January 2017 10:41 AM
To: Simon Berry
Subject: TRIM: Re: ICAC - e15-0078

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: [CRM] Regarding: E15/0078
HP TRIM Record Number: D10426271

Hi Simon,

Thank-you for the email below. Please see the following amendments to the contents of the email. Apologies for the formatting, it seems my apple mac doesn't like track changes in emails.

Thank you for calling me this morning. As discussed today the purpose of this email is to outline our conversation today. You indicated that you were interviewed for the position of Director of Planning at Canterbury Council. You've indicated that you applied for the position and that you liaised with Judith Carpenter (recruiter) for that position. She conducted her recruitment as per standard. You attended the interview at Council and the panel consisted of Judith Carpenter, Mayor Robson, Councillors, GM Montague.

You indicated that this was unusual in that Mayor Robson and the Councillors were either on their phones or not paying attention. You also indicated that there were scripted questions, however, the councillors went off script and were aggressive towards you. You indicated that when you answered a question concerning contact from a councillor in the role as Director of Planning, you responded that you would refer the matter and adhere to protocol. This apparently angered the councillors.

I understand from our conversation that you thought the process was unprofessional and that Ms Carpenter apologised to you after the interview.

You have indicated that although you were happy to discuss the matter, however, you are not prepared to make a formal statement about this matter for personal reasons.

I would ask that you review this email and invite you to add or amend any part of the contents if you so desire.

I appreciate your time today and if you wish to change your mind or contact me further my details are below.

For our records would you also provide your contact details such as home address and phone number.

It's not unusual to have councilors and/or the mayor on an interview panel for a Directors position.

I can't remember any specific examples of something I was asked that was not required.

I can confirm that I am not prepared to make a formal statement about this matter for personal reasons. As requested and for your reference, please see my contact details as follows:

Karen Jones
[REDACTED]

Kind Regards,

Karen Jones

On 31 Jan 2017, at 10:11 am, Simon Berry <sberry@icac.nsw.gov.au> wrote:

Dear Karen

Thank you for calling me this morning. As discussed today the purpose of this email is to outline our conversation today. You indicated that you were interviewed for the position of Director of Planning at Canterbury Council. You've indicated that you applied for the position and that you liaised with Judith Carpenter (recruiter) for that position. She conducted her recruitment as per standard. You attended the interview at Council and the panel consisted on Judith Carpenter, Mayor Robson, Councillors, GM Montague.

You indicated that this was unusual in that councillors were on the panel and that between Mayor Robson and Councillors were either on their phones or not paying attention. You also indicated that there were scripted questions, however, the councillors went of script and were aggressive towards you or asked you things that were not required. You indicated that when you answered a question concerning contact from a councillor in the role as Director of Planning, you responded that you would refer the matter and adhere to protocol. This apparently angered the councillors.

I understand from our conversation that you thought the process was unprofessional and that Ms Carpenter apologised to you after the interview.

You have indicated that although you were happy to discuss the matter, however, you are not prepared to make a formal statement about this matter for personal reasons.

I would ask that you review this email and invite you to add or amend any part of the contents if you so desire.

I appreciate your time today and if you wish to change your mind or contact me further my details are below.

For our records would you also provide your contact details such as home address and phone number.

Regards

Simon Berry
Investigator | Investigations Division
Independent Commission against Corruption
Level 7, 255 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Phone | 02 8281 5887 Fax | 9264 5364 | Mobile 0419714287 Email | sberry@icac.nsw.gov.au

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E15/0078 Administrative

Simon Berry
04-Apr-2018 2:03 PM

Action Details

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Case Number: | E15/0078 | Assigned By: | Simon Berry |
| Assigned Date: | 05-Feb-2018 9:59 AM | Time Spent: | 16 |
| Assigned To: | Simon Berry | | |
| Location: | Unknown | | |
| Status: | Closed | | |

Comments

5-2-18 call made to Karen Jones re op Dasha - MSG Left.
5-2-18 Karen Jones call and confirmed she did not wish to make a statement regarding Op Dasha. Legal informed.

Due Dates

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Due Date: | 05-Feb-2018 9:59 AM | Simon Berry (Action Owner) |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------------|

Closure

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Completed By: | Simon Berry |
| Completed Date: | 05-Feb-2018 5:00 PM |
| Outcome: | |