

Does that sound right?---Within reason, yeah.

And that the other half of the donations, also being \$50,000 in cash, was banked into the ALP New South Wales Country Labor account on the same day?---Oh, okay. I didn't know that.

10 Now, the ALP's named you as the person who handed these cash donations to the ALP. Is that the case?---So, in terms of that response which I can glean was from the return that we gave before, I was the one who handed the money over to the accounting department. So, it, are you, are you saying that I, was I the one who brought the money in from the street level into the building?

Did you do that?---No.

What did you do with it?---I was given the money by my boss while I was sitting at my desk.

20 Okay. Who's your boss?---Jamie Clements at the time.

THE COMMISSIONER: In your time was there any in-house training, as it were, of staff in relation to the question of donations, given the advent of legislation putting controls over the subject of donations?---We, we do have training for the candidates and their staff. I can't - - -

I'm talking about head office staff - - - Yeah, I can't.

30 who were involved in assisting with fundraising activities?---I can't remember exactly whether we had any specific training for ourselves. There might have been training for the accounting staff perhaps.

Right. Thank you.

MR JOHNSTON: You said that you were handed the money at your desk by Jamie Clements.---Yep.

40 What can you tell me about the circumstances in which that \$100,000 cash came to be in the possession of the ALP?---So, I'm sure this is information that you already have, but on whichever day that was – I can't remember the date – Mr Huang Xiangmo brought the money into the office. Oh, sorry, yeah, brought the money into the office, passed it to Jamie during their meeting, the meeting finished, he left, Jamie gave the money to me and said, “Can you just count it and check that the forms are all corresponding with the amount in there,” which is what I would normally do, so I did.

Mr Huang Xiangmo, can you spell his name?---Surname H-u-a-n-g and the other name is X-i-a-n-g-m-o.

Now, I want to drill down into a little bit of the detail of what you've just told us.---Sure.

You say you can't remember the date that this occurred?---No.

Can you remember when it was in proximity to the date that it was banked? That is, it's \$100,000 cash. It's a lot of money.---Sure, sure.

10 Was it hanging around the office for a while?---It would have been banked probably a day or two after we had received it, I would say. I can, I can tell you categorically that it wasn't banked on the day that it came to the office because by the time I'd counted it, because of all my other work that I was doing, the bank had closed and the accounting staff had left for the day, so I brought the money home because I wouldn't leave it in the office, obviously, a bag of you know, cash. Anything could happen to it overnight. I brought it home and brought it back.

20 There was no safe in the office to keep it?---I think there might be a safe in the accounting department's rooms but when they leave they lock their doors, so I don't know if there's other safes, but yeah.

So, you took it home and then brought it back the next morning?---Yep. Well, the next day which I, if it was a Friday, do you know what I mean? That would have come back on Monday.

So you, if that had have been the case, you would have kept it in your house over the - - -?---Yep.

30 Would it have been safer in your house than it would have at the office? ---Yes.

Why do you say that?---Because then I'm in control of the money, I guess. Like, overnight, I don't know, I can't see where the money is, I can't see, not to accuse cleaners or, you know, anybody of taking it. If, if it goes missing, it's on my head. So if I take it home, I'd be dumb to steal it, steal any of it myself because I'd be the one to blame for it.

40 Sure. So, you've got to look after it.---Yeah.

Yes. So, when you brought it back in to the office, who did you give it to? ---I think I gave it to one of the accounts staff.

Do you remember who that was?---Either Maggie Wang or Jenny Zhao, I think.

So Maggie Wang, what was her role?---She was the, like, I guess director of finance.

And Jenny Zhao?---Jenny, she's an accountant at head office.

Z-h-o-u?---Z-h-a-o.

10

A – O. So, Jenny works under Maggie?---Correct.

Okay. Going back to the day that Mr Huang came into the office.---Sure.

This was at the ALP head office at Sussex Street?---That's correct.

Did you see Mr Huang arrive?---Just saw him walk, we work in, sort of where I was working at the time, is, is an open plan. So, yeah, I saw him walk past.

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He walked past your desk?---If I, if my desk was here, he would have walked past where my jacket is, at that distance.

Approximately five metres away or so?---Yeah, something like that.

Where was your desk in the open-plan office, in relation to Jamie Clements' workspace or office? Did he have an office?---Yeah, he has his own office. So if, if my workspace was here, this desk, there's a wall behind me and then behind, I mean, in that section behind the wall is his and another office and the boardroom and where the, the executive assistants work.

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So, you saw Mr Huang. Can you explain, tell us from the beginning what you saw Mr Huang do or where was he when he arrived and where did he go? In the layout of your office.---He came in through, he would have reported himself at reception.

Is there a sign-in procedure?---No. There's no sign-in procedure. Then, when Jamie would have been ready or, you know, when, when the message would have got through to him that, you know, his meeting or guest had arrived, he would have gone through the security door at the front, done a U-turn to get to, towards Jamie's office and I think Jamie walked out halfway to meet him and then they walked in.

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THE COMMISSIONER: You saw that, did you?---I'm pretty sure, I'm pretty sure.

MR JOHNSTON: So, you saw Jamie Clements come out and meet Mr Huang?---I'm pretty sure I did.

And together they went into Jamie's office?---Well, they went past me, past the wall and I can only assume they went into Jamie's office.

10 So, you didn't see them enter his office?---No.

Was there anyone with Mr Huang when he arrived or did he arrive alone? ---He might have come with someone, maybe his interpreter. Bearing in mind, this is, you know, so when they come in, when anyone comes in, everyone's head down, working and, you know, there's a million things going on at once and there's people talking and it's a big open-plan office. It's called, it's an organising centre, so there's a lot of things happening at once. It's not, it's not like it's just, you know, one person, me, and I can see everything happening. You know what I mean? It's, it's a bit vague.

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Do you remember - - -?---More than likely, sorry, more than likely he would have come with his interpreter because his English isn't that good.

Have you spoken to him before, Mr Huang?---Nothing more than, "Hi," you know, "how are you?" because I can't speak Mandarin and he is mainly a Mandarin speaker.

30 In what circumstances have you spoken to him like that?---If I see him at a function, I greet him, et cetera. Or if I saw him on the street, I would greet him. That's about it.

So, you would know him well enough to say, "Hello," on the street?---At that point in time I would say, "Hello." Whether he fully recognised who I was, I can't be sure. He probably had at that time some recognition of who I was, but I can't, because we don't really talk because of the language barrier. So I, I don't know for certain. Like, we're not close. Like, I know now he knows who I am because we've met or seen each other on more occasions since then.

40 At functions?---Yeah. Not private, not private situations, functions, public things.

Work-related public functions?---Work related, community related because I'm also part of the Chinese community as well.

So when he came into the office that day, you recognised him immediately?---Yes.

Was he carrying anything with him?---I'm pretty sure he was carrying the plastic bags which contained the forms and the money.

What sort of plastic bags were they?---I'm pretty sure it was an ALDI, an ALDI plastic bag.

Was it one or two or more?---I think it was double. Might have been double bagged because there was, like, the weight.

10 What do you mean by double bag?---Oh, you know, like, if you, you're carrying something heavy, you put two bags around it so it doesn't get a hole and fall through.

So one inside the other?---Yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: Who was carrying it, you say, that bag?---I think Mr Huang was carrying it, I think.

Mr Huang.---Yeah.

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MR JOHNSTON: Did you speak to him on that day in the office?---No.

Do you remember what time of day it was?---I think after lunch some time, I'm pretty sure.

Do you know if Mr Huang met Mr Clements alone in the office or whether, well, or, I'll withdraw that. You'd imagine that the interpreter went with him to the office?---I imagine so. That's, that's on the proviso that the interpreter was there but I'm pretty sure there was in interpreter there.

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Did you see Mr Huang leave?---That's a bit sketchy. I don't, see, where the entrance is, is a longer, walking in, it's a lot easier to see people come in. When people leave, if you've got your head down, facing that direction and they walk out to the, the exit, it's very easy to miss. I can't remember a hundred per cent if I saw him leave. Very often you just hear the door, so, you know.

How long after, what was the time period between seeing him meet Mr Clements and Mr Clements coming out and talking to you and giving you the money?---Oh, I don't think it was that long.

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THE COMMISSIONER: What are talking about?---Maybe half an hour, maybe less. Probably less, 15 to 20 minutes.

MR JOHNSTON: You say it was an open-plan office. There would have been other people in the office that saw Mr Huang arrive?---There would have been people in the office when he arrived. Whether they saw him or