

NSW Police

INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE

Investigation:	Strike Force Lantle
Title of Note:	Meeting with Joanne McCarthy (Newcastle Herald) & Andrew Morrison

Narrative:

At 12.30pm this date Detective Chief Inspector Tayler, S/Sgt Quinn and D/Sgt Steel met with MCCARTHY and MORRISON in New castle Detectives Office. Both were asked their perception of what this meeting was about today and stated they thought the meeting was concerning the adequacy of the Police Investigation. Both were advised by D/C/I Tayler there would be no discussion on the details of how the investigation is being conducted nor if what has been conducted so far is adequate. DCI Tayler then requested MCCARTHY to disclose details on potential other witnesses to these allegations raised by AL. MCCARTHY stated she would not disclose any persons details that have supplied her with information. She stated that AL was not comfortable discussing the matters with myself and then suggested that perhaps someone with experience should be allocated to the case.

MORRISON stated that Police should be obtaining a search warrant to obtain the file on MCALINDEN from the Catholic Church as that would provide evidence of the allegations raised by AL. It was explained to MORRISON and MCCARTHY that a statement from AL was attempted to be taken disclosing that information and any subsequent lines of inquiry coming from that statement would then be followed.

MCCARTHY and MORRISON then went on to say they had information about matters that involved MCALINDEN in Merriwa and other places, however to investigate that she claims we would need to obtain the MCALINDEN file. MORRISON suggested obtaining the Towards Healing files for the past 10 years to identify victims of MCALINDEN. It was again explained to both that the first point of call was AL and an attempt to obtain her statement had been made, however she would not complete her statement due to the fact she had to disclose such intimate details about the allegations.

MCCARTHY claims that AL will supply a statement to Police, just not to me. D/S/SGT Quinn advised MCCARTHY that he had spoken to AL who advised him she would not supply a statement at all to Police. MCCARTHY suggested that she would accompany AL when she wanted to re-engage with her statement, however she was advised that this would be inappropriate. It was suggested that Helen KEEVERS who was the previous manager of Zimmerman House could sit with AL whilst her statement was made. This idea would need

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to be canvassed further due to the fact that KEEVERS may be a potential witness. The meeting was concluded with Police advising MCARTHY and MORRISON that Police would get back in touch with *AL* and contact Helen KEEVERS to obtain further information and the possibility of her sitting with *AL* whilst the statement is completed.

Prepared By:	Detective Sergeant Kirren Steel
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