



# NSW POLICE SERVICE

## STATEMENT OF WITNESS

**In the matter of:** James Patrick FLETCHER  
**Place:** Maitland Police Station  
**Date:** 18 November 2004

**Name:** Michael John MALONE **Tel. No:** 49 697677

**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 65 years of age.
3. Further to a previous statement made by myself on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2003 I now state the following. I commenced training as a Catholic Priest in 1958 & now hold the position of BISHOP for the Maitland Newcastle Diocese. I have held that position since 1995.
4. It has been a practise of the Catholic Church to have altar boys perform various ceremonies within the church for hundreds of years. The boys (Now also inclusive of girls) assist around the altar, bringing articles to the priest as required. The parish priest has direct supervision & authority over the boys in which might a very similar situation to a teacher student relationship. The priest assists in the training & occasionally meets the boys socially in gratitude for their ministry.

Witness:

  
P. Fox  
D/Sgt

Signature:

  
Michael John MALONE