



{In Archive} Re: Urgent - SF information  
Graeme Parker to: Wayne Humphrey  
Cc: Tracy Chapman, John Gratton

08/11/2012 14:51

History: This message has been replied to.  
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Trace

I just added some comments under Waynes. I know I have been rather strong concerning my final comment in Q6, but it's very hard to keep people in check with regards to Media silence, when this Officer continually makes on record comments in the public forum; particularly given our department seems to be incapable or unwilling to correct this.

Commander

If any of my comment have had your life more difficult, I apologise, but I feel strongly about this matter and if asked, I feel obliged to answer truthfully.

Wayne Humphrey | Tracey see below. Responses are provided with... 08/11/2012 13:47:38

From: Wayne Humphrey/19634/Staff/NSWPolice  
To: Tracy Chapman/29700/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice  
Cc: gra1joh, Graeme Parker  
Date: 08/11/2012 13:47  
Subject: Re: Urgent - SF information

Tracey,

See below. Responses are provided without prejudice. I have conferred with Graeme and he concurs with my responses as being accurate. Graeme will respond to his specific areas shortly (if he hasn't already).

It is my view that DCI Fox has again breached the media policy with regards to today's articles. He is still a member of the NSWPF and accordingly this is a matter which should be investigated.

regards

wdh



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Tracy Chapman | Wayne As discussed, can you please provide a r... 08/11/2012 12:45:22

From: Tracy Chapman/29700/Staff/NSWPolice  
To: Wayne Humphrey/19634/Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice  
Date: 08/11/2012 12:45  
Subject: Urgent - SF information

Wayne,

As discussed, can you please provide a response to any of the questions listed herein that you and/or your team can comment on?

1. What is your response to the letter and article in the Newcastle Herald today in particular the concerns raised by Detective Inspector Peter Fox

DCI Fox raises personally held views in his letter. There appears to be a degree of validity in his calls for a Royal Commission. The article's references as to his leaving the police being in part due to internal police disputes is a personal view of DCI Fox and one I cannot comment on..

DCI Fox has demonstrated continually his propensity to run investigations 'in the press'. His relationship with Joanne McCarthy is well known and the proof of that rests in this current (and many previous articles). My recollection of the rationale behind excluding him from status reports into the progress of SF Lantle was very sound and it was to prevent the investigation being 'run in the press.' Assistant Commissioner Mitchell would have direct knowledge of this as he gave the direction to DCI Fox, and all others, in respect of the security surrounding the inquiry. DCI Fox was never part of SF Lantle and as far as I can recall was not, nor would not, have been considered.

DCI Fox's continual claims of 'startling and earth shattering evidence' have been tested thoroughly by SF Lantle.

He does not have information (unless he has lied to investigators) that is either admissible or relevant. DCI Fox in fact suggests some of his evidence exists in 'his head'. He has represented evidence from witnesses that has been found to be incorrect. SF Lantle took a specific route of ensuring all witnesses were electronically interviewed so as all allegations and issues arising could be thoroughly exhausted, without later claims by any person that a specific issue was raised and not investigated. Many of DCI Fox's claims surround 'informal' conversations with witnesses. He (and Joanne McCarthy) have claimed certain witnesses refuse to deal with anyone but DCI Fox. This is a nonsense and has been proved so through the conduct of SF Lantle. If DCI Fox was 'running an investigation' it did not appear on what meagre holdings he gave to SF Lantle (as I recall one statement - confirm with DI Parker) to have any structure or in fact any managerial oversight.

It is common knowledge that DCI Fox has actively inputted (if not co-authored) at least one novel in respect of his investigation into a murder at Anna Bay some years ago. There has always been significant concerns that his actions with regards to the content of today's newspaper article are predictors to another novel. Certainly the nature of many of his quoted comments are more in the terms of a 'true crime' novel than the approach an 'experienced' investigator would take.

Trace

I agree strongly with all of Waynes above comment. I will further add that during S/F Lantle's inquiries there were a number of discrepancies in evidence related, on record during one particular electronic interviews, when compared to the manually typed statement taken by Detective Fox. These were significant in their nature, and do not appear to be mistakes or errors in memory. Why there should be such discrepancies I cannot say, but it is highly unusual and I will leave you to draw whatever conclusion you see fit.

2. Are you 100 per cent happy with how the NSW Police are handling the allegations of cover ups and concealing crimes by members of the clergy?

In the terms of the conduct of SF Lantle, yes this SF was extremely thorough. I cannot comment on other investigations held by other commands such as Lake Macquarie.

I don't think we should ever be 100% certain of anything. What I will say is I am very happy with the job we did and I believe it is the most thorough investigation we could have been covered within the parameter of the investigation agreement. S/F Lantle should not be viewed as a comprehensive investigation into every possible concealment offence ever committed by the Catholic Church. Its charter was well defined and it dealt comprehensively within that charter.

3. Is the Catholic Church and its senior officers fully cooperating with your investigations including Strike Force Lantle?

No. Further information available from DI Parker in this issue and from the original briefing

document supplied by D/Sgt Little.

One the whole I would say the Church was surprisingly cooperative. Indeed, I would have to concede, even most of the individual senior officers were cooperative.

REDACTED

4. Do you believe a judicial inquiry would jeopardise current police investigations?  
Not in respect of SF Lantle. I cannot comment on other investigations.

Concur.

5. Have your officers been impeded in their investigations by any member of the clergy? or officers or employees of the Catholic Church?  
See Q 3. Some have exercised their right to silence.

Trace, you need to be very careful with the 'right to silence' thing if this is going into any public arena. Please see question 3.

6. Why was Chief Inspector, Peter Fox asked to cease investigating the clergy matter and hand over all his evidence to other police?  
See question 1. DCI Fox was not ostensibly conducting any investigation, certainly not one that was declared at any briefing I was present for, nor that I was informed of.

He was not a member of the Newcastle City LAC, the command with carriage of the matter. I have never been present when DCI Fox requested to be part of the SF. If I was, I would not have supported the request.

I note Wayne's reply. I must admit that I was not in the command at the time this investigation was kicked off, however, it's my understanding that it was originally held by Lake Mac and Region requested Newcastle take carriage of it? Not 100% SURE, but if that's the case whomever was responsible for that decision would probably be the person best placed to answer.

At any rate, if my memory serves me, none of the offences disclosed in SFL were committed in any command every under the control/authority of DCI Fox. The ongoing issues associated with Crime Management and Criminal Investigation associated with Port Stephens are no secret and it defies logic that DCI should attempt to ingratiate himself into a matter that has nothing to do with him. This is typical of the behaviour regularly displayed by DCI Fox, which for all intense and purpose to my knowledge, has gone unchecked and unmanaged for almost as long as I have known him. This appears to be a clear and flagrant breach of the media policy by a senior office of the New South Wales Police Force. The second, too my knowledge. This is just another example of DCI Fox contempt for fellow investigators and the department as a whole.

Cheers  
TC

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