

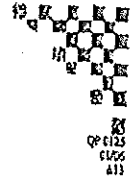
QFCI

Date: 27/05/11 JM

Exhibit Number: 528



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Occurrence #: _____

Statement no: _____ Date: 26/01/2011

Statement of

Name of witness: KLEIDON, Anthony Brett

Date of birth: [redacted] Age: [redacted] Meat Worker

Police officer taking statement

Name of police officer: LOWE, Andrew James

Rank: Detective Senior Constable Reg. no.: 15925

Region/Command/Division: Southern Station: Toowoomba CPIU

Statement:

Anthony Brett KLEIDON states:

1. I am 38-year-old male. I reside at [redacted] Toowoomba. My mobile phone number is [redacted]. I am employed as a Meat Worker at Beef City at Oakey.
2. I remember the events of Monday the 10th of January 2011.
3. On this day, I was at home all day at the [redacted] units of Kitchener Street, near the intersection with James Street, [redacted] at the back of the complex. I have lived here since the 4th of January 2011.
4. I remember that it was raining all day long. I remember that it was raining heavily and then it would stop, before starting to rain heavily again. It was like this all day.
5. About a week before hand, there had been some more heavy rain there and the creek that runs along Kitchener Street, "East Creek", had flooded over the road. Because of this previous occasion, and because of the way it had been raining that day, I was concerned about the creek flood again, so I was keeping an eye on it. I was doing this by walking out onto my back balcony.

[redacted]
(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **KLEIDON, Anthony Brett**

6. From my back balcony, I can see along Kitchener Street, North from about the caravan park, south past the information centre.
7. Over a while, I was watching the water rise in the creek. I could see the water rising behind the information centre, and it soon broke its banks and the water flowed over the intersection of James and Kitchener Streets. I remember seeing a mini van stopping at the traffic lights in the water which was rising very quickly.
8. As I was watching the water rise in the intersection, I saw a number of cars drive through.
9. From where I was standing on my balcony, I took a number of photos of these cars driving through, using the camera on my [REDACTED] mobile phone.
10. I remember seeing a white sedan approach the intersection of James and Kitchener Street. This car was heading south along Kitchener Street. At this time, all the other vehicles had stopped driving through the water on the intersection, however this white car drove into the water. It looked like the car had just stopped waiting for the lights. I could not tell if it was still running or if it had stalled.
11. By this stage, the water was up around the headlights of this car.
12. I remember saw a couple of blokes at the corner of the intersection closest to me, which would be the north western corner. I remember seeing one of these blokes grabbing a rope from a truck that had stopped nearby.
13. One of the blokes tied the rope around himself and around a pole at the corner. He then started to walk out into the water towards the white sedan, however the water swept him off his feet and he didn't make it to the car. This blokes was of solid build.
14. I didn't see how this man got back to the corner, however I think someone must have pulled him back in.

[REDACTED]
(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **KLEIDON, Anthony Brett**

15. I remember at this time seeing two kids on the roof of the white sedan.

16. I then saw a second bloke, who was skinny and wearing a black T-Shirt, then try and make his way to the white sedan. This bloke now had the car tied around him.

17. This second bloke made it to the car and I think that he tied the rope to the car itself, because a short time later, he came back to the corner carrying one of the kids from the car.

18. I then saw this second man go back to the car. He made back to the car, which is when I saw the rear driver's side door of the car open and a third person climbed out of the back seat. I initially thought that it was a third child in the car, as there was one still on the roof of the car.

19. By this time, the water had risen and was lapping over the top of the bonnet.

20. Just as this man got to the car, I contacted 000 on my mobile phone. I was put through to Toowoomba Police and was telling them what was happening.

21. Whilst I was on the phone to Police, the rope that had been tied to the car snapped. I remember hearing the "twang" of the breaking rope which I could hear from my back balcony which would be 500 meters away.

22. I remember seeing the man try and jump onto the bonnet of the white car. By this time, I had walked down to Kitchener Street where I was standing with other people right on the waters edge. We were yelling at them to get off the car.

23. I remember seeing the man jump from the car, which was moving sideways down the road and towards the middle of east creek. The man grabbed hold of the nearest light post and held on.

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KLEIDON, Anthony Brett

24. I remember seeing the white sedan move underneath a tree and taking out the "Mary Street" street sign.

25. As the car went into the creek, I saw the other two people, who from what I could see were a boy and a girl, who were still on the car, jump from the car and grab hold of a light post further down the road near the caravan park. I remember seeing them trying to stand up, however the water was moving so quickly that they couldn't get up.

26. The boy was holding onto the girl and she was hanging onto the post and him. The boy let go of the girl and grabbed a tree branch.

27. We were yelling at him to climb the tree. At this time, the girl let of the post and grabbed another tree branch behind the boy. The branch that the boy was holding then snapped and I remember seeing him let go of the broken branch.

28. At the same time the boy let go, the girl let go as well. I don't know whether she let go to grab him, as both of them disappeared from my sight.

29. As this was occurring, there were a group of people on the waterline. We had walked down the road with the two and were down near the Caravan Park when we saw them let go of the branches. After they let go and disappeared from sight, we walked back towards the intersection where there was a large group of people standing. The bloke who had rescued the kid was still in the water holding onto the light post.

30. After about 40 or 50 minutes, the water went down. At its maximum, it would have been up around shoulder height on the bloke who was holding the pole in the water.

31. When the water went down, the Police were there as well as the "Swift Water Rescue Team", who had rescued another person sitting on a car in the water. They then went and got the bloke who was hanging onto the pole still and helped him from the water.

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KLEIDON, Anthony Brett

32. After this, there was a group of us standing around talking. The Police were asking questions of people who were in the rescue. Eventually they reopened the intersection, which was when I returned back to by unit.

33. Throughout this event, I took a number of photos using the camera on by [redacted] Mobile Phone.

34. On the 26th of January 2011, I attended the Toowoomba Police Station and provided a statement to Detective Senior Constable Andrew LOWE of the Toowoomba Child Protection and Investigation Unit about this matter.

35. On this day, I provided Detective Senior Constable Andrew LOWE with my mobile phone so that the photos that I took on the 10th of January 2011, could be downloaded.

36. Of these photos, there are a series of images labelled P060111_09.02.JPG through to P060111_09.12.JPG, which were taken on Thursday the 6th of January 2011 of previous flooding. The images labelled P100111_13.48.JPG through to P100111_16.26.JPG are the images that I took on the 10th of January 2011.

[redacted]
Anthony KLEIDON

Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of section 110A(5)(c)(ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 26/01/2011 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 5 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything that I know is false.

[redacted].....Signature

Signed at Toowoomba this 26th day of January 2011.

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)