



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Occurrence #: _____

Statement no.: _____ Date: 10/03/2011

Statement of

Name of witness: POINER, Maurice Keith

Date of birth: [redacted] Age: [redacted] Occupation: Police Officer

Police officer taking statement

Name: POINER, Maurice Keith

Rank: Superintendent Reg. no.: 5042

Region/Command/Division: Admin Division Station: Fleet Mgt Branch

Statement:

Maurice Keith Poiner states:-

I am a Superintendent of Police. I am the Fleet Manager at Fleet Management Branch, Administration Branch, and have held that position since January 2008.

I was sworn in as a member of the Queensland Police Service on 2 April 1982.

I have 28 years policing experience having served in:

Date	Role	Function	Location
Current	Superintendent	A/District Officer, Mount Isa District	Northern Region
Dec 10 – Feb 10	Superintendent	Deployed into natural disaster areas: 1/ Central Region 2/ Lockyer Valley 3/ Cardwell and Tully	Central Region Southern Region Far Northern Region
Oct 10 – Dec 10	Superintendent	ESC: 1/ Implement Adamson Review; and 2/ Review of current and future ESC accom needs.	ESC

Exhibit Number: 209
QFCI
Date: 29/4/11
JM

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

(Signature of police officer preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

Mar 09 to Sept 10	Superintendent	Strategic Asset Management	Administration Division
Oct 08 to Mar 09	Superintendent	Manager, Property and Facilities	Administration Division
Apr 08 to Sept 08	Superintendent	Fleet Manager, Fleet Mgmt Branch	Administration Division
Jan 02 to Apr 08	Inspector	Mgr, Transport Section	Administration Division
Nov 00 to Jan 02	Inspector	Mgr, Const Dev Program; and Dev Manager, Assessment Development Program	HRDB
Nov 99 to Nov 00	Snr Sgt	OIC, Caboolture Station	North Coast Region
May 97 to Nov 99	Snr Sgt	Officer in Charge Mackay Watchhouse	Central Region
Sept 96 to May 9	Sergeant	Second in Charge, Thursday Island Station	Far Northern Region
Jan 93 to Sept 96	Sergeant	Officer in Charge, Tara Station	Southern Region
Dec 90 to Jan 93	D/Snr Con	Bundaberg CIB	North Coast Region
Nov 87 to Dec 90	Snr Const	Traffic Accident Investigation Squad	Brisbane
Jan 87 to Nov 87	Snr Const	Administration Branch	Commissioners Office
Nov 85 to Jan 87	PCCconst PCCon 1/C	Metro CIB, Brisbane	Brisbane
Feb 83 to Nov 85	Const	Oxley Traffic Branch	Metropolitan South
Apr 82 to Feb 83	Const	General Duties (FYC): Woolloongabba Fortitude Valley Sandgate	Brisban

During my Service, I have completed a number of courses at the Australian Emergency Management Institute at Mount Macedon in Victoria. They were:

- Introduction To Counter Disaster Management Course
- Disaster District Coordination Centre Training Course

(Witness's signature)

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

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

- Senior Disaster Management Course
- Evacuation Management

I have never been appointed as a DDC or EOO apart from my current duties as Acting District Officer at Mount Isa apart from one month where I am appointed DDC for the duration of my relieving duties, ending on 25 March, 2011.

The information contained in this statement is provided on the basis of the knowledge, information and material currently available to me and my interpretation of the information sought by the requirement at this point in time.

The information I have provided relates to my involvement as Community Liaison Officer for Grantham, Murphy's Creek and Helidon for the period from 22 January 2011 to 2 February 2011

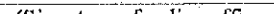
The information in this statement does not relate to my involvement in the flooding in Central Police Region where I managed Logistical Supply for the Region between 30 December 2010 to 18 January 2011.

In response to the written requirement of the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry dated 9 March 2011, I provide the following information:

- I had no involvement in the preparation or planning undertaken in the Southern Region in advance of or in relation to the 2010/2011 flood events;
- I had no involvement in the immediate management, response or recovery operations in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region apart from my role as Community Liaison Officer for Grantham, Murphy's Creek and Helidon where I liaised, assisted and advised members of the public and various groups as to where necessary information or assistance could be provided by the appropriate authorities in the area;


(Witness's signature)


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


(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

- I had no involvement in relation to resourcing, coordination or deployment of personnel and equipment in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- I had no involvement in relation to management, maintenance or reinstating the supply of essential services (water, power and communications) in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- I had no involvement in relation to resourcing accessed concerning weather forecasts and how the information was disseminated amongst relevant persons in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- In relation to the measures taken to inform the communities about the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region and the responses thereto. As outlined, I was appointed as Community Liaison Officer for Grantham, Murphy's Creek and Helidon for the period from 22 January 2011 to 2 February 2011. I relieved Inspector Michael Crowley (liaison for Murphys Creek and Helidon) and Inspector Ben Marcus (liaison for Grantham).

Initially my role was to act as 'go between' for the members of the community and the Queensland Police Service but this eventually extended into covering other Government Agencies (local, state and federal). If members of the community or other groups required assistance, I would advise them of where the necessary information, advice or assistance could be obtained.

Examples of this included:

- The town of Grantham was closed to general access by way of a series of roadblocks. Members of the community within though, needed to gain access for people assisting them in recovery. My role was to ensure the identification system being utilised met with QPS need and that QPS staff at the relevant roadblock complied by allowing or denying access where necessary.

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

(Signature of police officer preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

- There was intense media interest and some members of the community sought media involvement and others were against it. I coordinated between the community, media agencies, the QPS Media Section and QPS Regional staff to enable and monitor media activities (including 60 Minutes, ABC, The Australian, etc).
- Coordinating specific police attendance at specific community and organisational meetings. Spending time with members of the community who were displaying anger and frustration at community meetings to ascertain the reasons for the anger and what was needed to resolve their concerns and directing them towards the appropriate agencies for assistance.
- Advising community groups, such as Murphys Creek, who were working outside of the appropriate legislative network in recovery and directing them towards the LDMG and the assistance that could be accessed through that entity.

The scale of the event was significant. On my arrival in the Region, the Queensland Police Service had a number of resources allocated to assist the community. I was in regular communication with QPS staff allocated to the areas affected as well as District and Regional staff.

The QPS ensured appropriate staff attended the relevant organisational and community meetings and placed staff at evacuation centres to monitor and assist the public throughout the response to the event. Information was readily available to the communities.

I found staff within the Southern Region both positive and helpful. The issues I liaised with them varied in level of complication and seriousness but I always received professional responses from the members involved. The level of satisfaction, from the members of the public or the organisations I made the inquiries on behalf of, was always high. This was based upon comments and feedback received.

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

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

During my period of deployment, I am not aware of a single issue I raised that was not resolved by the Region. I saw this as a credit to the professionalism, positive communication and selfless attitude displayed by all members of the QPS at all times;

- I had no involvement in relation to nature and timing of all communications between the DDC, DDMG, SDMCC or the SDC in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- In relation to the involvement with Commonwealth agencies in relation to the provision of emergency response measures, personnel, equipment or services during the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region and the responses thereto.

I had a limited involvement with the Australian Defence Force who had staff on the ground at Grantham and Murphys Creek. My involvement related primarily to advising Australian Defence Force of issues or requests by members of the community or organisations within the community.

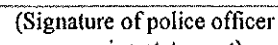
In both areas, the professionalism of the Australian Defence Force was outstanding. The troops and their management were working tirelessly in assisting the communities and their efforts were very positively commented on by those they were helping.

My only other involvement with other Federal Agencies was through the Community Centres where I directed persons with various inquiries received towards the relevant Federal Agency (e.g. Centrelink).

- In relation to the involvement with State agencies in relation to the provision of emergency response measures, personnel, equipment or services during the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region and the responses thereto.


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Commissioner for Declarations's signature


(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

My only involvement with State Agencies was through the Community Centres where I directed persons with various inquiries received towards the relevant State Agency (e.g. Department of Housing).

- In assessing the adequacy of equipment and communications systems in the Region during the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region. I found the equipment available more than met any needs I had. I was not aware of any event during my period of deployment where equipment was not made available to meet the needs of staff.

Communications systems during the event, apart from normal geographical limitations, also met my needs.

- In relation to the adequacy of the community's response during the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region. The communities in Grantham and Murphys Creek dealt with the issues they experienced primarily in the same manner. There was a strong sense of community that developed and an active push to help each other in recovering from the event.

Murphys Creek benefited further from the military expertise of a local community member who, in the period immediately after the event, took command of the community resources (human, physical and financial) and directed towards the various recovery tasks. The member concerned was a retired military officer and his experience and training definitely benefited that community as they worked and liaised with the various agencies during the response and recovery.

The negative aspect of this eventuated from a lack of understanding at local community and council level of assistance available through the State and Federal legislation. To that end unnecessary costs were incurred by the community sourcing and deploying equipment and people.

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

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **POINER, Maurice Keith**

As assistance became available through the State and Federal response, the community was made aware of it and they sought to integrate back into the appropriate network.

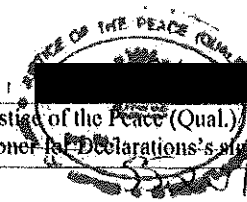
Grantham did not have the benefit of that level of expertise and were more reliant on State and Federal assistance.

- I had no involvement in relation to the circumstances of any human fatality in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region, nor the measures taken to prevent or respond to any such fatality;
- I had no involvement in relation to the protection of private and public property or the preservation of vital infrastructure in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- I have no knowledge of any special consideration that should be given within the region by reason of any regional or geographical differences in respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region;
- In respect of the 2010/2011 flood event in Southern Region, I have no knowledge of any feature of the disaster preparation and planning stages or the disaster response and recovery operations which presented particular or may require practical or legislative change to improve disaster management in the region;
- In respect to my role as Community Liaison Officer at Grantham, Murphys Creek and Helidon. My overall impression was the scale of the event and the level of destruction was significant and had an overwhelming effect on the community. This was appropriately addressed by the QPS and the other relevant agencies in an effective and professional manner given any limitations of resources that may or may not have occurred.

As time progressed and the communities became more organised and they were able to access the assistance available from the relevant agencies.

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(Witness's signature)



 (Justice of the Peace (Qual.))

Commissioner of Declarations's signature

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(Signature of police officer preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: POINER, Maurice Keith

During my deployment there were several negative opinions stated to me regarding the Lockyer Valley Regional Council and the lack of assistance available from that group however I have no specific knowledge of the local council and events leading up to, during and immediately after the event; and

- There are no notes, documents, or recordings of those issues raised with me by the communities of Grantham, Murphys Creek or Helidon relating to the Terms of Reference including conversations with individuals within any of those communities.



M K POINER
SUPERINTENDENT 5042
11 March 2011

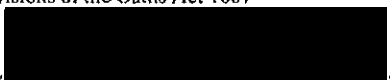
Oaths Act Declaration

OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)

I Maurice Keith Poiner do solemnly and sincerely declare that:


- (1) This written statement by me dated 10/3/11 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 9 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 I know to be false.

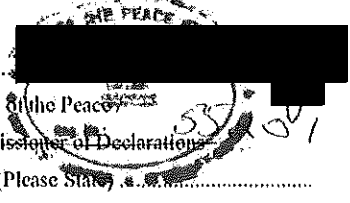
and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867

..........Signature

Taken and declared before me at Mount Isa

This 16th day of March 2011

Witness.....


 Justice of the Peace
 Commissioner for Declarations
 Other (Please State)

(Witness's signature)

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

(Signature of police officer
preparing statement)