

STATEMENT

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| NAME: | [REDACTED] |
| ADDRESS: | [REDACTED] |
| OCCUPATION: | [REDACTED] |
| TELEPHONE: | [REDACTED] |

1. My name is [REDACTED] and my address and contact details are known to Mr [REDACTED] [REDACTED].
2. In September 1995 I commenced employment with Telecom Australia which later changed its business name to the Telstra Corporation. I was originally employed as an Investigator attached to the Special Services Unit within Telecom Investigations which was later to become Telstra Protective Services. Over the next twelve years I was promoted to the roles of Senior Investigator and then Principal Investigator.
3. My duties over the years included initiating and conducting investigations involving all types of fraudulent activity against Telecom/Telstra as well as the unlawful use of the Telephone network. I was also very heavily involved in assisting Law Enforcement Agencies such as the Victorian, NSW and Queensland Police Task forces set up to investigate SP Bookmaking throughout those states which involved the use of Telephone Landlines as well as the Mobile phone network.
4. In April 1997 Telstra was downsizing its staff and offering redundancy packages. I applied and was granted a package leaving the company after completing just short of twelve years service.
5. After leaving Telstra, I am not sure of actual dates but it was either late 1997 or early 1998, I received a call from a person who I know as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was working as a [REDACTED] Victoria Police Fraud Squad, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne. I can recall that at the time, [REDACTED] was investigating criminal behaviour allegations directed against Telstra. The allegations, which related to 'Perverting the Course of Justice', were initiated by a group of complainants who called themselves Casualties of Telstra (COT Cases).

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

6. At the time when [REDACTED] called me, I had left Telstra. He called me and asked me to meet him at his private address in [REDACTED], Victoria. He told me at the time that he was reading reports submitted by Telstra that related to his investigation. He had trouble deciphering the acronyms, abbreviations etc. that were in the report. He knew of my background as an investigator with Telstra and that I could assist him.
 7. I attended at his house in [REDACTED]. It was either on a Saturday or a Sunday. I can remember that it was on a weekend.
 8. When I got there and during general talk, he stated that he believed that his phones were being 'bugged'. He seemed to be quite distressed at the time. He said that his phone was making clicking noises, the same noises that were occurring on the phones at the Fraud Squad.
 9. I said to him that we should do a quick drive around to find out where the nearest pillar or telephone line pit was to his home because if what he was telling me, was true, it was possible that his telephone line could be being tapped from that location and his telephone conversations monitored. He told me that he thought there was a pillar down on a corner about two hundred (200) metres away. We left together and when we got to the corner, a plain van was present and a male person was replacing the cover to the pillar. The male then got into his van and left.
 10. We then drove to the main exchange in Sydney Road, Brunswick. There were two other vehicles at the exchange as well as the same van. These vehicles were in behind the exchange compound and were not marked with the company logo which indicated that they were not technician's vehicles.
 11. It was unusual to have any vehicles at exchanges on weekends unless there was repair work being conducted by technical crews, but as I said all these vehicles were ^{not} marked with the Telstra logo.
 12. From what I observed on this day, and applying the knowledge that I gained during my twelve years at Telstra, I have no doubt in my mind that the phones at [REDACTED] home address were possibly being interfered with.
 13. [REDACTED] had also informed me that he believed that the phones at the Fraud Squad were also being monitored. He stated that the clicking noises were constantly being heard while using the phones.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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14. [REDACTED] also stated that he believed that all of his actions and meetings were pre-empted by Telstra. He stated that he thought it was possible that someone from Telstra was monitoring his calls.
15. This belief was later reinforced by what happened after this event.
16. A few weeks later on a Saturday morning [REDACTED] had to go to Tullamarine Airport to meet one of the complainants in his investigations, [REDACTED]. He called me early on this day and stated that he believed that he was being followed and wanted me to help him verify this.
17. [REDACTED] was going to meet [REDACTED] at Tullamarine Airport in the Ansett Departure area on the 1st floor. He was driving his private car to the airport. I arranged to meet [REDACTED] at Kelior Park Drive, East Kellor. I sat off his car as he drove past. I then followed him at a reasonable distance to the Ansett Departure Area Cafeteria on the 1st floor.
18. I met him outside the Cafeteria, and he pointed out [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who were already there and then pointed out a male person sitting near them who he said he recognised as being a person who was following him around Melbourne. This guy was reading the paper. When this person realised that we had noticed him, he left. [REDACTED] appeared angry and distressed by this.
19. I also know that these occurrences were causing problems with [REDACTED] family life. I believe that [REDACTED] left the police force not long after these events.
20. Finally, I would like to say that while I was working at Telstra and it would have been the early nineties I had cause to travel to Portland in western Victoria in relation to a complaint involving suspected illegal interference to telephone lines at the Portland telephone exchange.
21. As part of my investigation, I first attended at the exchange to speak to staff and check the exchange log book which was a record of all visitors to the exchange and a record of work conducted by the technical officers.
22. When I attended at the exchange, I found that the log book was missing and could not be located. I was informed at the time by the local staff that a customer from the Cape Bridgewater area south of Portland was also complaining about his phone service and that the log book could have been removed as part of that investigation. I was not told about this complaint prior to travelling to Portland and when I made inquiries by telephone back to

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]