

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

BOARD OF INQUIRY  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

**In the matter of the *Inquiries Act 1991***  
***Inquiries (Board of Inquiry – Criminal Justice System) Appointment 2023***  
**Board of Inquiry into the Criminal Justice System in the Australian Capital Territory**

**STATEMENT OF NEIL ANTHONY GAUGHAN**

I, NEIL ANTHONY GAUGHAN, of WINCHESTER POLICE CENTRE, BELCONNEN ACT 2619, state as follows:

1. I have provided a statement dated 11 April 2023 to the Board of Inquiry in response to a written request dated 28 March 2023 (**11 April statement**). I attach to this statement a copy of the relevant request (AFP.0018.0001.0145).
2. I provide the following supplementary statement by reference to paragraphs 84.2 and 86.2 of my 11 April statement.

**‘ACTP Exec’ Signal messages**

3. I refer to paragraph 84.2 of my 11 April statement and attach to this statement updates I received in relation to the trial in the matter of *R v Lehrmann* in the Signal encrypted AFP/ACT Policing group chat titled ‘ACTP Exec’ (**ACTP Exec Signal messages**).
4. I do recall taking further action in response to some of the updates I received in the ACTP Exec Signal messages. Particularly, I briefed the AFP Commissioner on politically sensitive issues as they arose during the trial including the fact that Senator Reynolds’ evidence had concluded. I refer to paragraph 83.7 of my 11 April statement.
5. Having read the ACTP Exec Signal messages, I wish to make the following correction to my 11 April Statement:
  - 5.1. paragraph 91.5 should read ‘I attended a teleconference with staff from the Commonwealth Attorney-General’s office...’, rather than ‘I attended a teleconference with staff from the ACT Attorney-General’s office...’.

**DPP**

6. I refer to paragraph 86.2 of my 11 April Statement. I have reviewed my work mobile phone and have not located a copy of the text message referred to. I then provided my work mobile phone to AFP Digital Forensics and they were unable to retrieve the text

message referred to either.

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Personal information

NEIL ANTHONY GAUGHAN

Personal information

WITNESS

**SIGNED** by me at Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory on 21 April 2023.

Personal information



NEIL ANTHONY GAUGHAN

Personal information



WITNESS

CHARLES TAYLOR