

**INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES
BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010 - 57TH PARLIAMENT**

Organisation: Support After Murder Inc.

Date Received: 28 February 2020

Partially
Confidential

SUPPORT AFTER MURDER inc.

"moving on with support"

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28th February 2020

The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC,
Chair,
Standing Committee on Social Issues

RE: INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010

Dear Mr Mallard,

On behalf of our members I'm putting in the following submissions to the Inquiry

1) In strike force Parrabell the following gay hate crimes were not investigated.....the murder of Stephen Neville Jelfs, Marcus Allcorn, Bernd Lehmann and William Day.

2) In the matter of the murder of Kenneth Brennan...I wrote to the Commissioner of Police on the 20th September 2019 requesting a reward be offered for information leading to the apprehension of those involved in Ken's murder. On the 31st October I received the following advice from the Manager, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services, Communities and Justice which stated " a reward of \$100000 is currently on offer for information relating to the murder of Mr Brennan. The reward was announced on the 11th March 1997" and further down the letter "Mr Brennan's sister, Mrs Ronda Saler is kept up to date on any developments in the investigation." I then contacted Mrs Saler in Adelaide and she wrote to the Police Commissioner that she has never heard anything about her brother's murder... I then received the following response from the Manager, Ministerial and Parliamentary Services dated the 8th January 2020 "Thank you for sending a copy of Ms Saler's letter....I understand that the Office of the Commissioner wrote directly to Ms Saler and apologised for any misunderstanding" I then contacted Ms Saler and Ken's partner of 10 years Peter Brooks and Ms Saler phoned me on the evening of the 17th February 2020 and said that Det. Chief Inspector had phoned her and asked if she had a photo of Ken she would like to be put up with the notice of the reward on the NSW Police Rewards Page.... Mr Mallard I'll be kind to the NSW Police Force and say that there has been a misunderstanding, a misunderstanding that has taken 23 years to work out .

Mr Mallard I then checked out the previous "Inquiry into Gay and Transgender Crimes between 1972 and 2010 and found a submission lodged by Ken's Superior at the school here Ken worked at. We are wondering why this gentleman was asked to identify Ken's body and not Peter Brooks, Ken's partner of 10 years. Also in this gentleman's statement he states that " I felt that the police were genuinely unhelpful about it. It was a terrible embarrassment to them and they did not want to know anything about it. "

Mr Mallard this completes my submission and on behalf of our members I thank you and the committee for the opportunity to make it. If you require me to make an oral submission, I will be only too happy to make it.

Mr Mallard, Our organisation supports a Judicial Inquiry into LGBT crimes with the power to call witnesses.

Yours sincerely

Peter Rolfe
PRESIDENT