

Carlo Neri [N104] Statement in Support of Anonymity Application

I am N104. Whilst operating as an undercover officer I was known as Carlo Neri. I make this statement in support of my application to the Undercover Policing Inquiry for anonymity. I am a former UCO. I set out in this statement my concerns around not being granted anonymity at the forthcoming public inquiry into undercover police operations.

_____ have grave concerns over my personal details and current appearance being revealed to members of the public and former activists that I was tasked against. My reasons in the main relate to concerns for my wider family but also relate personally to me.

I was deployed in the role of a UCO from January 2000 until October 2006 and my tasking requirement was to infiltrate the extreme left wing/Anarchist based anti-Fascist/Racist group called No Platform. This group was a newly formed group that engaged in violent street activity impacting on Public order and serious criminal offences against the person within the MPD and nationally. The group had been formed to fill the void left by Anti-Fascist Action following its decision to stop violent street activity. Much of its membership were disenchanted former AFA members and members of other far left/extreme left political groups such as the Socialist Party (formerly known as the Militant Tendency), SWP etc. My recruitment into this group was to be through the Socialist Party as it was known that the party had a stewarding group known as the 'Away Team' who worked as a separate political group within both AFA and subsequently No Platform actively taking part in violent confrontation with opposing political groups. The Away Team and No Platform also provided its members as stewards for demonstrations and political meetings to deal with any potential trouble that might arise from opposing political groups or confrontation with police in their public order role. Towards the end of my operation, No Platform changed its name and allegiance to ANTIFA and this is the name that it continues to use to this day. In terms of political allegiance the group is active nationally and is affiliated to other ANTIFA groups across Europe. ANTIFA's most recent activity in the UK was a recent confrontation (January 2016) with Far Right/Extreme Right wing activists holding an anti-immigration protest in Dover, Kent and also at Maidstone

services. (This was reported extensively on the BBC News website and other news sites). The protest and confrontation resulted in public disorder, violence and criminal damage. Much of this was carried out by ANTIFA activists. During my deployment, I became very close to a number of activists who were the main organisers of this group. During my operation I witnessed a number of assaults, public disorder and petty crime all of which was reported through my chain of command to the appropriate recipients. My deployment was instrumental in disrupting a lot of this group's activity as police resources were targeted accordingly to frustrate their intentions. As a result I am acutely aware of this group's anger, dislike and desire to take revenge upon me any way they can.

My concerns relating to the impact of not having anonymity on myself and my family are as follows:

Personally, it is almost 10 years since my deployment finished and in that time my appearance has changed (as it does with all of us). I am very concerned that if I was to be sat in an open court then I would be on view for a long period of time to many of my former activist associates who would have a clear image of what I now look like. Given the propensity for violence that many of my former associates have and also their ability [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to conduct enquiries as to my whereabouts, I have serious concerns about my physical wellbeing and the physical wellbeing of anyone I am in the company of.

In addition to any physical confrontation, I am also greatly concerned about other forms of low level harassment which whilst deployed I saw my activist associates engage in. This took the form of leafleting, letters to neighbours/employers and family members, physical approaches to family and friends confronting them, internet trolling and hacking activity against perceived opponents and malicious telecommunications.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have also noted with interest that there are a number of former activist associates who I was alongside during my operation who have been granted core participant status in the public inquiry and would be very keen to have my full details and current appearance available to all.

[REDACTED]

Given the current threat to police officers from lone actor terrorist attacks, my concern is that wider dissemination of my family name could lead to unstable individuals obtaining my family details and targeting them.

I am greatly worried and fearful about the fact that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. If these details were released and I then spoke at the public inquiry, then I am concerned that it would be even easier for not only anti police activists but other unstable or criminal individuals to target myself and my family.

In addition to the aforementioned concerns, I am gravely concerned about the effect non anonymity and the release of my personal details could have upon my current partner [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Further disclosure of my current appearance or confirmation of my personal details would have an intolerable effect upon all of my family for the reasons I have listed above.

Prior to me accepting deployment as an undercover officer I was given assurances by my employers that my identity would at all times remain confidential, and that my role as a covert officer would never be confirmed or denied. I was assured that I would only ever be expected to provide intelligence and that nothing would ever be done that might risk me being exposed either in my covert identity or in my real

name. I relied on these assurances, [REDACTED] before I accepted this role.

[REDACTED]

Signed..... *Bob Neri* Dated..... *1/11/2016*