

For: Undercover Police Inquiry
By: MPS Designated Lawyer
Statement of witness: N17
Dated: 22.09.2017

**RE: PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING
IMPACT STATEMENT OF HN17**

1. I understand that the MPS will make an application for a restriction order in respect of my real name and cover name. I support those applications. However, at the time of drafting this statement, I have not seen the detail of those applications.

2. *I have seen a copy of the RA and agree with the conclusions as to the level of risk*

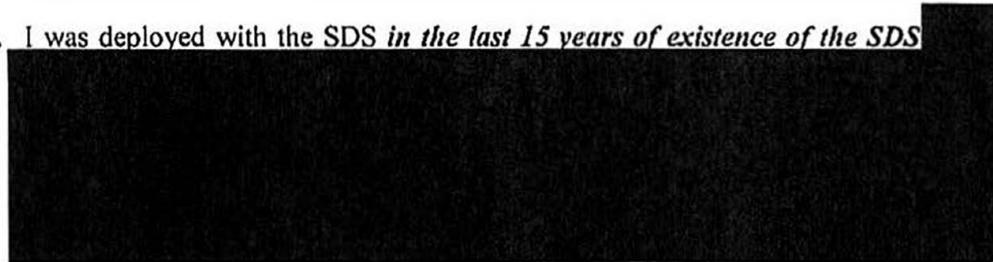


3. I am very concerned about my physical safety, but more importantly the safety of my family, should my real name or my cover name be revealed. I therefore ask that both my real name and cover name be protected and all necessary steps taken to protect my identity.



SDS Deployment

4. I was deployed with the SDS *in the last 15 years of existence of the SDS*



5. *Details of groups deployed into*



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. It was made clear to me that my identity in terms of both my cover and real name and the fact and details of my deployment would be kept secret. This was an assurance made to me by the State, and one that I have honoured on my part throughout and since my service.

8. I had been in Special Branch for *a period of time* [REDACTED] prior to joining the SDS and did not know that the unit existed until I was approached to join. Prior to joining the SDS, my *partner* [REDACTED] and I were visited at home by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. During that meeting it was made very clear that the MPS owed us a duty of care, and would look out for me and my family. During this meeting they made an express assurance that my identity would be protected and that I would not have to return to a uniform role. Once I joined the unit, there was significant time spent building up a legend, testing it, and ensuring that it was secure, which all reinforced the secretive nature of our details and the work that we were doing. I understood that my cover name, my real name and the work done would all be kept confidential.

9. *Sets out concerns about how officers might be identified.*

[REDACTED]

10. Whilst I was deployed I changed my appearance

[REDACTED]

11. My cover name was

[REDACTED]

12. *Sets out details of cover identity and legend including risks to third parties*

[REDACTED]

13.

[REDACTED]

14.

[REDACTED]

15.

[REDACTED]

16. *Sets out limited knowledge by close family of SDS role*

[REDACTED]

17.

[REDACTED]

18.

[REDACTED]

Post SDS Career

19. *After the SDS, Sets out post SDS employment and impact of this to N17 and third party(s)*

[REDACTED]

20.

[REDACTED]

21.

[REDACTED]

22.

[REDACTED]

23.

[REDACTED]

Family

Sets out impact on family and risk to third party(s) if identity confirmed

24.



25.



26.



27.

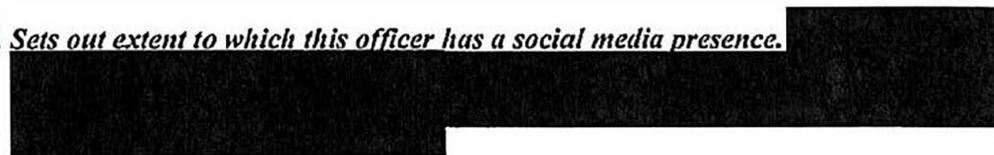


28.



Social Media

29. *Sets out extent to which this officer has a social media presence.*



30.



Sexual Relationships

31. I did not have any sexual relationships while I was deployed.

Health

32. I am in good health physically. However, I have found myself becoming anxious, having low mood and being angry particularly dealing with the public inquiry or talking about my career. I did not feel supported by the MPS after my deployment

[REDACTED] A report was undertaken in April 2017 by a psychiatrist which confirmed that I am in a vulnerable mental state (para 4.2.1). It confirms that he believes that my fear for my safety and that of my family is genuine. The Report also highlights that I am at a high risk of a further depressive disorder if my real name or cover name were revealed (paras 4.3.3,4.4.1).

33. [REDACTED]

34. *Sets out concerns regarding impact on mental health and therefore on family*

Conclusion

35. I carried out the work I was tasked to do with integrity and in a professional manner and on the understanding that the work I was doing was intelligence gathering and would be kept confidential as would my identity. I believe that there is a significant risk to myself *and my*, [REDACTED] family as well as to those who assisted in my deployment should my identity (including my cover identity) [REDACTED] be revealed. I am also concerned about the impact on our private and family life and those who assisted me, and the risk to my mental health if my identity was confirmed.

36. I would therefore ask that the Inquiry agree to restrict my real name and my cover name and take steps to restrict my identity to ensure that I am not placed at risk.

Approved 22.9.2017