

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

GISTED WITNESS STATEMENT OF EN48

1. I am EN48 and I make this statement in connection with my application for a Restriction Order under section 19 of the Inquiries Act 2005. I understand that the Inquiry has been provided with my real name and I am therefore utilising the cipher that the Inquiry provided to me in order to protect my anonymity.
2. I have prepared this statement without access to any documentation held by the Inquiry or Operation Elter and, consequently, I am relying on my recollection of events from many years ago. My recollection has dimmed with the passage of time. I reserve the right to provide a supplementary statement once I have been provided with relevant documentation and a risk assessment. This statement is true to the best of my recollection and belief.
3. **Gist:** EN48 provides an overview of his/her pre-NPOIU career and training courses with the NPOIU.
4. **Gist:** EN48 provides details of covert identity used.
5. **Gist:** EN48 describes legend-building and the early stages of the deployment. EN48 provides further detail about his/her deployment in the NPOIU and its conclusion.

Post-NPOIU

6. **Gist:** EN48 describes his/her post-NPOIU role and pseudonym.
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7. **Gist:** EN48 provides details of undercover deployments into drug-dealing, firearms distribution and extortion. EN48 describes how he/she would be at risk of violence or death from these targeted individuals if his/her identity is disclosed.

8. **Gist:** EN48 identifies an undercover operative who worked with him/her.
9. **Gist:** EN48 describes a particularly violent group of individuals who would kill or seriously harm EN48 if it was known that EN48 was an undercover officer who had attempted to infiltrate them. This group had access to firearms. There are also clear risks of serious injury or death to the other undercover officers who were involved in this infiltration.
10. **Gist:** EN48 refers to a number of other deployments into serious and organised crime groups who are all capable of extreme violence. EN48 provides a graphic description of the violence that they inflicted on others and the risks posed to EN48 whilst deployed. EN48 was also deployed on a murder investigation. If these individuals or others engaged in serious criminality whom EN48 met during his/her deployment discover that EN48 was an undercover officer then they would not hesitate to kill EN48 or subject him/her to extreme violence. This risk extends to EN48's family.
11. **Gist:** EN48 became a Level 1 source handling officer for higher level sources. EN48 handled very high profile informants engaged in drugs, terrorism, firearms and kidnapping. If any of those informants were seen with EN48 then there is a risk to them if his/her identity is revealed.
12. **Gist:** EN48 describes his/her current role outside policing.

Article 2

13. For the reasons articulated above, I believe that there are real, substantial and immediate risks to my life and my family's lives if my real or covert identities are revealed. The principal risks arise from my infiltration of the organised crime groups and violent criminals to whom I have referred above.
14. **Gist:** EN48 explains a substantial and immediate risk to the life of an undercover officer deployed with him/her if EN48's identity is revealed.
15. **Gist:** EN48 provides information about a further risk to his/her life if specified individuals are able to trace EN48.

16. **Gist:** *EN48 gives details of security steps taken at home once EN48 became aware that this Inquiry had commenced. This has been at my own expense. My partner and I are extremely anxious that if I am called to the Inquiry there will be media coverage and that many groups will attempt to trace us. I would need to be sure that proper security arrangements are put in place that protects me and my family.*
17. I have identified above those individuals whom I believe would be at real risk of retribution if my identity is disclosed. In addition to those individuals, many people could be placed at risk simply because they were innocent individuals who introduced me to others. I cannot quantify the risk to those individuals.
18. **Gist:** EN48 refers to risks that his/her real identity will be discovered if EN48's covert identity is revealed and the consequential impact on EN48, his/her family and other undercover officers.

Article 3

19. **Gist:** EN48 describes his/her real concern that, in addition to the real and substantial risks posed by those connected with drugs, violence and firearms, there is a clear and substantial risk of interference with EN48's article 2 and 3 rights from those affiliated to groups that were targeted during the NPOIU deployment.
20. **Gist:** EN48 addresses a particular concern about the potential for retribution and requests that this is considered carefully by an appointed risk assessor.

Article 8

21. **Gist:** EN48 describes his/her family life and the substantial risks to EN48's and his/her family's article 2, 3 and 8 rights. EN48 also describes the negative impact on EN48's parents and his/her partner's parents if they had to move away. EN48 provides details of his/her children and others and explains the ramifications arising out of disclosure of his/her cover or real identities which extend far beyond EN48.
22. **Gist:** EN48 explains that, in addition to concerns about violence and intimidation, he/she is anxious about the potential for reputational damage and cyber-attacks.

Assurances

23. **Gist:** EN48 does not recall whether he/she was provided with a written assurance that his/her identity would be protected. EN48 would not have undertaken this work if he/she considered that there was any prospect of his/her identity being revealed. EN48 reiterates his/her belief that he/she would be attacked, as would EN48's partner, family and property if EN48's identity is revealed. There are substantial and obvious risks to EN48 and his/her family if EN48's cover or real identities are revealed due to EN48's deployments in the organised crime world. EN48 does not believe that there are any measures that could be taken, other than complete anonymity, that would protect EN48 and EN48's family. EN48 urges the Inquiry to ensure that the evidence of others does not place him/her at any risk.

Conclusion

24. As I have indicated, I have prepared this statement without access to any documents or to a risk assessor report. My recollection has faded significantly. A risk assessor is required to undertake a comprehensive and overarching assessment of the risk to me, my family and to others as a consequence of the revelation of my cover or real names. I reserve the right to provide a supplemental statement in support of my application if required once I have had access to relevant documents and the risk assessor's report.
25. I respectfully request that my application for a Restriction Order is granted and that it is considered urgently. The potential repercussions for me and my family of disclosure of my identity is causing a great deal of anxiety and we would wish to have some certainty as soon as possible.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

SIGNED

EN48

DATED 26 June 2017