

15th September 2010

CONFIDENTIAL

Attention: DSC Jodie Allan 11939
Queensland Police Service
c/o Maroochydore CIB
Cornmeal Parade
MAROOCHYDORE Q 4558

RE: KAREN LEE MAHLO DOB: 15/9/55

Dear Detective Allan

Thank you very much for your letter and I have been in contact with you by telephone already. I am very pleased to be able to assist in any way that I can.

Karen Mahlo was a patient of mine from 17th January 2007 until her death in May 2008.

I provided reports to Constable Jerry Williams on 1st July 2008 and 10th March 2009 and those reports were quite detailed.

I have attached at your request the reports that were forwarded to me by Professor Harvey Whiteford dated 17th October 2006 and Dr. Kevin Calder-Potts dated 11th December 2006.

Over and above what I have already stated I wish to advise you that I attended Dr. Mahlo's funeral. I would not ordinarily go to a patient's funeral but I was aware that her friends and family were comfortable about me attending.

The funeral was very well attended by many people in the medical community. I estimate that there were well over one hundred mourners, possibly more.

Her son and her daughter spoke at the funeral and then proceedings were handed over to John Hehir. Prior to him saying his piece Dr. Mahlo's son and daughter left the room, but the other mourners remained.

What I witnessed next was in my mind very strange. John Hehir came up to the lectern in an extremely distressed state. He was crying and wailing uncontrollably and his distress appeared to be way out of proportion for a person who was no longer in a relationship with Dr. Mahlo. His distressed blubbing seemed to go on for quite a long time.

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He suddenly gained his composure and then read a statement which was quite clearly communicated. I was surprised at how quickly he regained his composure. As soon as he finished reading his statement he suddenly started blubbing loudly again and I was left with the impression that his behaviour seemed rather contrived. The mourners left the room at that point.

Only a few days later I was shopping in K-Mart at Maroochydore and John Hehir and a blonde-haired woman walked past me. He was smiling and happy and arm-in-arm with the woman. I do not think he saw me and I did not approach him.

I have spoken to another doctor who saw him at Cotton Tree on the same weekend with a blonde-haired woman. That doctor told me that John Hehir appeared quite happy, smiling and once again arm-in-arm with the woman.

The behaviour that I observed in K-Mart did not seem to be consistent with recent bereavement.

In the report that I provided of 10th March 2009 I stated that I was "very uncomfortable about accepting that her stab wounds were 'self inflicted'". I thought that her blood alcohol concentration was "more than 10 times the legal driving limit". I had made that statement on the basis of a formula given to me by the pathology laboratory to convert the alcohol concentration in her chest cavity of 140 mgs/100 mls. I have subsequently rechecked this formula and I should have stated that her blood alcohol concentration 0.14 gms/100 ml which was approximately three times the Queensland legal driving limit.

I still do not believe that her injuries were self-inflicted. I met with a doctor last year who I understand had been a Government Medical Officer who was employed at the funeral parlour to remove medical devices. He told me that he had been called to the funeral parlour by the management there because even though the body had been released to them they were concerned that Dr. Mahlo had been murdered. I do not believe that he was privy to the autopsy report, but he told me that based on his viewing of the body he thought that she had struggled with an assailant wielding a knife prior to her death. I can put you in contact with that doctor if you wish.

I have also enclosed copies of correspondence received by me from John Hehir.

If I can be of any further assistance please let me know.

Yours faithfully

Dr Clive Fraser
Consultant Psychiatrist

Encl.