QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

QP 0125
01/06
Δ16

Occurrence #: _____

Statement no.: _____ Date: **18/07/2022**

Statement of

Name of witness: **HOLLIDAY, Zak**

Date of birth: _____ Age: _____ Occupation: **Police Officer**

Police officer taking statement

Name: _____

Rank: _____ Reg. no.: _____

Region/Command/Division: _____ Station: _____

Statement:

Zak Holliday States:

Career Experience

1. I am a constable with the Queensland Police Service ("QPS") stationed at Mundingburra Station, Townsville District.
2. I graduated from the Townsville Police Academy on 25 May 2020.
3. I completed the first 6 months of my first-year constable ("FYC") program at Townsville Police Station and the second 6 months at Mundingburra Police Station. I am currently attached to Mundingburra Police Station.
4. Prior to joining the QPS I was employed with the Australian Army for a period of five years.

Domestic & Family Violence (DFV) Training

Police Academy

5. Whilst at the Police Academy, I received training in DFV. I recalled I started learning about DFV in Phase 3 of the Academy training. I would learn about legislation in the classroom as well as completing study at home. We were examined on DFV at the end of Phase 3.
6. I also took part in scenario-based training and testing on DFV.
7. Usually, Academy training would involve station duty during which recruits go to a station and ride along with officers and experience DFV calls for service however I did not get to do so because of COIVD 19.

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(Witness's signature) | (Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/ Commissioner for Declarations's signature) | (Signature of police officer preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **HOLLIDAY, Zak**

Post Academy Training

8. On 3 July 2020, during my FYC program I attended a training day for first year constables dedicated to DFV. This was delivered at Mundingburra police station by the Education and Training Office. It encompassed face to face delivery and covered general topics relating to policing in the DFV space and the facilitators were also on hand to answer any questions that the first-year officers had about that space; however, I do not remember any specifics about the content of the training.

9. I have completed the following DFV online learning products (OLP) since leaving the Academy:

   a) Domestic and Family Violence Policing Enhancement Training - 17 July 2021;

   b) Coercive Control – 11 February 2022.

10. I have also completed OLPs about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, race diversity, LGBTI awareness, fatigue management and psychological health and fitness.

11. Since leaving the Police Academy, I have also learned about DFV from experienced officers and the Domestic and Family Violence & Vulnerable Persons Unit (DFVVPU). I have not done a rotation to the VPU and would not want to have one. Given I am only in my third year of policing, I would prefer at this stage to expand my knowledge of general duties matters before I determine what area or areas I would like to specialise in, in furtherance of my career. I have not yet decided if I wish to specialise in any particular area.

12. I would have to say I was not prepared enough for DFV at the Academy, but I do not know if you can be prepared enough in the time you have there. The FYC program helped me a lot knowing that I have to respond and investigate every type of DFV and to a certain standard to pass the FYC program.

Other DFV Training

13. I haven't taken on any formal additional training in DFV.

Training Improvement Opportunities

14. Further training that would help which they are currently doing are running Professional Conduct/DFV workshops which involves a half day from the Professional Practice Manager alongside local union rep and a DDO and the second half a DFV refresher training. This training is already being run.

15. I think that once a year Police should have to do a 1-day refresher course on DFV.

Nature of the Training

16. I have learnt more from on-the-job training as not all DFV matters are the same and you cannot prepare for every scenario. However, I still think theoretical training and practical training are important.

17. Because of the way that I learn, I think that the content in the OLPs should be taught face-to-face so that you take on the knowledge.

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **HOLLIDAY, Zak**

Interaction with the Domestic Family Violence & Vulnerable Persons Unit (DFVVPU)

18. I have had interactions with the Townsville DFVVPU. When I have an inquiry and I would like the subject matter experts advise, I would send them an email or give them a call.

19. I am aware that the DFVVPU reviews all DFV occurrences.

20. I also know that if the DFVVPU staff are working during the hours of your shift, you can call them and ask for assistance or just some general advice. One time I needed to ask questions about an urgent TPO while at a DFV job. At that time, I had never taken out an urgent TPO before and I was only aware that such a process existed from listening to my other colleagues. The DFVVPU were able to talk me through and assist with the entire process. I understand that they only work morning or afternoon shift, there is no ability to access them whilst on night work. If a situation arose during the course of my night shift, I know that I am still able to contact my shift supervisor, or, if the matter is sufficiently serious, to contact the District Duty Officer ("DDO").

21. DFVVPU can also assist by taking statements from an aggrieved. The DFVVPU also help by sending 'Tips of the Week' with important information and/or general knowledge about DFV to help. I have found some of these tips useful but cannot think of any examples but these tips come via email so you can also go back to view them again.

22. The DFVVPU need to have the capacity to investigate domestic violence themselves because they specialise and work with DV every single day. I mean this by being able to go and charge respondents for DV breaches or take charge of the more complex DV matters. I appreciate that this might not be able to happen every time.

Challenges in responding to and investigating DFV

23. A challenge that I have experienced is when an aggrieved does not wish to assist police with DFV breaches by providing a statement to police. In my opinion, it would assist police in DFV incidents if we were able to use body worn camera footage with the version from the aggrieved/victim as their statement.

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: **HOLLIDAY, Zak**

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Zak Holliday

Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of section 110A(6C)(c) of the *Justices Act 1886* that:

(1) This written statement by me dated 18/07/2022 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 4 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and

(2) I make this statement knowing that I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything that I know is false.

..... [redacted] .....Signature

Signed at Townsville this 18th day of July 2022.

[redacted]

(Witness's signature) | (Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/ Commissioner for Declarations's signature) | (Signature of police officer preparing statement)