

Ref: PROMIS 834106

Detective Superintendent s22(1)(a)(ii)
Criminal Investigations

Cc Detective Superintendent s22(1)(a)(ii)
OIC South District
Detective Sergeant s47E(c)
CI Homicide Team

BRIEFING PAPER OPERATION DUNEDIN

BACKGROUND

On the 31st March 2002, the body of Janelle Patton a 29 year old Sydney woman was discovered wrapped in black plastic at the Cockpit Waterfall Reserve, Norfolk Island. Miss Patton was a single female who had resided on Norfolk Island as a Temporary Entry Permit (TEP) holder for approximately 2 years prior to her death.

Her body was discovered by tourists about 6pm who then reported it to Police. Members of Norfolk Island Police attended the scene and commenced an investigation. Detective Sergeant s47E(d) OIC of the Norfolk Island Police requested assistance from the AFP in conducting the investigation.

s47E(d)

The post mortem was conducted by s 47F a Pathologist from the NSW Institute of Forensic Medicine. He deemed that Janelle Patton's death was a homicide and that she had suffered numerous injuries including defensive wounds. He stated that the cause of death was the result of a single stab wound to the chest resulting in loss of blood.

s47E(d)

Identified during these examinations were a number of fingerprints located on the black plastic used to cover Janelle Patton and various trace evidence on her body and clothes and in her hair. Of note some of this trace evidence was of a specific nature including glass and paint fragments.

INVESTIGATION

In October 2004, AFP Forensic Services Fingerprint Experts identified a fingerprint on the black plastic that belonged to a TEP named Glenn McNeill a New Zealand National. McNeill had been on the Island at the time of the murder and was employed at various locations as a chef.

McNeill had been spoken to by Norfolk Island Police early in the investigation in relation to a series of burglaries committed on businesses on the Island. McNeill was considered a strong suspect in relation to these burglaries. As a result of this McNeill was questioned by Investigators in relation to the murder of Janelle Patton and asked about his movements during the day. He supplied his movements and stated at the time of the murder he was delivering/having lunch with his then partner. She later confirmed this when spoken to by Police however it was believed by Police that she mixed the days up and this was supported by call record charges. He was requested to supply his fingerprints and DNA for comparison to any evidence that may be located in relation to the murder of Janelle Patton. He complied with this request.

s47E(d)

s47E(d)

During the forensic examination of exhibits, fragments of glass and paint were identified as being important pieces of evidence in relation to the investigation.

As a result in 2005, Search Warrants were executed on a vehicle that McNeill owned at the time of the murder being a white Honda Civic sedan and his premises at Little Cutters Corn. Evidence was located within this vehicle and at the premises that further linked McNeill to the murder and murder scene.

In 2006 a FIWT was sworn for McNeill on Norfolk Island and Investigators flew to New Zealand and with the assistance of NZ Police arrested McNeill. McNeill participated in a Taped Record of Interview (TROI) and admitted to killing Janelle Patton and dumping her body at the reserve. He stated he committed the murder and dumped the body alone and stated there were no other persons involved.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

In 2006, McNeill was charged with the murder of Janelle Patton and a committal hearing was conducted before the Norfolk Island Chief Magistrate Ron Cahill. McNeill was committed for trial for murder. At no stage did McNeill implicate any other persons in this murder nor did his Barrister indicate that McNeill had not acted alone.

In 2007, McNeill stood Trial in the Norfolk Island Supreme Court where he made an unsworn statement from the dock. In this statement McNeill denied any involvement in the murder of Janelle Patton and stated he had lied to Investigators during his TROI.

s47E(d)

McNeill was convicted and sentence to 24 years imprisonment with a non parole period of 18 years.

Barristers representing McNeill appealed the decision which was heard before the full Bench of the Federal Court. At no stage were the current allegations by McNeill used in this appeal. The matter was subsequently dismissed.

Barristers then appealed this decision to the High Court of Australia. Again there was no mention of this current allegation made by McNeill. This appeal was also dismissed

s47E(d)

s47E(d)

RECENT ALLEGATIONS MADE BY MCNEILL

s47F

McNeill had indicated that he had not murdered Miss Patton but had disposed of her body after two other persons had attended his residence and forced him to do so.

This version of events was first raised some two years ago when an American television network aired a similar documentary. At this time McNeill had refused to name the alleged murderers.

s47F

s47F

In this statement McNeill states the following.

s47F

s47E(d), s47F

s47E(d), s47F

CONCLUSION

s47E(d), s47F

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is my opinion that the documentation/DVD received from [s47F] dose not represent new or compelling evidence which would assist McNeill in proving his innocence. I would further submit that these documents do not assist Investigators with any new leads or suspects at this particular point in time.

s47E(d), s47F

s47E(d)

[s22(1)(a)(ii)]

Detective Sergeant [s22(1)(a)(ii)]
Operation Dunedin.

Hi there,

s47E(d)

Cheers,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

DEPUTY CO-ORD. CRIM. & ID SCI. (BIOLOGY)
FORENSIC AND DATA CENTRES
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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Task ID: 4887140 All Quick View

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Case ID: 834106

Priority: Normal

Task Type: GENERAL

Task Status: COMPLETED

Subject: Operation Dunedin

Details: s22(1)(a)(ii)

You may be aware that Operation Dunedin has been reopened s47E(d), s47F
s47E(d), s47F There has been a documentary made in NZ which has aired
already and is expected to air here within the next month.

It is our understanding that this documentary makes mention of an unknown DNA profile on JP's shorts near a tear.
This was also mentioned at trial.

s47E(d)

Originator

Date Sent:

03/06/2011
10:31:51

Name:



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No Attachments from the Originator

Recipients

Action Recipient

Date Sent:

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Interim Results:

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Results

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10/09/2012
16:37:33

Type

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Submitted by

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Result Text

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Involvements

Object
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Object Type

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834106 03/06/2011
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