



STATEMENT OF WITNESS

QP 125
06/96
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Statement No.:	1	Date:	22/10/2003
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Statement of:

Name of witness:	Craig HASLET	Date of birth:	12/10/1967	Age:	36
Occupation:	Engineer				

Police officer taking statement:

Name of police officer:	R.A.GODFREY	Rank:	PCC	Reg. No.:	10942
Region/ Command/ Division:	NORTHERN	Station:	Townsville JAB		

Craig HASLET states:

I am 36 years old and live at 26 George Street, Earlville Cairns. I am an Engineer and work for Mike Ball Diving. I live in Cairns but work in Townsville for two weeks on and one week off.

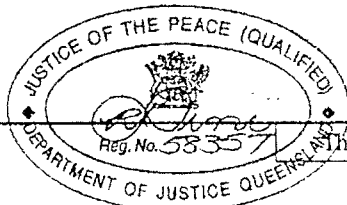
I met the deceased on the morning of the 22nd day of October 2003.

I am an Engineer and have been working with Mike Ball for 10 months. I also have my Coxswains ticket and Engineering ticket. Current First Aid Certificate and I'm certified to administer Oxygen. I am advanced diver and have worked in the diving industry for 7 years.

I was working in Townsville at the time of this incident. I was working on 'Spoilsport MV' which is a boat that carries 28 passengers and 12 crew. This trip had 23 passengers and 13 crew. One of the crewmembers was in training for my position.

On the night of the 21st of October 2003, we left the Quarterdeck Marina in Townsville, we departed the wharf at 10.00pm after receiving fuel. We steamed for about 4 and a half hours to a wreck off Townsville, the SS Yongala. We anchored approximately 2.30am. I got out of

7.30am and we moved to a mooring, which is off to one side of the wreck. We set up our dive site, so we were ready for diving thro and the sea state was approximately .5 of a metre and it was



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maintain the compressors but don't touch any of the dive gear, except for my own personal diving apparatus. The compressors are used to fill the tanks with air, but the dive staff actually fills the tanks.

We normally do a briefing with all the guests, explaining the dive safety and also how the boat works and how to utilise the equipment on the boat, such as washing tubs and log sheets. Also the way for the group to enter and exit the water from the boat. This briefing can take up to an hour. I attend to the briefing, but don't give the briefing.

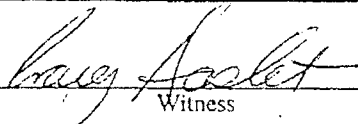
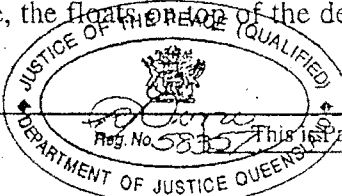
Then we do a briefing for the actual dive on the Yongala and how we're going to do the dive. IN the briefing is included the safety tanks that are placed on the wreck in case of emergency.

This tanks are placed at 10 metres or 30 feet from the surface. This tanks are there for emergency purposes in case anyone runs out of air.

When this briefing was completed this particular day I was driving the tender, which is a dinghy with the outboard. This is to move passengers from 'Spoilsport' to the descent line. Today there was a small current running from north to south, over the top of the wreck. We were required to transfer the passengers by tender to the descent area. We had a safety line running from the stern of 'Spoilsport' to the stern of the Yongala, descent line. So passengers would use this line when they're on the surface when they've completed the dive.

I offered to drive the tender this morning because I have a Coxswains ticket and we have to have a licensed driver in the tenders. I would normally drive the tender if we were transferring passengers from 'Spoilsport' to the dive site. I carried a handheld UHF radio and the tender has it's own safety gear.

The UHF radio is in contact with our 'lookout' that is stationed on the top deck of 'Spoilsport'. I collected a group of 6 passengers from the 'Spoilsport' and ferried them over to the dive site, the descent line. I always explain to the passengers how to enter the water with a back roll and where they can find the descent line, the floats, ~~the~~ ^{ends} of the descent line and the safety line, which has another float attached to it.

 Witness	 Justice of the Peace (Qual) / Commissioner of Declarations	This is page 2 of a Statement comprising 9 Page(s). Police Officer
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I stayed there until they all descended, approximately 3-5 minutes. This is normal procedure. I then returned to the vessel and collected another 6-8 passengers. I repeated the process, but this time I had to wait because there were several people requiring extra weights. They were having difficulty descending. I normally carry spare dive weights in the tender, for this reason.

I went back to the boat again to collect further passengers. I delivered this group to the dive site, the descent line. Included in this group were the deceased and her husband. I waited, but the deceased's husband, had trouble with his dive computer. The dive computer has a sensor for the pressure that is in the dive tank. The first stage regulator has a computer sensor that emits a signal to the dive computer that was worn on one of his wrists and it tells the pressure that is in the dive tank.

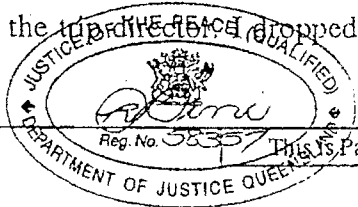
As a result our normal procedure is, if there's a problem with dive gear, the diver comes straight to the tender and their buddy as well. I transported the deceased and her husband back to the 'Spoilsport'.

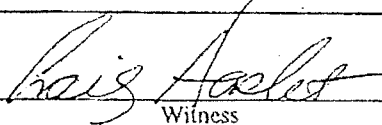
I talked to the both of them. But it was mainly about the problem with the computer. I explained to them that they would have to go back to the 'Spoilsport.'

I remember asking them if they'd seen anything. I think I remember the deceased saying she'd seen a large fish, but because they had to surface they didn't see anything else. The deceased and her husband used correct buddy procedures and surfaced when there was a problem. They were both very relaxed in the boat.

We went back to 'Spoilsport'. I dropped them off and collected another group of divers. I think there were about 6 in that group. I dropped them off at the descent line, I waited, then returned to the boat. This group had problems with weights, so gave a few a weight each.

When I returned to the 'Spoilsport' and I collected a group of 4-6, which included the deceased, her husband and the trip director. They Deceased and her husband still appeared to be relaxed and was going to dive with the trip director. I dropped them off at the descent line and waited until they all descended.



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I then picked up two divers from the descent line, who had ascended the line and put them in the tender with me and took them back to the boat, their dive had finished.

I went back to 'Spoilsport' and proceeded to pick up two divers only and delivered them to the descent line. They were the last of the whole group.

The two divers descended and I waited until I couldn't see them anymore. I was proceeding back to 'Spoilsport' to tie up the tender until the group had finished their dive. I was proceeding back slowly and cautiously, as you have to pass over the dive site. The deceased's husband, Gabe arrived at the surface in a panic. He was screaming out and yelling and signalling to me, I was only about 6 metres away from him. I raced over to him and saw that he was panicking and I asked, "Where is your buddy?" He might have told me this already, but that's the first question we're taught to ask.

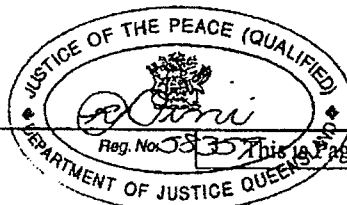
Gabe said something like, "She's gone to the bottom and she's disappeared. She's in trouble."

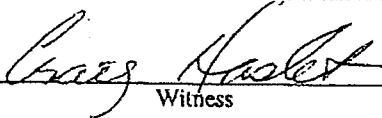
I grabbed him in case he decided to go back down to try and find her. I had hold of his BCD so he couldn't fight me off, to keep him on the surface and get all the information I needed to. I had hold of him and as he was giving information I grabbed for my radio, which is on my belt and alerted 'Spoilsport' that we needed rescue divers and told them a diver was in trouble.

There was another boat about 15 metres away from me, the 'MV Jazz'. There were 'Spoilsport', the 'MV Jazz' and 'MV Adrenalin'. These three vessels were all in close proximity of each other.

'MV Jazz' was the closest and I shouted out, "I need a rescue diver, we have a diver in trouble."

I told them, "The diver is on the bottom and I don't know what condition she's in, we need to send somebody now." This was very loud and clear.



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the water.

I was still with Gabe and was still listening to him. I wanted to get him in the tender, so he wouldn't get into any trouble. I thought he might be going into shock and wanted to get him onto the tender. Gabe was able to assist me with taking his fins off, when I directed him to and he climbed up the ladder on the stern of the tender. I assisted him in and made him sit down in the tender, so he couldn't fall back in or go back in, so I could grab him if I needed to.

I decided to take him back to 'Spoilsport' whilst organising with my hand held radio our search and rescue team on 'Spoilsport'. We went back to 'Spoilsport', by this time our rescue team was in our other tender, on the way to the descent line.

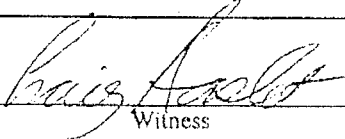
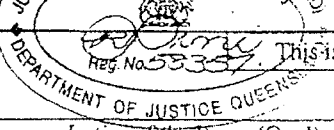
~~I dropped Gabe off at 'Spoilsport'. I could see yelling and shouting over on 'MV Jazz' and on the radio. I gathered that they had located her and that she was on the surface at 'Jazz'. I got a call on my radio from the skipper. I was in constant contact with our skipper and crew.~~

I asked our crew for all our first aid gear, such as Oxygen resuscitation gear and all our injectable drugs to be brought to me, which I planned on taking to 'Jazz'. I remained at 'Spoilsport' until I got our Oxy resuscitation gear and as I was about to leave, we had a doctor on the boat, Dr John, who is a trauma surgeon. He offered to come with me and we both left and went to 'Jazz'. As we were getting over to 'Jazz' I saw three people lifting her out of the water.

When we got to the deck of 'Jazz' I saw her laying on the rear end of the carpeted deck of the vessel. I couldn't see her, because everyone was working around her.

Dr John went straight over to offer assistance. I saw Wade and Uzi and the Master of 'Jazz' administering first aid. Uzi was doing breathing for her and Wade was administering chest compressions. There were three other crew standing and assisting.

I was sent back to 'Spoilsport' to retrieve some medication from Dr John's cabin. I went back to 'Spoilsport' and retrieved that medication and some spare medical grade oxygen and the hostess, in case we needed any further assistance. This only took minutes.

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I dropped the Hosty off at 'Jazz', with the medication and oxygen and went back to 'spoilsport' to collect all our injectable drugs, our full medical kit. I took this back to 'Jazz'. I stayed on the vessel and acted as radio relay, because we had Townsville Hospital on the phone on 'Spoilsport'.

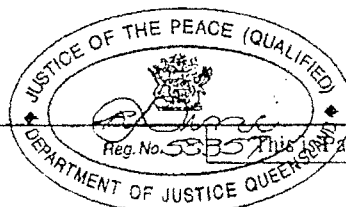
I stayed as close to the patient as possible, without getting in the way and relaying any messages to Dr John from the Hospital. We were told the helicopter would be at least an hour away, they were on another job.

I could see, she wasn't breathing. I could also hear the staff talking, I was standing by in case I had to assist.

At this stage I was relaying messages from Dr John to the Hospital. He could hear the radio; but if there was anything he couldn't understand, I could help. I remember the Hospital asking if her eyes were fixed and dilated. I remember Dr John saying, 'Yes they are.'

A list had been kept of anything administered and the times, what it was and how much. Towards the end, they were so busy trying to save her, I made the last two entries on the list. I think we'd worked on her for 41 minutes and then the Hospital spoke to the skipper of the 'Spoilsport' and he relayed the message to me, that after this amount of time, time of death should be called. They said she's dead. Everyone stopped working on her and then we decided to take the Master of 'Jazz' over to 'Spoilsport' to talk to the Skipper on 'Spoilsport' about what was going to be done next. Three crew stayed on the 'Jazz' with the body. One crew member was from 'Spoilsport' who was Uzi. The two dive instructors working on 'Jazz' were there as well. There were no passengers on the boat, as they were diving.

At this stage her dive gear was on the dive platform. While resuscitation was being attempted, the Hospital had asked for her dive profile. Paul had retrieved this from her dive computer. He's a commercial diver that was on site and came over to assist. He had another commercial diver with him at the time.



Kris Adet
Witness

Justice of the Peace (Qual) /
Commissioner of Declarations

Police Officer

Her dive gear was isolated and shouldn't have been touched except for this retrieval. This is common practice that people understand that the dive gear must not be touched during incidents like this. The other tender came over to 'Jazz' and transported her dive gear back to 'Spoilsport' and it was immediately taken up to the Bridge and locked away and isolated.

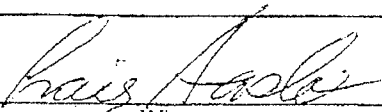
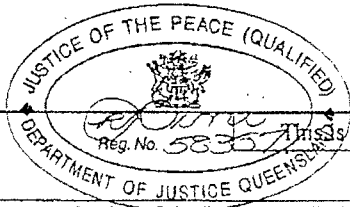
We had divers in the water from 'Spoilsport' as well as 'Jazz' and it was decided that we would get all divers onto 'Spoilsport' and keep the body separated from their passengers on 'Jazz'. I ran Dr John and a commercial diver and our hostess back to 'Spoilsport' and then I returned to 'Jazz'. I stayed with the body and remained in radio contact. Police gave permission for the body to be moved to 'Spoilsport' and all the passengers off 'Jazz' then returned to 'Jazz'.

The body was placed in a body bag on the deck of 'Jazz', we cleaned her up first, as Gabe had requested that he see her first. That involved wiping her face and also there was some blood on her neck, where the IVs had been inserted. Uzi helped with this. Gabe came over with Wade Singleton, the trip director and Dr John, for support.

Then we transported the body over to 'Spoilsport'. We moved the passengers into the Saloon, so that they would not have to see what was happening. They did know some of what had happened. She was kept in Cabin 14 on the port side of the vessel, amidships. I also collected from 'Jazz' all our medical gear, including the used injectable drugs and syringes and anything else used during resuscitation. This was stored in Cabin 14 as well.

The list of times the injectable drugs were used, was guarded and taken directly to the Bridge on 'Spoilsport' and left with her dive gear. While travelling back to Townsville, I checked the medical kit for resupply in case we commenced another trip. I did this in Cabin 14 with the Hosty. I didn't disturb the used items, but did go through the medical supplies. I got about half way through and realised everything was covered in blood and we were wearing gloves and decided to leave it, put it all back in the box and put it back underneath the bunk in Cabin 14.

We packed all our dive gear up and retrieved all our safety gear. We proceeded to lift the tenders onto the deck and then we steamed for Townsville.

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When we arrived in Port, Police met there. They spoke to crew and the passengers and crew were transported to Townsville Police Station.

Craig Haslet
Craig HASLET

Oaths Act Declaration

OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)

CRAIG HASLET do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 22/10/2003 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 8 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything I know to be false.

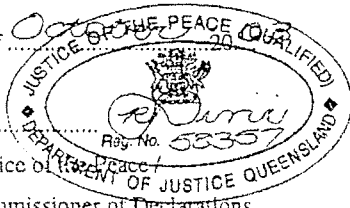
1867 and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act

Craig HasletSignature

Taken and declared before me at Townsville

this 22nd day of October 2003

Witness
Justice of the Peace /
Commissioner of Declarations
Other (Please State)



This is Page 8 of a Statement comprising 9 Page(s).		
Witness	Justice of the Peace (Qual) / Commissioner of Declarations	Police Officer



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS

QP 123
06/95
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Statement No.:		Date: 20/08/2004
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Statement of:

Name of witness:	Craig HASLET	Date of birth:	12/10/67	Age:	37
Occupation:	Engineer				

Police officer taking statement:

Name of police officer:	K J GEHRINGER	Rank:	DSC	Reg. No.:	10581
Region/ Command/ Division:	Northern	Station:	Townsville CIB		

ADDENDUM STATEMENT

Craig HASLET states:

1. On the 22nd of October 2004 I provided a statement to Police in relation to an incident at the Yongala dive site.
2. I can state that I did not carry out any repairs on Gabe's dive computer.
3. I do not know who topped up Tina's or Gabe's tanks after their aborted dive.
4. I can not remember adding weights to Tina's or Gabe's vests.
5. I remember three commercial divers out there on the day. One of their names was Paul but I can't remember the other names. Paul was the commercial diver who I later requested to read Tina's dive computer after the incident. They came out on the Spoil Sport but did not return on our boat.
6. I can state that I assisted with taking Tina's dive equipment off her body. I then hopped in the tender and went back to the main vessel the Spoil Sport and collected medical equipment and the hostess Rebecca along with the doctor John who came back with me to where Tina was.

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Witness		

7. Tina's dive equipment was where I had left it and other persons were trying to revive Tina. To the best of my recollection I told either Bruce EDDINGS or Dave LEMSING to transport Tina's equipment back to the Spoil Sport. I had requested that it be locked in the Skippers room within the wheelhouse and I later saw it locked in the cabin when I went and spoke with the skipper.
8. I later completed an incident report in relation to this matter.
9. I AM ABLE TO PRODUCE THAT INCIDENT REPORT.
10. To the best of my recollection the last two people I dropped off after Gabe and Tine went in the second time were two older gentlemen in there late 40's.
11. I can remember that when I dropped Gabe and Tina off the second time Adrenalin was preparing to put divers in the water.
12. Since the end of that dive trip I have not had any communication with passengers from that dive.

Oaths Act Declaration

OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)

I Craig HASLET do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 20/08/2004 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 2 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything I know to be false.

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867

Craig HasletSignature

Taken and declared before me at Cairns

This 20th day of August 2004

Witness *J. Lecker* 21665
 Justice of the Peace
 Commissioner of Declarations

Other (Please State)

This is Page 2 of a Statement comprising 2 Page(s);

Craig Haslet Witness

J. Lecker
 Justice of the Peace
 Commissioner of Declarations

[Signature]
 Police Officer