

**Statutory Declaration**  
OATHS ACT 1900, NSW, EIGHTH SCHEDULE

I, Michael John Salmon, of Redacted in the State of New South Wales do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am currently employed as the Director of the Catholic Church's NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office and have been employed in that position since May 2003.
2. My formal academic qualifications are BA (Hons) B.Legal Studies.
3. Prior to my employment as Director of the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office I had managed Centacare Sydney's mediation programmes, and prior to that was employed by the NSW Department of Community Services as a District Officer and Legal Officer for a combined period of approximately 14 years.
4. In June/July 1997 the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office was established jointly by the Conference of NSW Bishops and the Conference of NSW Leaders of Religious Institutes to primarily manage in NSW/ACT the Catholic Church's National Towards Healing Complaint protocol which was promulgated in December 1996.

The NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office also provides from time to time and as requested, advice and/or assistance to Church Leaders within a wider professional standards context.

5. The NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office in like manner to the Church's Professional Standards Offices in the other States and the Northern Territory is primarily concerned with case management within its usual geographic jurisdiction.

All the State bodies interface with the National Office for Professional Standards, the core function of which as the Secretariat to the National Committee for Professional Standards is to auspice and promote policies and procedures germane to the Towards Healing protocol which are consistent across the whole of Church in Australia. Furthermore, the National Office for Professional Standards is responsible for managing applications made pursuant to the Review of Process provisions of the Towards Healing protocol.

6. It is the current practice of the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office that all allegations of sexual abuse of children made through the Towards Healing protocol, and which have not been previously reported to the police, inclusive of details of the time and place and circumstances of the alleged offence as disclosed by the informant, and any subsequent admissions disclosed by the accused person, are reported promptly to the Child Protection and Sex Crime Squad (CP & SCS - previously Child Protection Enforcement Agency - CPEA) of the NSW Police pursuant to a long standing arrangement between the Professional Standards Office and the Police.

Notifications are routinely made to the Police using a pro forma document in circumstances where the informant has indicated an intent not to go to the Police with his/her complaint.

Similarly, information within the same context from other prima facie credible sources is also reported to the NSW Police in the same manner.

It is the practice of persons working for, and representing the Professional Standards office to strongly encourage and support informants to, in the first instance, take their complaints to the police.

It has never been the practice of the Professional Standards Office when reporting information to the Police to provide information which would identify the victim unless such information has been formally requested by the Police. It is the practice of the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office to always work co-operatively with police in assisting them in any enquiries.

Attached and marked as Annexures to this Statutory Declaration are copies of the following documents:

**Annexure A: 1999 CPEA REPORT**

**Annexure B: 2013 CP & SCS REPORT**

REDACTED

7. I am aware that particularly in the earlier years following the establishment of the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office and for a period of time following my appointment in 2003 there existed an apparent level of confusion and ambiguity about certain reporting requirements concerning child sexual abuse to the NSW Police.

Specifically, there was confusion concerning the reporting of general intelligence information as distinct from reporting information linked to formal Towards Healing complaints, whether offences committed outside the jurisdiction of NSW should be reported, and whether allegations against deceased persons should also be reported.

Also unclear, was the timing of the report and what subsequent information should be conveyed to the Police.

8. I am advised by a member of the administrative staff who has been with the NSW/ACT Professional Standards Office since its inception that it is her recollection that in the period 1997 to in or about 1999, and prior to a pro forma reporting document being developed, that reports from the Professional Standards Office to the NSW Police were sometimes made through CCER (Catholic Church Employment Services), and that at times the then Convenor of the Professional Standards Office also made verbal reports to the police in person or over the telephone.

It has not been possible to identify on paper evidence confirming the reporting at the relevant time of some matters to the Police, although the reporting requirements concerning all such matters has been clarified and subsequently rectified through audits conducted by the Professional Standards Office.

9.

REDACTED

10.

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1900*.

Declared at: SYDNEY on 26th, JUNE 2013  
[place] [date]

Signed

[signature of declarant]

in the presence of an authorised witness, who states:

I, Yolande Maria Schitt-Smith Solicitor  
[name of authorised witness] [qualification of authorised witness]

certify the following matters concerning the making of this statutory declaration by the person who made it: [\* please cross out any text that does not apply]

- 1. \*I saw the face of the person OR ~~\*I did not see the face of the person because the person was wearing a face covering, but I am satisfied that the person had a special justification for not removing the covering, and~~
- 2. \*I have known the person for at least 12 months OR ~~\*I have not known the person for at least 12 months, but I have confirmed the person's identity using an identification document and the document I relied on was~~ .....

[describe identification document relied on]

Signed

.....  
[signature of authorised witness]

26th June 2013  
[date]

1999 CPEA REPORT

This is the ANNEXURE A: This is the annexure A referred to in the affidavit Michael Salmon made on 26 June 2013

CONFIDENTIAL

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION TO NSW POLICE SERVICE CHILD PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Name: Complainant has made a complainant to the Church agency but has indicated that he does not intend to take up the matter with the Police. Address: n/a Phone Home: n/a Work: Other Information: An accusation of sexual assault Is the informant willing to speak to police if necessary? No.

SUSPECT DETAILS (Additional pages for multiple suspects)

Name: D.O.B: Address: Phone Home: Work: Occupation (if known): Does this person currently have access to children?

VICTIM DETAILS (Additional pages for multiple victims)

Name: D.O.B: Address: Phone Home: Work: Contact Information: Is the victim willing to speak to police? Not at this stage

OFFENCE DETAILS

Date/Year Range: Location of offence: Brief Narrative:

NOTIFYING PERSON

Name: John Davoren, Professional Standards Office of the NSW Catholic Church, in accordance with s316 of the NSW Crimes Act. Contact Number: 9287 1542 on behalf of Brother Michael Hill, Provincial of the Marist Brothers, PO Box 138 Drummoyne, NSW 1470 phone 0298196622 Date: 11 March 1999

RECEIVING OFFICER

Name: Date:

This is the ANNEXURE B: This is the annexure B referred to in the affidavit Michael Salmon made on 26 June 2013

CONFIDENTIAL

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION TO NSW POLICE SERVICE - CHILD PROTECTION & SEX CRIME SQUAD

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Name: Address: Phone Home: Work: Other information:

Is the informant willing to speak to police if necessary? No, at this stage the informant has chosen to go through the Catholic Church's Towards Healing process. The informant is aware of his right to speak to the Police.

SUSPECT DETAILS (Additional pages for multiple suspects)

Name: D.O.B./Age: Address: Phone Home: Work: Occupation (if known): Does this person currently have access to children?

VICTIM DETAILS (Additional pages for multiple victims)

Name: D.O.B./Age: Sex: Male/Female Address: Phone Home: Work: Contact Information:

Is the victim willing to speak to police? No, at this stage the victim has chosen to go through the Catholic Church's Towards Healing process. The victim is aware of his right to speak to the Police.

OFFENCE DETAILS

Date/Year Range: Location of offence: Brief Narrative:

NOTIFYING OFFICER

Name: Michael Salmon, Professional Standards Office... Contact Number: 02 9287 1542 Date: Signature:

RECEIVING OFFICER

Name: Date: