



TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] ON 26

JUNE 2008

[REDACTED] It's afternoon, its' the 25th June, it is about 4.20 in the afternoon and I am speaking with [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED] is that right [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] That's correct.

[REDACTED] My name is [REDACTED] and I work for [REDACTED] and I have been tasked by MAF to do some [REDACTED] that they have got [REDACTED] at the moment, [REDACTED] and I believe that you actually know [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yes very well.

[REDACTED] OK. You have got no worries that I am taping the conversation here.

[REDACTED] No

[REDACTED] Your home address please.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] And I believe that the cell phone here is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And you are currently A [REDACTED] here.

[REDACTED] From what I have been told talking to you earlier you have been with, well you haven't actually been with the RSPCA for about five or six years.

[REDACTED] Correct.

[REDACTED] Before that you were for probably be about the same time.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And what position were you in the local branch of the RSPCA.

[REDACTED] I was [REDACTED] first and for about approximately a year and a year and a half.



[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And then I became a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] And what is a field, as a [REDACTED] what did you do.

[REDACTED] Just basically going and just check out jobs.

[REDACTED] Yeah

[REDACTED] Check out animals and that on properties and picking up animals that people didn't want and taking them back to the kennels.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And that was about it and, and did correspondence

[REDACTED] Right and in the

[REDACTED] Through MAF and the RSPCA.

[REDACTED] And in the [REDACTED] which I think you held you said for about 5 years.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] What sort of duties did you have then.

[REDACTED] I had lots of duties.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] Pretty much the same as what a field officer was, that I was doing when I was a field officer.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] As well as doing uplifting animals.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] Search warrants.

[REDACTED] Yes

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Um

You see that the powers of an inspector what extra things can you do that [redacted] couldn't have done as a field officer.

Um removing animals from properties.

Yes

Search warrants.

Prosecutions, can you do prosecutions as a field officer, or not.

I think you could I'm not sure.

Right

Yeah I also did prosecutions in bed with [redacted]

Yes all right. So I think it was 1999 from some documentation you have got in front of you that was probably when you first met [redacted] and his [redacted] and how that was. Where was it or how was it that you met [redacted].

I first met [redacted] when the [redacted] SPCA had their AGM.

Yes

And

And that was in 1999.

I'm not sure what years it was. Actually.

Yeah. OK.

It must have been.

Yeah.

'98 yeah.

Yeah

I'm not quite sure.

And yeah [REDACTED] had moved into the area. [REDACTED] was voted in as a committee member at the AGM.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And following that a month later we had a committee meeting which the committee then voted [REDACTED] in as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yeah

[REDACTED] And myself as [REDACTED] I think it was. No there was one part when I was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yeah

[REDACTED] Yeah that is how we met [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OK now I believe there was an occasion which you told me about where you believed [REDACTED] acted outside the powers that he had at that time. Tell us about that.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] were applying for their warrants.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] From the SPCA. At that time there was a bit of a problem I am not 100% sure what it was but the committee had sort of held back on recommending both of them with issues, warrants being issued to them.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And from memory I think around about the time there was an injured dog that was picked up and taken to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And [REDACTED] and I were the only ones that had warrants at, at that stage, and I found out like about this dog being at the vet by [REDACTED] and a couple of days after that that she had rung and told me that [REDACTED] had rung [REDACTED] and spoke with [REDACTED] I think it was and gave [REDACTED] authorisation for the dog to be put down.

[REDACTED] OK. So saying it was [REDACTED] who actually gave the authority to put the dog down.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And did [REDACTED] have that authority at that time or not.

[REDACTED] No.

[REDACTED] Why not.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] hadn't been issued a warrant at that stage.

[REDACTED] OK. So the correct procedure for [REDACTED] to have dealt with that would have been what.

[REDACTED] That would possibly have been through [REDACTED] or myself at that time to make a decision on the dog.

[REDACTED] OK - OK. Would the vet be able to make that call under the Animal Welfare Act or not.

[REDACTED] Um yes or no. As far as I am aware there is a stray injured dog so it should have come under the [REDACTED] and as far as I am aware the dog is supposed to be given pain relief and nothing too major surgery done on it if it needed to be at that time.

[REDACTED] Yeah right.

[REDACTED] And ads on the radio or time to find the owner of the dog before, if there was surgery that needed to be done.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

[REDACTED] And the dog should have been kept for, for seven days.

[REDACTED] What about if the vet decided that it was too injured to do that.

[REDACTED] It wasn't too, I do know that it wasn't too injured to do that.

[REDACTED] How do you know that.

[REDACTED] Because as far as I am aware I think it was, it was just like a broken leg it wasn't life threatening.

[REDACTED] Right OK.

So it wasn't a feeling that the dog needed to be put out of its misery and

[REDACTED] No it wasn't like that.

[REDACTED] OK.

No worries.

WE WILL PAUSE THIS. PHONE CALL.

[REDACTED] OK we are back recording again and again no worries that we are going to be doing that.

[REDACTED] No worries.

[REDACTED] OK all right. Sorry, you were just saying that you knew that the dog hadn't, or wasn't needing to be euthanized at that time because it wasn't that badly injured.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

[REDACTED] It wasn't life threatening.

[REDACTED] Sure. OK and who told you that.

[REDACTED] I think I may have read a vet report that came from the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yeah OK

[REDACTED] Possibly

[REDACTED] OK and what actually happened as a result of that. Did you make a complaint to National Office or anything or to the local office.

[REDACTED] Um Yeah I am not sure, I am not sure if it was at that time it may have been a little bit after that when there was the other incident with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with the kitten.

[REDACTED] OK tell us about that one then.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] had picked up a kitten that had an injury on it. I am not 100% sure what it was and she had taken it to the [REDACTED] and it was given pain relief and [REDACTED] had rung [REDACTED] and spoke to, I am not sure whom over there and gave [REDACTED] authorisation for the kitten to be put down.

[REDACTED] Was [REDACTED] holding a warrant at that stage.

[REDACTED] No.

[REDACTED] OK and so what would have been the correct procedure then.

[REDACTED] Same thing as the dog where [REDACTED] should have passed it onto [REDACTED] or myself or [REDACTED] preferably because it was [REDACTED] case.

[REDACTED] Right and she had actually dropped it into the vet.

[REDACTED] Yes.

[REDACTED] What was [REDACTED] position in the local branch at that stage.

[REDACTED] At that stage [REDACTED] was a [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Right and that was the same as when the dog incident occurred.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] Right OK.

OK, now [REDACTED] last name is what

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] And where does she live.

[REDACTED] In [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OK and the vet that would have euthanized over there, who would that have been.

[REDACTED] I'm not sure.

[REDACTED] OK, OK you told us about these two incidents and I believe that you have got a bit of documentation there which is a copy of a report – a letter basically had been sent by

[REDACTED] to whom.

[REDACTED] To [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] and what's the, what's the context of that document.

[REDACTED] I haven't read it in a long time.

[REDACTED] OK. <laughter> <dog barking>

I thought that this one here is, from reading it was a report, a letter from [REDACTED] to the National Office explaining [REDACTED] action.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] And I know that you will refresh your memory as we talk about it.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] What sort of things does [REDACTED] say in there with regard, it was in relation to the incident we talked about with the dog isn't it.

Right OK so the contents of the document is basically what.

[REDACTED] It's [REDACTED] explaining [REDACTED] actions in regards to this dog.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

[REDACTED] To National office to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Yeah and what, what does [REDACTED] say.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] explains in here that [REDACTED] has, had made two mistakes in regards to having this dog euthanized. The first being that [REDACTED] conveyed a message through [REDACTED] office as [REDACTED] was unable to speak with [REDACTED] and the second mistake was that [REDACTED] had I think [REDACTED] had forgotten to get certification from the vet too, in regards to the dog being euthanized.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] To [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OK and the reason [REDACTED] was involved

[REDACTED] is because the dog is technically a stray.

[REDACTED] Yeah

[REDACTED] And it comes under the Dog Control Act.

[REDACTED] Right

[REDACTED] A stray dog.

[REDACTED] Yeah, yeah and basically [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] at that time.

[REDACTED] Yes

[REDACTED] All right. Now is there any other incidents that you can think of at this stage relating to [REDACTED] or any of [REDACTED] actions that you don't think were appropriate in either [REDACTED] position as the [REDACTED] or more so as [REDACTED] holding down a warrant.

[REDACTED] Not that I can think of off the top of my head right now.

[REDACTED] Yeah

Is [REDACTED] still working for the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No.

[REDACTED] What does she do now.

[REDACTED] She [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] How much longer did [REDACTED] stay with the SPCA before [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Not much longer after I left.

[REDACTED] OK and why did [REDACTED] leave.

[REDACTED] I left because I didn't get on with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had made accusations to the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] about my own animals that I had at that time.

[REDACTED] Yeah.

[REDACTED] And it all sort of it all came to light at the end of the day that I had received a letter from the [REDACTED] at that stage saying that what [REDACTED] had put on paper to them was all false and incorrect.

[REDACTED] And what do you think had been driving [REDACTED] - had you had an altercation with [REDACTED] at that stage or anything.

[REDACTED] Oh no not really it was just that is the type of person that [REDACTED] is after all.

[REDACTED] Yeah and what sort of allegations were there.

[REDACTED] The allegations were that I held a number of dogs on my property that were unregistered.

█ Yeah.

█ And that I had lied to the Animal Control or had lied to an Animal Control officer about how many dogs I had on my property and what were registered and what weren't registered which I had never had a conversation with. My dogs have always been registered.

█ Yeah

█ With the █ Yeah.

█ Was there any pressure put on you to remove yourself from the Branch of the RSPCA.

█ Yeah I wasn't happy about that letter that he wrote to the Council.

█ Yeah

█ He and with us doing our, you know, trying to do our jobs to the best that we can and he sort of jumped in there and takes over or doing things like going over our head and giving, authorising euthanasia and that when he didn't hold a warrant at that stage.

█ Yeah I appreciate your time █ If I need to get back to you there is no worries with me just giving you a call.

█ Yeah no worries.

█ Again no worries with me taping the conversation here.

█ Mm

█ It's coming up about quarter to five and I am stopping the tape.

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