

**RECORD OF INTERVIEW -  
STEVE HODGSON**

*OP GRAND*

EXHIBIT No. 1293  
*Theresa Hamilton* CLERK

**TAPE NO:** 1 (of 1)

**DATE:** 27 October 2005

**PLACE:** Gold Coast

**TIME COMMENCED:** 11:56 AM

**TIME CONCLUDED:** 12:28 PM

**INTERVIEWEE:** Steve Hodgson

**INTERVIEWER/S:** Detective Inspector Ken Bemi

**LEGAL OFFICER:** Danny Boyle

**RE:** Operation Grand

**FILE NUMBER:** MI-05-2482

Complainant:	Operation Grand
Subject(s):	Operation Grand
Investigator:	Detective Inspector Ken Bemi
Statement Of:	Steve Hodgson
Legal Officer:	Theresa Hamilton
File Number:	MI-05-2482
Directory :	

COPY TAPE 1 OF 1 - RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN STEVE HODGSON AND  
DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT  
COMMISSION ALSO PRESENT; DETECTIVE SERGEANT STEVE WHITELAW OF THE  
CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION

LEGAL OFFICER: DANIEL BOYLE

RE: OPERATION GRAND

SH = STEVE HODGSON

KB = DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI

SW = DETECTIVE SERGEANT STEVE WHITELAW

UI = UNINTELLIGIBLE

1 KB The time now is 11:56 AM on the morning of, Thursday the Twenty-Seventh of October  
2 2005 I'm present in the office of, Hickey Lawyers – and I intend to conduct an audio  
3 recorded interview with Mr Steve HODGSON – in relation – to a matter that the Crime  
4 and Misconduct Commission in Brisbane is currently undertaking, relating to, the Gold  
5 Coast City Council elections held in March 2004 and in particular – document – a  
6 document that was sent – from – Hickey Lawyers to the Crime and Misconduct  
7 Commission – in April 2005, relating to that investigation, for the purposes of voice  
8 identification I'll ask every person present here starting with myself to state their full and  
9 correct name my full name is Kenneth William BEMI, I'm a Detective Inspector of  
10 Police currently performing duties at the Crime and Misconduct Commission in Brisbane  
11  
12 SW Yeah full name's Steven Allen WHITELAW I'm a Detective Sergeant of Police I'm also  
13 at the Crime (ui) Crime and Misconduct Commission  
14  
15 KB Your full name please  
16  
17 SH Ah Steven Kenneth HODGSON I'm the General Manager at Hickey Lawyers  
18  
19 KB HODGSON thanks for making yourself available, here today what I intend to do is  
20 conduct an audio recorded interview with you, about the matter that I previously outlined,  
21 and - by that I mean whatever you say, myself my colleague says will be recorded as we  
22 speak do you understand that procedure  
23  
24 SH I understand  
25  
26 KB Do you require any other person to be present here with you  
27  
28 SH No I'm comfortable  
29

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30 KB Do you understand the nature of my inquiries here today  
31  
32 SH I do  
33  
34 KB Can you please state your current address  
35  
36 SH Ah 50 Hugh Avenue Burleigh Heads  
37  
38 KB And your date of birth  
39  
40 SH Twenty-Eighth of July 1950  
41  
42 KB And you're the General Manager here at Hickey Lawyers  
43  
44 SH Correct  
45  
46 KB And can you outline your role in that position  
47  
48 SH Yes I, ahh, take care of, all of the staff here, ahh, I manage the ahh accounts for the firm,  
49 ahh, and, creditors debtors, all those, types of administration duties, ah oversee, ah, the,  
50 amount of work everyone's got - make sure we've got enough people handling problems  
51 and so forth  
52  
53 KB You're a lawyer yourself  
54  
55 SH No I'm not  
56  
57 KB Not, okay, can you outline your qualifications just for the record  
58  
59 SH Yes I'm I'm - ah I have ah no university, qualifications I've been the manager, I've  
60 worked with ah Tony Hickey as his manager for over 20 years - ah so my experience is ah  
61 - working ah as a - a manager in this ty' in this, this particular business  
62  
63 KB So how many staff would you supervise here  
64  
65 SH Ahh between 75 and 80  
66  
67 KB And, how many people do you actually have reporting to you, in person  
68  
69 SH Between 75 and 80  
70  
71 KB So virtually all the staff  
72

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73 SH Yeah I say 75 to 80 because the-er we have a little bit of ah, temporary staff and things  
74 like that, depending on the work flow [clinking of china in background]  
75  
76 KB Whose your supervisor, or who do you report to  
77  
78 SH The, the owners of the business (ui) [over talking]  
79  
80 KB Who are  
81  
82 SH The, four partners, Tony HICKEY, Mark LACEY, Jamie BOLLOCK, and Joe WALSH  
83  
84 KB Is there anyone in particular that you report to out of those people you mentioned  
85  
86 SH Ohh – ah Tony is the ah, the Managing Partner so probably more so Tony – but generally  
87 to all partners yes  
88  
89 KB As I said earlier on – the Crime and Misconduct Commission, is currently, conducting,  
90 public hearings into matters, pertaining to the Gold Coast City Council elections held in  
91 March 2004 – as part of that inquiry [sighs] there's a matter, that has, arisen in relation to  
92 documents, that have been, supplied, to the Crime and Misconduct Commission, by, this  
93 firm here Hickey Lawyers  
94  
95 SH Yes  
96  
97 KB In particular, there's a - a document that was – prepared by – Miss Sandra WILD on the  
98 instruction – of Mr HICKEY, relating to, Lionel Barden Common Sense Campaign Fund  
99 and it's a trust statement  
100  
101 SH Yes  
102  
103 KB In other words – and if I can show you that document – [sound of shuffling of  
104 documents] – [clinking of china]  
105  
106 SH Yes  
107  
108 KB And I can, inform you that – ah Miss Sandra WILD actually, stated that she prepared this  
109 document  
110  
111 SH Yes  
112  
113 KB Have you got any knowledge in relation to its preparation at all  
114  
115 SH No  
116

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117 KB Are you involved – or I should say were you involved in any way with the preparation of  
118 this document  
119  
120 SH No  
121  
122 KB Have you ever sighted this document before  
123  
124 SH Only recently  
125  
126 KB So certainly not when it was, prepared  
127  
128 SH No  
129  
130 [Shuffling of documents]  
131  
132 KB Would you normally in your position would you normally, sight documents prepared by,  
133 Miss Sandra WILD before they were sent out to various, places  
134  
135 SH No, (ui) [over talking]  
136  
137 KB That's got nothing to do with your position or role  
138  
139 SH No, no - that's Tony HICKEY's – ah manages, Sandy WILD's time 'n what she produces  
140 under his instruction  
141  
142 [Sound of shuffling of documents]  
143  
144 KB I can – show you, some further documents [sound of shuffling of documents] these relate  
145 to – they're two, trust statements basically they relate to Sue ROBBINS 'n David  
146 POWER  
147  
148 SH Yeh  
149  
150 KB Gold Coast City Election Campaign Fund – and that starts from the Twenty-Third of  
151 December, and finishes on the Fourth of March  
152  
153 SH Yeah  
154  
155 KB And the other one refers to Lionel Barden, the Common Sense Campaign Fund which,  
156 commences from the Fourth of March 2004 [clinking of china]  
157  
158 SH Yeah  
159

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160 KB And finishes on the – Twenty-Sixth of May 2004 – these documents contain – a number  
161 of entries, if I can just get you to have a look over those [sound of china clinking in  
162 background]  
163  
164 SH [Clears throat]  
165  
166 [Shuffling through documents]  
167  
168 SH Yeh  
169  
170 KB First of all – have you ever sighted these documents, prior to today [knocking sound]  
171  
172 SH Yes  
173  
174 KB Can you tell me when you first sighted those documents  
175  
176 SH In recent ah well, in the last, week or so  
177  
178 KB So – certainly – ah not back in 2004  
179  
180 SH No  
181  
182 KB Were you, responsible for any, entries made in relation, to these documents [sound of  
183 shuffling through documents] – if you have a look through them the – documents  
184 delineate – various amounts of money received from people –  
185  
186 SH When you say responsible ah  
187  
188 KB [Over talking] Yeah  
189  
190 SH I was ah aware of the time that ah – that monies were going in and out of ah, the file just  
191 as a general – I-I'm aware of things going on in the office  
192  
193 KB Did you know the specifics – at all in relation to those two accounts  
194  
195 SH No  
196  
197 KB You didn't  
198  
199 SH No  
200  
201 KB If I can just – take you right back  
202  
203 SH Yeh

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204  
205 KB To the, Gold Coast City Council Elections held in, March 2004  
206  
207 SH Yeah  
208  
209 KB Were you involved in any way – with anything to do with the ah election  
210  
211 SH No  
212  
213 KB (Ui) candidates  
214  
215 SH No  
216  
217 KB Either personally or  
218  
219 SH I (ui) think back but no I'm sure I wasn't  
220  
221 KB [Over talking] (Ui)]  
222  
223 SH I did I did vote at the [laughs]  
224  
225 KB Or in your role here, as General Manager  
226  
227 SH No – no – certainly not that I recall I, I, I don't recall anything like that no  
228  
229 KB Alright, were you aware, of an account being, set up to support various candidates at all  
230  
231 SH Ahm – I just – ah – nothing specific – but I was aware of it  
232  
233 KB Can you outline what you're, were aware of exactly  
234  
235 SH Oh just that ah – we had a trust account facility there that ah [clinking of china in  
236 background] a client had asked us to establish – to – transact – funds – that simple  
237  
238 KB Who was that client  
239  
240 SH I – oh – I don't – I couldn't say for sure who it was, and I, I think I know who it was – I-I-  
241 I think it was probably, Brian ROWE but I can't say that for sure  
242  
243 KB So in any event, you had very little to do with, ah the, accounts that were the ah trust fund  
244 that was set up  
245  
246 SH No 'twas, 'twas no – no, I wasn't aware of it I-I wasn't aware of it in any specifics, I was  
247 generally aware of it, as I'm aware of a lot of things yeah

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248  
249 KB Was it the case that – donors had to go through yourself as General Manager to make  
250 donations to that  
251  
252 SH No  
253  
254 KB Fund at all  
255  
256 SH No  
257  
258 KB So you weren't involved with anything to do with the fund on day to day operation  
259  
260 SH No, no  
261  
262 KB Do you know who, could access that – fund at all  
263  
264 SH Who could access the fund  
265  
266 KB Yeah  
267  
268 SH The only way that it could be accessed would be by authority – any fund any trust account  
269 monies we treated this as, another trust account – ah where we were dealing with other  
270 people's monies and, we would transact it as per the authorities – that were given from  
271 whoever the funds belonged to  
272  
273 KB [Over talking] Were you  
274  
275 SH That's how we would deal with it  
276  
277 KB Were you responsible in your role here, of giving, that permission for certain persons to  
278 access, those funds at all from the, trust account  
279  
280 SH All, transactions through our trust account, any withdrawals from our trust account, have  
281 to be, authorised, by a, ah, by a partner of the firm – ah I wouldn't be aware of every  
282 transaction – and I'm not, allowed to authorise it it has to be by a partner of a firm – and  
283 it could be any partner of the firm  
284  
285 KB Are you aware of what the – the trust account, was, first called at all when it was, initially  
286 set up  
287  
288 SH I – I'm aware of it now but I wasn't aware of it at the time I didn't ah have any  
289 significance, I didn't know there was any significance attached to how it was set up  
290  
291 KB And what ah, by what name were you aware that it was set by initially

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292  
293 SH At that oh if you're talking about what I know now and what I knew then  
294  
295 KB [Over talking] Yeah  
296  
297 SH I knew nothing then  
298  
299 KB Yeah  
300  
301 SH About how it was set up or (ui)  
302  
303 KB [Over talking] Alright  
304  
305 SH Specifics  
306  
307 KB [Over talking] What about  
308  
309 SH I was aware of general, the general account  
310  
311 KB What about now but do you know what it was called – ss' initially now  
312  
313 SH I do know now yes  
314  
315 KB What do you know it as  
316  
317 SH What do you know it as  
318  
319 KB What-what-what was it yeah  
320  
321 SH I, look I, I, I can look at this and tell you what  
322  
323 KB Oh say  
324  
325 SH Yeh  
326  
327 KB Without looking at the documents did you have any sort've independent recollection or  
328  
329 SH No, I-I don't follow politics that closely  
330  
331 KB Sure - sure  
332  
333 SH And I just  
334  
335 KB [Over talking] (Ui)

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336  
337 SH (Ui) Sue ROBBINS here but yeah  
338  
339 KB Okay, so the point is that, you didn't have anything to do with the day to day management  
340 of these accounts  
341  
342 SH No, I don't know these, I've never met these people – I know nothing about – the day to  
343 day - transactions – ah, but I was aware of it [sound of movement] in a general sense as  
344 I'm aware of as I say a lot of files  
345  
346 KB By, virtue of your position here  
347  
348 SH Correct  
349  
350 KB Okay but you weren't aware of the – intricacies of it  
351  
352 SH I wasn't – dealing with – the matter – in any way shape or form, other than as my  
353 manage, as my role as a manager  
354  
355 KB Were you aware that, the – trust account name was changed – at some stage  
356  
357 SH No – I wasn't aware of that  
358  
359 KB [Over talking] (Ui) – so if I  
360  
361 SH I'm aware of it now but I wasn't aware of it then  
362  
363 KB Alright – were you, aware of why that was changed at all  
364  
365 SH No  
366  
367 KB Would you have any knowledge now of why that was changed  
368  
369 SH No  
370  
371 KB And, if I can be more specific it was changed from, ah POWER and ROBBINS basically  
372 the ah the election campaign fund to the Lionel Barden – Common Sense Campaign Fund  
373 – hav' can you offer – any – knowledge at all as to why that was changed, for any reason  
374 or  
375  
376 SH I assume we have instructions to do that  
377  
378 KB Right – but you're not aware  
379

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380 SH No  
381  
382 KB Of, the particular reasons  
383  
384 SH No  
385  
386 [Sound of page being turned]  
387  
388 KB Now anything that – Sandra WILD would type she’s – ah Mr HICKEY’s – personal  
389 assistant  
390  
391 SH Correct  
392  
393 KB She’s, already informed me of that – your role here – as the General Manager, if you like  
394 – would you in any way – ever – check her work or – peruse her work before, it was,  
395 disseminated, to any, place or any, organisation  
396  
397 SH No the role, the way we’re set up there is the solicitors, that’s the solicitors’ role to check,  
398 the secretary has typed the document  
399  
400 KB Yeah  
401  
402 SH She then signs  
403  
404 KB Yeah  
405  
406 SH Ah – no I’d be very rarely checking our secretary’s work, that’s the system, the solicitor is  
407 responsible - I’m responsible t’ make the solicitor (ui) things (ui) well I’m not responsible  
408 for that but [knocks table] you know when a, when a problem erupts it’s the solicitor’s  
409 responsibility not the secretary’s  
410  
411 KB So in any case and you’ve already – ah stated this you certainly – didn’t have any  
412 knowledge of, this document when it was prepared and when it was sent out to the C-M-  
413 C  
414  
415 SH Correct  
416  
417 KB But your attention has since been directed to it obviously  
418  
419 SH Correct  
420  
421 KB Have you had any conversations with, Mr Tony HICKEY in relation to this document  
422  
423 SH Yes

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424  
425 KB Can you outline what the conversations were  
426  
427 SH Conversations were simply that he was very upset about the whole matter  
428  
429 KB Yeh  
430  
431 SH And he's ah, very concerned about ah that he's been, accused of something – ah where  
432 he's been really in a position of simply being trustee for some funds – where we don't get  
433 paid anything and he's in a, he's getting, crucified, for something that I don't think ahhhh  
434 he is ah responsible for – so yeah he's, yeah we've had conversations like that  
435  
436 KB Have you had any conversations  
437  
438 SH As we do we're ah, ah – we run this business  
439  
440 KB Sure  
441  
442 SH I-I'm involved with this business and ah  
443  
444 KB Understandably  
445  
446 SH Yeah  
447  
448 KB Have you had any conversations with him in relation to – I'm talking about Mr Tony  
449 HICKEY in particular, in relation to the change of, names, in relation to the, trust account  
450 and why it was changed –  
451  
452 SH [Over talking] (Ui)  
453  
454 KB I know you said earlier on that you didn't have, any knowledge of it, in particular – but  
455 what I'm ss' asking you now is did you have any specific conversation with Mr Tony  
456 HICKEY at any stage in relation to the change of (ui)  
457  
458 SH [Over talking] I haven't asked him why that was changed  
459  
460 KB Right – [sound of shuffling through papers] – can you (ui) offer – any other information  
461 in relation – to the preparation of this document I'll just refer, you to it Lionel Barden  
462 Common Sense, Campaign Fund  
463  
464 SH Yeh  
465  
466 KB It was prepared by Sandra WILD –  
467

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468 SH I can offer some explanation  
469  
470 KB Yeah eh, ju', first of all  
471  
472 SH Yeh  
473  
474 KB (Ui) might do is just get you to – compare [sound of shuffling of papers] – there's two,  
475 lots of documents that the Commission received – the Commission received – Lionel  
476 Barden – Common Sense Campaign Fund in April 2005  
477  
478 SH Yeh  
479  
480 KB After that – these other documents were received relating to the trust account – okay  
481  
482 SH (Ui) [over talking]  
483  
484 KB So you've got – three different documents here, t'  
485  
486 SH Yeh  
487  
488 KB So they, two were received – ah subsequent – to the one I'm referring to Lionel Barden –  
489 Common Sense Campaign Fund  
490  
491 SH Yeh  
492  
493 KB Prepared by Sandra WILD  
494  
495 SH Yeh  
496  
497 KB If I can just get you to – go through those – and compare – those to the one – Miss WILD  
498 – prepared – [sound of shuffling through papers]  
499  
500 [Clearing of throat]  
501  
502 [Sound of shuffling through papers]  
503  
504 SH Okay  
505  
506 KB Alright – when you compare – the one that – Sandra WILD prepared  
507  
508 SH Yeah  
509  
510 KB With the other two – sourced documents if you like – that she referred to, when she  
511 prepared that one

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512  
513 SH Yeh  
514  
515 KB What do you notice about them  
516  
517 SH What Sandy has done is – she’s amalgamated – two trust account statements into one –  
518 which is – a common, practice in our firm where we have – what I’d probably call –  
519 tandem matters where – one matter has been changed into another matter – and we want  
520 to see a clear – audit trail of what has happened over the whole period, without – actually,  
521 putting it into two we put it into one so it’s very clear, what the transactions were – what  
522 the audit trail was – that’s how we would do it – if we have a situation where – a-a matter  
523 for some reason has changed in the middle - ah because a client’s rung up and changed  
524 the name of the matter or the client or whatever – we would ah - we would for simplicity  
525 too (ui) so that the client would understand what was going on, we would create one trust  
526 account statement – with a clear flowing audit trail  
527  
528 KB That’s normal practice  
529  
530 SH That’s normal practice, if in a situ’ and we don’t have a lot of that situation but when we  
531 do [taps table] – to make it simpler, for the client to understand rather than having two  
532 trust account statements – we would create one trust account and it may even be a  
533 mistake in our first, matter when it was opened that we, put the wrong name on it, or  
534 misspelt it or something like that – which case - we would – do a single – amalgamated –  
535 trust account statement – in exactly the form you see there  
536  
537 KB Alright in particular  
538  
539 SH Yeah  
540  
541 KB You can see that [sound of pages being turned] – there’s two entries that appear on the –  
542 source documents  
543  
544 SH Yeh  
545  
546 KB That, are not included, in the one prepared by, Sandra WILD, okay [over talking]  
547  
548 SH Yeah the transfers  
549  
550 KB The transfer of funds basically  
551  
552 SH [Over talking] Yeah, yeah  
553

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554 KB And by that I mean I'm referring to – [sighs] there's an entry here on the Fourth of March  
555 2004, trust journal transfer to M-N – and then has a file number – L Barden Common  
556 Sense Campaign Fund it appears as a debit  
557  
558 SH Yeh  
559  
560 KB Twenty thousand five hundred  
561  
562 SH Yeh – moving over to the other file  
563  
564 KB And the other file – ss' titled the Common Sense Campaign Fund once again the Fourth  
565 of March zero 4 it's trust – journal transfer – and it refers to Sue ROBBINS and David  
566 POWER Gold Coast City Council Election Campaign Fund and you'll see there's a credit  
567 there  
568  
569 SH Yeh  
570  
571 KB Of twenty thousand five hundred the same amount  
572  
573 SH [Over talking] Correct – yeah  
574  
575 KB So – to you what does that indicate  
576  
577 SH That indicates a transfer occurred – but – this, we wouldn't put that in a statement –  
578 because we're trying to show a clear audit trail – that, doesn't deal but that, it's a  
579 mechanical thing that's happened in our office in relation to the change of the matters –  
580 we wouldn't put it into the trust account statement, this is one trust account statement –  
581 so we don't, and, that's our standard practice that's how we would do it, we would deal  
582 with it – as a simple audit flow – without those transactions cause they're not relevant, to  
583 the trust account statement – that's the way we do it  
584  
585 KB But they may be relevant to the Commission's inquiry  
586  
587 SH Obviously  
588  
589 KB So, okay, they're omitted from that report, as ah, we pointed out – now – do you think 'n  
590 this your opinion, okay  
591  
592 SH Yeah  
593  
594 KB To complete that audit – trail - do you think that's, an important part, of a complete  
595 record to include [taps table] those two entries – in – that document  
596  
597 SH No I wouldn't, no

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598  
599 KB This is your opinion (ui)  
600  
601 SH This is my opinion that – that – we are sending this out to a client as we normally do  
602  
603 KB Yeah  
604  
605 SH And the client – is not interested in that detail because it may have been an internal detail,  
606 an internal matter  
607  
608 KB Yeah  
609  
610 SH And all we're trying to ss' explain to the client is exactly what happened with their funds  
611 – monies in monies out [taps table] – that's a, that's something that's happened within  
612 the, the office – that – isn't relevant – to what we're trying to explain to our client  
613  
614 KB But your client – if I can use that ah word [taps table] was the C-M-C on this particular  
615 occasion requesting – a record  
616  
617 SH Yeh  
618  
619 KB And once again in your opinion, don't you think that is ah very important evidence, or I  
620 shouldn't, very important information I should say – ah to include, in any – document that  
621 – we have re' – requested in relation to any trust accounts  
622  
623 SH I think it would depend upon your request which I don't – have – party to  
624  
625 KB [Over talking] Alright (ui) once again I'm just asking  
626  
627 SH Yeah  
628  
629 KB Your opinion your knowledge of this  
630  
631 SH Yeah well I don't have knowledge of that request  
632  
633 KB [Over talking] Right – did you sight the request at all  
634  
635 SH No  
636  
637 KB Alright but you're saying – general day to day ah running if you had a client you wouldn't  
638 ah, include, those two entries because it would – confuse the client is that what  
639  
640 SH It's not relevant to it wouldn't 've been relevant, that-that's how Sandy would've been  
641 trained to set up

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642  
643 KB Yeah [over talking]  
644  
645 SH That trust account statement, that's how we would do it, in a tandem – matter – situation  
646 – that's how she's trained to produce that statement  
647  
648 KB Alright – so if you have a look – of the t' – title there of the one that Sandy created, the –  
649 document Lionel Barden Common Sense Campaign Fund  
650  
651 SH Hmm hmm  
652  
653 KB Do you know why it was – called that in relation to – the time the document was  
654 prepared, like  
655  
656 SH I – I don't know who Lionel BARDEN is quite frankly  
657  
658 KB Right  
659  
660 SH I don't know how what his relevance is - sorry  
661  
662 KB So you don't know why it was titled [knocks table] Lionel Barden  
663  
664 SH No  
665  
666 KB Common Sense Campaign  
667  
668 SH No  
669  
670 [Sound of shuffling through papers]  
671  
672 KB Were you aware – of any – directions given to – Sandra WILD by Mr Tony HICKEY to  
673 omit – those two entries – in the documents she prepared  
674  
675 SH No  
676  
677 KB I can show you these – source documents again you'll notice they have brackets around  
678 them the two entries – that were omitted – in the document that was prepared by, Miss  
679 WILD – on that one see the – appears to be marks – similar to brackets  
680  
681 SH Yeh  
682  
683 KB Can you tell me how those – marks came to be on those documents at all have you any  
684 knowledge of that  
685

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686 SH I have no knowledge of it – I can only assume that – that Sandy’s put those there because  
687 she didn’t want those entries in there that cause that’s the way we would do our –  
688 statement  
689  
690 KB Yeah  
691  
692 SH They’re not relevant – generally they’re not relevant  
693  
694 KB Right – [sound of shuffling through papers] – so when you – stated before that’s – how –  
695 things happen in relation to ah – ahm – things being made simpler for your clients in  
696 relation to, matters such as like that trust account  
697  
698 SH [Over talking] To make it a clear audit trail, yeah  
699  
700 KB A clear audit trail  
701  
702 SH Yeah – yeah monies in monies out  
703  
704 KB Okay are your staff trained in any – particular, way specifically to deal with those issues  
705 you said that (ui)  
706  
707 SH [Over talking] Well when I say trained that’s (ui) that’s our practice  
708  
709 KB Right  
710  
711 SH That’s how – I’ve always done them over the last 20 years – and that’s how I’ve shown  
712 my staff to do them – when I’ve done them with them and I – eh we were more hands on  
713 – you know 15 years ago  
714  
715 KB Mmm  
716  
717 SH Five years ago – than we are today I’m – ah my role has changed I’m, I’m now, very  
718 much, in the manager strictly manager I used to be heavily involved in accounts, may be  
719 then I would’ve known more (ui) more about it but – these days I (ui) have a different  
720 role – but that’s how we’ve always done it  
721  
722 KB But in any event, you weren’t privy of – Mr Tony HICKEY’s instructions to – Sandra  
723 WILD in relation to the preparation of this document  
724  
725 SH No  
726  
727 [Sound of shuffling of papers]  
728

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729 KB I can just refer you – [shuffling of papers] again to this document – compared to – source  
730 documents  
731  
732 SH Yeah  
733  
734 KB Can you just have a look – on the source documents there's, reference numbers that  
735 appear on them  
736  
737 SH Yeh  
738  
739 KB And there isn't – a reference number that appears on the document prepared by, Sandra  
740 WILD do you agree with that  
741  
742 SH [Over talking] Yeh - yeh  
743  
744 KB Can you offer any reason why – any reference number – doesn't appear on that document  
745 created by Sandra WILD  
746  
747 SH No I can't – I can't think why – I mean other than it's one – she's created one statement  
748 'n it'd may be confusing to put two matter numbers on it  
749  
750 KB But normally – all documents would have a reference number such as this  
751  
752 SH That would be general, the general practice yeah  
753  
754 KB [Over talking] Yeah  
755  
756 SH 'Eh  
757  
758 KB But you don't know why it doesn't appear on this  
759  
760 SH No – no – I assume there was a letter that went out with this document which would have  
761 had a matter number on it  
762  
763 KB Yes that's correct  
764  
765 SH Yeh, yeh  
766  
767 KB If you have a look there's a date that appears on that document prepared  
768  
769 SH Yeh  
770  
771 KB Eighth of June 2004 – alright, obviously it wasn't prepared on the Eighth of June 2004  
772

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773 SH Yeh  
774  
775 KB Appears that it was prepared in April 2005  
776  
777 SH Yeah  
778  
779 KB Have you any knowledge, as t' – why that ink' – why that date appears on the document  
780  
781 SH Only that – the, documents that I think Sandy ah – ah and I assume what happened was  
782 that the document was scanned – ah and that the document date was the Eighth of June –  
783 and she hasn't changed the date  
784  
785 KB Just on this matter of ss'  
786  
787 SH [Over talking] Which is just a  
788  
789 KB Scanning a document  
790  
791 SH To me yeah go on  
792  
793 KB Sorry scanning of documents is that a ah – normal course of procedure in the  
794  
795 SH It has become  
796  
797 KB [Over talking] Administration of business  
798  
799 SH Recent in the last few years because we now have scanning facilities so now – it's easier  
800 to (ui) instead of typing the whole bloody thing which is what we used to do – we would  
801 type out a new trust account statement – ah in Word, we now, scan it, and simply bring it  
802 into a Word document 'n – I assume that's how it happened  
803  
804 KB Sandra stated that – on – Mr HICKEY requesting her to – prepare a ah – a trust account  
805 statement, ah she did in fact, arrange for – one of the source documents to be scanned  
806  
807 SH Yeh  
808  
809 KB And – as a result after it was scanned it was sent back to her electronically so she didn't  
810 have to type the same thing out, the whole thing out again  
811  
812 SH Correct  
813  
814 KB That's normal practice here at the moment  
815

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816 SH That's correct ahh – again – ah-in recent years we've now got this wonderful technology  
817 and we're doing more 'n more of it yeah  
818  
819 KB Well in any event it saves work  
820  
821 SH It sure does  
822  
823 KB Which is the name of the game  
824  
825 SH It sure is  
826  
827 [Pause – sound of movement]  
828  
829 KB Now you've made reference to the letter, a covering letter  
830  
831 SH Yeh  
832  
833 KB If I can just get you to have a look at this – have you ever seen that letter before  
834  
835 [Pause]  
836  
837 SH No  
838  
839 KB It's obviously a covering letter – referring to the document prepared by, Sandra WILD  
840  
841 SH Yeh  
842  
843 KB 'N it's signed by Mr HICKEY and appears to be – that's his signature his signature  
844  
845 SH Yes – yeh  
846  
847 KB And there's a reference number that does appear [clears throat] on that letter  
848  
849 SH Yeh  
850  
851 KB Agree with that  
852  
853 SH Yes I yes-yes  
854  
855 KB Alright – so – going back to what we discussed a short time ago – is there any reason now  
856 that you can offer as to why that reference number doesn't appear on the document  
857 prepared by, Sandra WILD even though it does appear on the letter  
858  
859 SH No I, I-I – I can only assume that Sandy just hasn't, has either missed it or – I don't know

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860  
861 KB But normally it would – in the normal course of administration  
862  
863 SH Ah well – I-I probably couldn't answer that if you sent out a, the, the normal trust account  
864 statement it would have it on there – if you typed one out or you scanned one – ah  
865 certainly if you type one out it mightn't 've been on there – you scanned one I assume it  
866 was on there  
867  
868 [Sound of pages being turned]  
869  
870 KB And when, various – letters or correspondence is sent out, from this, firm – you retain a  
871 file copy, I take it – of – that matter  
872  
873 SH Yes  
874  
875 KB So you're got a record of it  
876  
877 SH Yeh  
878  
879 KB And would that be a hard copy, and an electronic copy or just a, a hard copy or how does  
880 it normally work  
881  
882 SH Certainly ah be a hard copy ah there should be electronic copy there – assuming it hasn't  
883 been, y'know – ah depending on how long ago, it was done 'n so forth er I think we have  
884 a – our letters are ah – are cleared, ah it might be monthly or something like that  
885  
886 [Sound of shuffling of papers]  
887  
888 KB So in your opinion – [sound of shuffling of papers] – do you believe for the purposes of  
889 accuracy – and this was being sent to the Crime and Misconduct Commission that, those  
890 two entries – should have appeared, in the document prepared by, Sandra WILD, this is  
891 your opinion I – tryin' t' seek  
892  
893 SH Ahhh – well – as I say our normal practice would be not to include those – those  
894 transactions, to make it clear as to what had happened, the, the purpose of that the trust  
895 account statement – is, to show exactly what happened with monies coming in monies  
896 going out – and that would only confuse the issue – and that's how we'd normally deal  
897 with it, if we do a – have a tandem ss' – a tandem, tandem transaction or a tandem matter  
898 – that's how we would deal with it  
899  
900 KB But in any event – Tony HICKEY - never had a conversation – with you in relation – to  
901 why these items were omitted  
902  
903 SH No

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904  
905 KB Steve  
906  
907 SW No I've, I've got nothing  
908  
909 KB Do you want to add anything further or – clarify any points that we've discussed here  
910 today  
911  
912 SH No I think we – I think we've covered everything  
913  
914 [Sound of shuffling through papers]  
915  
916 KB Do you agree that what you've stated here today is true and correct to the best of your  
917 knowledge and belief  
918  
919 SH I do  
920  
921 KB And are you – happy that the interview was conducted – in a fair manner (ui) today  
922  
923 SH I believe it's been a fair, interview  
924  
925 KB Thank you  
926  
927 SH I don't agree with the whole process [laughingly] but – the interview's been charming  
928 [laughs]  
929  
930 KB The time now is 12:28 PM on the afternoon of Thursday the Twenty-Seventh day of  
931 October 2005  
932  
933 [TAPE ENDS]

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