

OP GRAND

Notes provided to the Crime and Misconduct Commission on 20 Oct

EXHIBIT No. 222
[Signature] CLERK

By James Kelly

I James Kelly am employed as a Communication Strategist (Media Officer) at Gold Coast City Council. I have been here since August 2004. Previously worked at Channel 9 Gold Coast.

With the death of councillor Sue Robbns late last year, I decided to run as a candidate in the Division 14 bi-election in January.

My intending candidature was revealed in the Sun Newspaper prior to Christmas (Mid-December).

I have a copy of the article.

Several days later I was telephoned by --- and asked to see him in his office in the Council Headquarters. At that stage I was located in the Water offices of the Headquarters - 20 metres away. I met with --- and he sounded me out about being a candidate. During the conversation he said it would be the candidate with the most \$\$\$ who would win the election. He said ~~that~~ there

was \$1 available "anything up to \$40,000"
to me if I was interested, to help
my campaign. I ~~to~~ assumed the money
was available for something like the Lionel
Borde trust fund because that had been
in the news & I suspected links to --
then. It was suggested to me that if I was interested
I should contact -- to "have a chat"

I told -- "I would seriously think about
the proposal", although in my heart I
knew I would never take any money from
anyone for the campaign because I didn't
want to owe anyone anything.

● On leaving his office I was told "Jones,
this meeting never happened" -- I replied
"OK" - what else would you say?

On that same day I ~~was~~ ~~discussed~~ discussed
the issue & the ¹¹ extraordinary offer with
colleague Colin Pearce who also recommended
that I stay clear of -- and the money
spoke to my wife & told her about it.

Several days later I was contacted again by
— who wanted to see me in his office.
He ran through the deal again & I told
him I would decline the offer. He thanked him.
Again he said "The candidate will be
most \$\$\$ will win & unfortunately ~~you~~ it'll
be difficult if not impossible to win - You're
~~not~~ really well known."

That was the end of the wave until early
in January before the election. I was getting
lots of criticism ~~that~~ from other candidates
that claimed I was being backed by
developers. They claimed basically that
everyone but themselves were backed by
developers. To help my campaign I told
Aron Hantler from the Bulletin that I
wasn't backed by developers & had, in
fact, been approached but said "No". Of
course he wanted to know who approached
me & I said "I don't know".

me but I said I wouldn't tell her
other than it was someone at Council.
She put 2 & 2 together & asked ^{if} was
it — I said I wouldn't comment
further. In her report in the paper
she said it was up to me to "put up
or shut up" — ^{so I shut up!} Kellie Trigger, another candidate
claimed she was also approached. By whom,
I do not know.

Anyway Fran Hamilton, subsequently rang
— presumably to ask ~~the~~ questions ~~the~~
~~the~~ ^{soon after} — rang me & said "what's Fran
Hamilton for the Bulletin rigging me for." She
said she was trying to pin it on me that
I offered you some sort of \$ for the
election. I told her I did no such thing
& knew nothing about it."

— then said "I will sue anyone ~~on~~
~~any~~ ^{any} ~~company~~ that tries to pin that

on me" - I told him I got
the message loud & clear & that was
the end of that.

Let me say at no stage did
try to heavy-had me to take the
\$\$\$. He did, however, threaten to take
"myone" - I guess that's me as well,
to court that tried to smear his
name or infer he was behind the
\$\$\$.

~~I~~ now work 4 metres from
-- in the Canal Headquarters. An
relationship is fine & cordial. I'm
worried about what will happen
to this relationship & my position
in Canal if this information is
presented at the CMC but in the
end the truth must come out.

TOUIT STREET 39 D12

• On returning to work - I was dumped as the media officer for City Planning - a committee chaired by Ted Shepherd. I asked him at the time why & he said "Because someone prettier (are doing)" Referring to Anna Hanson - related? Could be or it could be that Peter Young / Susie Douglas / Eddy Jerry - Dawn Coulson personally endorsed me a Tuesday before the election of Jan 22/21?

29/9/05

Today at approximately 1:40 pm