

QUEENSLAND CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION
Crime and Misconduct Act 2001

OP GRAND

AFFIDAVIT OF CONSTANTINE WILLIAM NIKIFORIDES

EXHIBIT No. 299
[Signature] CLERK

I, Constantine William Nikiforides of [REDACTED]
State of Queensland, state on oath:-

1. I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Niecon Group of which Blue Sky Capital Pty Ltd is one of its companies. The directors of that company are William Nikiforides and Barry Francis Cronin. Barry Francis Cronin is the company solicitor and has no interest in the company, legal or otherwise. William Nikiforides is my father, who has been unwell for some years and takes no active part in the affairs of the Niecon Group or Blue Sky Capital Pty Ltd.
2. I submit this affidavit as an addendum to the evidence given by me at the Inquiry on Tuesday the 8th of November 2005.
3. After appearing at the Inquiry and giving evidence, I have had an opportunity to reflect upon the answers that I gave in response to the questions posed by Mr Boyle.
4. Upon reflection regarding the question asked by Mr Boyle, "Did you have any dealings with other candidates prior to the election?" I recall that I did telephone Councillor Eddie Sarroff to wish him luck in the Election.
5. I have known Mr Sarroff for a very long time and in fact considered him a friend.
6. During my conversation with Mr Sarroff, he asked me if I had made a contribution to that 'thing'.
7. I responded by clarifying exactly what Mr Sarroff meant by his question, by asking Mr Sarroff if he meant the donation that Brian Ray was passing the hat around for.
8. Mr Sarroff confirmed this is what he meant.
9. I advised Mr Sarroff that my company had made a donation.
10. Mr Sarroff exploded with anger at what my company had done which shocked me because I did not know the reason for his reaction.
11. I told him that I expected that my company's donation would not affect Mr Sarroff
12. It was my belief at the time that the donation that my company had made would be used to promote candidates who believed in moving the Gold Coast forward but I did not know to whom the money was to be given. However I did not say anything to Mr Sarroff to this effect.

[Signature]

[Signature]

- 13. When I asked Mr Sarroff why he was upset, Mr Sarroff advised me that he believed people were trying to 'get Dawn'. I understood this to be a reference to Councillor Dawn Critchlow.
- 14. I told Mr Sarroff that I did not believe this was the case as no one had mentioned that to me before my conversation with Mr Sarroff.
- 15. At the time of my conversation with Mr Sarroff, I did not have any knowledge whatsoever of the identities of the candidates who might have access to the funds that I had donated.
- 16. I was bewildered by Mr Sarroff's reaction to my admission about the donation and his remarks about Dawn Critchlow, because I had enjoyed a good relationship with Dawn for many years and had always found her to be positive about good development on the Gold Coast, especially in Southport.
- 17. I told him I thought it would be impossible for anyone to beat himself or Dawn at an election.
- 18. In ending my conversation with Mr Sarroff, I wished him good luck and I apologised if I had upset him.

Sworn by Constantine William Nikiforides on 18 NOVEMBER 2005 at LABRADORIS

Constantine William Nikiforides

Constantine William Nikiforides

Deponent

In the presence of:

Susan Leigh Goldsworthy
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Solicitor/Justice of the Peace *Kem Akc*

Witness SUSAN LEIGH GOLDSWORTHY

Date: 18 NOVEMBER 2005

Constantine William Nikiforides