

CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF INVESTIGATIVE HEARING

10 CONDUCTED AT LEVEL 2, NORTH TOWER, 515 ST PAULS TERRACE, FORTITUDE VALLEY WITH RESPECT TO

File No: CO-16-1664

HEARING NO: 17/0001

DAY 9 - WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2017 (DURATION: 00HR 40MINS)

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LEGEND

- Presiding Officer ALAN MACSPORRAN QC PO
- Counsel Assisting GLEN RICE QC CA
- 30 HRO Hearing Room Orderly - MELISSA LETONDEUR
 - W Witness - MICHAEL RAVBAR
 - LR Legal Representative – MR D A FUNCH, instructed by Hall Payne Lawyers

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 1 of 16 File No. CO-16-1664 Transcriber: KR/TH (DTI)

CA I call Michael RAVBAR.

PO Mr RAVBAR, do you have any objection to taking an oath on the Bible?

W No.

PO Thank you. He can be sworn, thanks.

10 HRO The evidence which I shall give.

W The evidence which I shall give.

HRO In these proceedings.

W In these proceedings.

HRO Shall be the truth.

20 W Shall be the truth.

HRO The whole truth.

W The whole truth.

HRO And nothing but the truth.

W And nothing but the truth.

30 HRO So help me God.

W So help me God.

PO Would you announce your appearance, thanks.

LR Commissioner, I appear for Mr RAVBAR. My name is FUNCH, initials

D A, counsel instructed by Hall Payne Lawyers.

Commissioner, before we commence, can I just confirm that the blanket privilege that you gave to witnesses yesterday morning pursuant to section

197(5) of the Act applies to this witness?

PO Yes, it does, Mr FUNCH. So Mr RAVBAR can feel relaxed in the sense

that he's protected by everything he says or produces here won't be used

against him.

LR Thank you.

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CA Is your name Michael RAVBAR?

W That's correct.

CA Mr RAVBAR, you're appearing in response to a notice to attend that

you've been given; correct?

W That's correct.

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Transcriber: KR/TH (DTI)

Page 2 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

	CA	Can I show you this?
	W	Yes.
	CA	Is that a copy of the attendance notice that you got?
	W	Yes.
10	CA	I tender that.
	PO	Exhibit 130.
	CA	Mr RAVBAR, you're currently state secretary of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union?
	W	That's correct.
20	CA	For the Queensland and Northern Territory Division - have I described that correctly?
	W	That's correct.
	CA	For how long have you been secretary, Mr RAVBAR?
	W	Since officially 2008. I started out as an acting secretary in 2007 but got elected in my own right in 2008.
30	CA	We're concerned here with some expenditure of union money on local government elections. We'll come to that, but could I just ask you, in your position as secretary, what decision-making authority comes with that position with reference particularly to expenditure of money?
	W	In regards to the CFMEU, as state secretary you've got to operate within the terms of the rules of the organisation, or union rules. There's a number of levels of management structure, if you want to call it, within the CFMEU. You have your divisional executive, and then you have your divisional branch council.
40		The structures have changed in recent years with a number of amalgamations, especially in 2013 with the miners and the FEDFA and in 2014 with the BLF. The union has two distinct branches in regards to the state branch and then you also have the federal branch and the federal union. So when it comes to decision-making aspects of the organisation, depending on what issue and matter that you're dealing with, the state rules are very different to the federal branch and the federal rules.
	CA	All right, let's turn to the subject of interest.
50	W	Mmm-hmm.
	CA	Did the CFMEU financially assist some candidates in the 2016 local government elections?
	W	Yes, we did.

Page 3 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

	CA	Had the union previously done so in local government elections?
	W	Not in regards to local government elections, no.
	CA	What about state and federal elections - is the CFMEU a political supporter, presumably of the ALP?
10	W	I wouldn't call it just a political supporter of the ALP. The union has been involved with other political parties outside of the ALP and the ALP. The CFMEU is very active in regards to its political/industrial campaigns. So we are very active in the state jurisdiction and also very active in the federal jurisdiction.
	CA	Does that extend to financial support for certain elections?
	W	Yes, financial support.
20	CA	Why did the union choose to involve itself in assisting local government candidates in 2016?
20	W	Oh, there was a bit of a history with this one. NEWMAN, back in October 2013, brought in new workplace laws in regards to the local government sector. They had specific laws for local government. From that point on, the union had been heavily involved in an industrial/political campaign to campaign against Campbell NEWMAN but also campaign to get rid of the laws. So I suppose its origin started back in October 2013.
20	CA	How, then, would assisting candidates with their campaigns contribute to that objective?
30 40	W	Oh, we've got a long history with local government. We've got a number of our members of the CFMEU that work in local government. During, I suppose, 2013 there was a lot of politics played with local government. We saw, for example, councillors and mayors getting substantial pay rises where workers were getting wage freezes during this whole period of time for up to three years. Local government were very active in regards to bringing in specific awards, which saw a lot of their work-related allowances reduced and payments, et cetera - you've got to remember local government workers are low-paid workers.
40		I would argue that there was very much a political attack from the Local Government Association and the NEWMAN government at the time against local government workers. As you know, our members wanted us to campaign against unfair and unjust and mean laws, and part of that is you can campaign industrially and you can also campaign politically.
	CA	At what level was the decision taken, come the 2016 local government election, that the CFMEU would assist with certain candidates?
50	W	We had a budget back probably in 2013. A certain quantum was set aside. We then did the official launch of the campaign in 2014. There was a state election campaign. In 2015, we spent quite a bit of money on legal challenges in regards to the laws, but by then NEWMAN had gone. The problem was at the time that the local government laws hadn't changed.
		Leading up to that, some particular mayors, councillors, were very active

in supporting, I would argue, the NEWMAN agenda. Our view - we also had a lot of issues - during that period of time, there was a lot of job losses. There just seemed to be no transparency and accountability about how contractors and labour hire and other people were engaged. These were the issues in regards to why we-

		the issues in regards to why we
10	CA	They were the issues. I did ask you at what level the decision was taken-
	W	Oh, the level was-
	CA	-to provide financial assistance to selected candidates?
	W	There's budgets put forward. The executive makes the decisions-
	CA	Do you participate in that? Are you part of that?
	W	Yes, I do.
20	CA	Do you have a leading voice? I'm just not sure of the decision-making structure.
30	W	Oh, as a leader of the CFMEU, when you get elected by the members, you hope there's trust there and you hope that - and I've been around for a while. When you put campaigns, whether political, industrial, forward to the executive, you put budgets, so it's not endless. You get the support on the basis that you talk about timetables, expenditure, time - all those type of things. So I probably do have influence as secretary of the union. Not to say that at an executive level - they always haven't agreed with me on everything.
30	CA	There was an executive committee of some kind?
	W	Yes, it's called the state executive.
	CA	So the state executive approved?
	W	The budget, yes.
40	CA	Did it approve a particular budget?
40	W	At the time, it was \$300,000 in regards to the campaign, and we called it a campaign, political/industrial, because there were different elements to the campaign.
	CA	But for specific assistance to local government candidates, was there any allocation made for that particular purpose?
	W	No, there was moneys left over-
50	CA	Or was it part of a bigger fund?
	W	It was part of a bigger fund. At the state election, there was a quantum expenditure in the state election. There was money left over in regards to that. It was also then decided that we would do a number of legal challenges. That wasn't cheap, so money was budgeted for that as part of that bigger sum of money. And then there was enough money in regards

		between \$100,000 up to \$150,000 for local government election
		campaign. There was quantum in regards for a range.
	CA	By then, we've moved forward to the first few months of 2016, when the campaigns were getting under way for that particular election?
	W	That's correct.
10	CA	So as at about that time frame, you're talking in terms of, what, \$100,000 to \$150,000?
	W	That was the range at the time, yes.
	CA	Being, do I understand you correctly, what was remaining from a bigger fund?
	W	Yes, it was part of the local government campaign.
20	CA	Well, now, you would be well aware that outside of Brisbane, the local government elections are not conducted along party lines. So in terms of identifying which candidates might be assisted, how did the union go about that?
30	W	A lot of ways. There was no hiding the fact that we were extremely active in local government even after the state election. As I said, there had been legal challenges, there had been EBA campaigns, there had been campaigns about local jobs and job security, so people out there knew about what the CFMEU were doing. Especially the Local Government Association knew what we were doing.
30		The CFMEU is well known as a very active political/industrial organisation in regards to campaigning. We mentioned amongst our members if people were interested, if they wanted to go to become a local government candidate. So the word had been out for some time if people were interested or whether they knew people, so it was canvassed quite widely that we were interested in campaigning in local government.
40	CA	I want to ask you about a couple of particular candidates. One was Penny TOLAND, who was the mayoral candidate at Gold Coast.
40	W	Correct.
	CA	Did the union pay for some expenses with respect to her campaign?
	W	Yes, we did.
	CA	I'd just like to trace the origins of that, so far as you're aware of them, Mr RAVBAR. Did you have some contact with Ms TOLAND?
50	W	I had one meeting with Penny.
	CA	How was that arranged?
	W	One of my senior officers, Andrew SUTHERLAND, knew of Penny. I had heard of the name Penny but didn't really know her within the ALP circles but just knew her by name, and he said that Penny was interested

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 6 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

		
		in running for the Mayor's position down the Gold Coast and I said, "Well, I'm interested. Let's organise a meeting."
	CA	And the meeting was for what purpose?
	W	Oh, the purpose was to, first of all, meet the candidates. I meet a lot of candidates for different things. Find out a bit about her, why she's running for the Mayor's position-
10	CA	Sorry, Mr RAVBAR, were you doing the vetting of who might be assisted?
	W	Do you call it "vetting"? You know-
	CA	Well, how would you describe it?
20	W	First of all, normally the first meeting is you get to find out a bit about the person. We don't make any real commitments at the first meeting or the follow-up meetings. We just want to understand why they're running for local government, you know, what can they do for the community, what's their drive, what's their passion, whatever it might be. I might ask questions in regards to, you know, when they start getting into a conversation about something that I might find interesting. A lot of times when you first meet a candidate, they have high expectation, wild ideas. You just sit there and then you ask a few questions. Normally it's one of those - sometimes it's a meet and greet, too, if you've never met a candidate face to face.
20	CA	Did you have multiple such meetings with candidates?
30	W	In regards to local government or political candidates in general?
	CA	No, no, focusing on the 2016 local government elections.
	W	I met a number of candidates across the state, yes.
	CA	And had the discussion of the kind that you mentioned, trying to elicit information from them about their attitudes to various things?
40	W	Some of the candidates I knew really well, just in different occupations, different political positions that they held. I knew them from different areas of management, workers - you know, it's a quite varied circle. Some of them I didn't know from a bar of soap. Some of them I was introduced to by other people. So it was never fixed in regards to how these meetings came about.
	CA	Let's get back to Penny TOLAND. You told us that a colleague - was it Mr SUTHERLAND - mentioned her to you?
50	W	Yes.
	CA	And you had a meeting with her?
	CA W	And you had a meeting with her? Correct.

Was Mr SUTHERLAND there?

Page 7 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

CA

	W	I believe he was, yes.
	CA	Do you remember anybody else?
	W	I thought she came with someone else, but I can't be 100 per cent certain.
	CA	Can you tell us what occurred during that meeting?
10	W	Oh, just she told us that she was pretty keen to run for the Gold Coast Mayor and take on Tom TATE. She just went through what she thought she could do in regards to being able to campaign and try and win the position. I made comments to say that Tom's got some deep pockets and he won't be easy to knock off; he's well known; he's probably popular. However, you know - she was asking us, I think, for a lot of it, about whether we could help in regards to grassroots campaigning, about resources.
20	CA	Were any specific resource needs mentioned?
20	W	I don't remember giving any type of commitment at that meeting at all. That's just my recollection.
	CA	Okay. Was there any request for anything specific? Did it descend into the details of corflutes and T-shirts and so forth?
30	W	Not with Penny. Other candidates would always talk about what they would like, and, as I said, they like a lot of things. I don't recall so much with Penny. It was more about why she was running and what she could do and would the CFMEU, you know, be prepared to support her. For me, it was more that meeting rather than details. But some of them will come along in those meetings and have a list of demands or requests.
	CA	At the conclusion of the meeting, how was the matter left?
	W	Just to say, "Well, look, if the union wants to support you in the campaign, we'll talk to you later. If you want to have further discussions about what you would like from the organisation, talk to Andrew", because he's a senior officer. That's pretty much it. It wasn't a very long meeting.
40	CA	Subsequently there were a number of expenses that were met by the union in relation to her campaign; do you agree?
	W	Yes.
	CA	Was she told at some point following the meeting that you had with her that the union would be prepared to assist her in some way?
50	W	Yes. Andrew came to me with suggestions, and I'm assuming from Penny to Andrew, but I could be wrong there. Andrew came to me about some support, financial support, for her. Also we talked about-
	CA	Was it specific at that stage, itemised by what kinds of resources might be deployed in the campaign?
	W	At the time, and I didn't see - later on, I saw the invoices and stuff, but the

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 8 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

kind that they were talking about was to help out with her campaign office in regards to signage. There was other talk about billboards, maybe some shirts and pamphlets, what I recall. That's about all. A bit of it was about how we could mobilise - we've got quite a big membership down the Gold Coast City Council, was to get our members involved in the campaign, so to actually man the booths on election day. That was probably the guts of the discussion.

- In her case, were there some parameters set by you or someone else from the union as to what kind of money might be spent on her campaign?
 - W Oh, look, you never divulge to the candidates how much money they're going to get, whatever election or tier of government you're dealing with.
 - CA What was the process, then? Did you invite this candidate to go away and spend money and just send you the bill, or what process was involved in managing the expenditure that you were assuming responsibility for?
- W No, the process is that I mean, you're talking about an organisation that's extremely experienced about campaigns not that we get it right on everything, but we know how to campaign at a high visual level and in a grassroots campaign. I was more interested about how these candidates were going to do the campaign themselves rather than the union overseeing it, because it's their campaign.
 - CA Does this apply to Ms TOLAND also?
- Yes, Ms TOLAND, yes. In general for all the candidates in local government was how they were going to run these community-type I was more interested about a community-type campaign because they're a lot smaller electorates. I was interested if they had any novel ideas. I never said they couldn't do this or that. I was more interested about how they were going to do it. And every candidate I met had a different way of being able to get out there in the public arena, get their face out there. They were all very different in regards to how they thought they could how they could win, I suppose.
 - CA In terms of specific expenses that were incurred in her campaign, was the incurring of expenditure at her initiative or the union's initiative, can you tell us?
 - W It was her initiative. The things that came back through Andrew was and this is, again, on the end result, was that they thought this would be the most these were the suggestions put forward about getting her face out there.
 - CA Put forward by whom?
- W By Andrew to me. So I'm assuming that it's from Penny. I can only assume this because I've never had any detailed discussions-
 - CA Just to be specific-
 - W Andrew SUTHERLAND.
 - CA You mentioned the first meeting that you had with Ms TOLAND?

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 9 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

40

	W	Yes.
	CA	Did you speak with her at all after that, you personally?
10	W	I can't be 100 per cent certain about it, but I don't remember talking to her again, no, either on the phone or in person.
	CA	You don't have any recollection of speaking with her about the shape of her campaign and the kinds of expenses that the union was prepared to meet - descending into detail, I mean?
	W	No, because Andrew was one of our senior officers. He's an experienced elected official. He's done a few campaigns. Nothing new to Andrew. He's not silly. He's quite bright.
20	CA	Did the incurring of expenditure, say for T-shirts or corflutes, whatever it may be, require your approval or at what level was each individual expense approved?
20	W	In regards to any final payment, it comes via me for approval.
	CA	For all expenses?
	W	Yes.
	CA	You must have seen a lot of invoices?
30	W	Yes, but I've seen a lot of invoices for previous elections.
30	CA	At any rate, you had to approve each one?
	W	Correct, yes.
	CA	The approval we've just spoken of, was that in advance of payment?
	W	A lot of it - this is about Penny?
40	CA	Specifically.
40	W	My understanding with Penny is that we pre-approved stuff before payment was made.
	CA	Your interaction so far as she was concerned was principally with Mr SUTHERLAND, from the sound of it?
	W	Yes.
50	CA	Do you know whether the union undertook any campaigning or expenditure of money without reference to a candidate, that is to say, without the candidates knowing that the union is doing this or that - putting signs on buses, for example, for a candidate?
	W	Not that I know - I mean, if there's going to be any expenditure from the organisation, we've got to know what's going on. Not to say people don't do things behind your back or do something without your knowledge.

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 10 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

Transcriber: KR/TH (DTI)

		You can't - you know, you don't know everything in life.
	CA	Do we take it from what you've said that the initial discussion with a candidate was with you?
	W	Yes.
	CA	And subsequently you approved invoices for payment?
10	W	Correct.
	CA	To what level did you interact with the particular candidate on any kind of an ongoing basis after the initial meeting?
	W	Very little. As I said, I don't even recall dealing with Penny from that point on.
	CA	Was it someone else's task to interact with Penny TOLAND, for example?
20	W	Yes. Andrew SUTHERLAND.
	CA	That's what you understood was going on?
	W	Yes.
	CA	For what purpose?
30	W	The purpose - to oversee the campaign; any decisions need to be made, to come back and talk to me; any issues or problems associated with the campaign, to talk to me about it; to keep me updated on how the campaign's going. It's not unusual for us to allocate a campaign person for a campaign because - yes, so that was the normal process.
	CA	Was Mr SUTHERLAND the person who interfaced with the candidates beyond Ms TOLAND, that is to say, with respect to the others that you were also assisting?
	W	No-
40	CA	Was that his job or did it work some different way?
	W	Andrew was involved in the Gold Coast campaign. He wasn't involved at all with any other candidates.
	CA	Another candidate who received assistance was Kimberly JAMES. Do you remember her?
	W	Yes.
50	CA	Did you have a first meeting with her in similar fashion to Ms TOLAND?
	W	No - no. The first introduction I had to Kimberly was at an ALP conference a couple of years ago. That was my first interaction with Kimberly. Then I met her - don't quote me - six months or so later through Chris WHITING, who organised a meeting for me to meet Kimberly. There was a couple of other candidates at that meeting. So

that's how that evolved from there.

CA What took place at that meeting that also involved other candidates?

Chris had organised a number of people who he thought were good local government candidates that he knew because he was the local member. He thought that - you know, he hoped that the CFMEU could be of assistance for them for the campaign. He thought it more convenient to organise them all in the one place, and I agreed to meet the three individuals. And I did. Each of them explained why they were running for council, what they could do for the community, what they wanted to change, a bit about their history - all that type of stuff.

CA Did that lead to her being approved for some union expenditure?

Not at that meeting. You know, I said that the CFMEU was keen to support candidates in the council elections, but we would have to go away and think about it. We'd met them. I don't recall any requests in regards to money or anything at that particular meeting. It was more - it went for a little while. It was more about meeting people.

CA Were you the decision-maker in her case as to whether or not the union would assist her?

W Yes.

W

W

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W

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CA Does that apply to Ms TOLAND also?

W Yes.

CA Your approval came some time after the meeting that you spoke of, by the sound of it? You wanted to reflect on it?

Yes, I thought it was October the year before, but don't quote me on the exact month. Yes, I think it would have been January or - you know, January, it might have been, or late December - I think it was in January of 2016 that contact had been made and Kimberly was looking for support.

Did you have any ongoing dealings with her in terms of the processing of expenses that she was incurring? I know you said you approved invoices.

W No, we had-

CA Did you have any dealings with her directly?

After the Chris WHITING meeting, when she - I wasn't quite sure if she was wanting to run or not back then at Chris WHITING's meeting. But when she decided to run, we had a further meeting at our office. That's when we started talking about a bit more detail about her campaign. She seemed to be, compared to other candidates, well organised on what she thought that she could do in that electorate in regards to, you know, getting her face out there in the public arena.

CA Did she have specific expenditure suggestions?

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 12 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

Transcriber: KR/TH (DTI)

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Copy 1 of 1

	W	Yes, she had a number of requests, I would call it, asking in regards for - oh, there was pamphlets, there was signage, T-shirts. I think they were the main ones that I recall. Oh, sorry, the other one, too, was - having support to man the booths was another one.
	CA	Was anyone from the union assigned to be the interface person with her so far as the incurring of specific expenses was concerned?
10	W	Because there was a couple of candidates in regards to that one, we had a bit of a team, if you want to call it.
	CA	We're talking about Moreton?
	W	Yes, sorry, for Moreton. So there was a couple of people from our office involved in the campaign.
	CA	Dealing with more than one candidate for the Moreton election?
20	W	Correct, yes. We supported three candidates.
20	CA	The kind of support that the union was giving led to a need to submit a third party disclosure return, didn't it?
	W	Yes.
	CA	Can I show you this?
	W	Yes.
30	CA	Do you recognise that as a disclosure return that you signed?
	W	Yes.
	CA	In fact, your name and signature are on page 5, I think?
	W	Correct.
	CA	I tender that disclosure return.
40	РО	Exhibit 131.
	CA	On the last page of that, there is a spreadsheet setting out a range of names and other details. Does that spreadsheet reflect the candidates' names of those who were assisted by donations in cash or kind?
	W	Yes, it does.
50	CA	And the various amounts, are they referrable to the incurring of expenses or, in some cases, donations for those candidates?
50	W	Yes.
	CA	That's the purpose of the list?
	W	Yes.

	CA	You mentioned rather earlier that there was a potential budget of between \$100,000 and \$150,000. Do we take it from this that the expenditure was of the order of \$118,000?
10	W	Yes.
	CA	I tender that disclosure return.
	PO	It's 131.
	CA	I may have asked you this, Mr RAVBAR, but just to be clear, do you know whether the CFMEU undertook the incurring of any particular campaign expense for a candidate that was neither requested nor initiated by the candidate themselves?
	W	You mean by us?
	CA	Yes.
20	W	All the candidates that we met had made approaches to the union because we had been publicly - we didn't hide, in regards to the union that I represent, we see us as part of these communities, that we were looking for people to come forward and if they were interested to run as candidates. But a lot of times people know a lot about the CFMEU, they know about our activity, about what we do as an organisation, campaigning and all that, and most times people approach you. It comes the other way.
30	CA	So far as specific expenses are concerned, you may or may not know, but I'll just ask you, do you know whether the union met expenses of its own initiative, thinking, for example, that buying T-shirts for a particular candidate would be a good idea, without reference to the candidate?
40	W	I can't recall - to the best of my knowledge, I don't know any of that. There had been a lot of dialogue with the candidates. We were comfortable as long as they don't get, you know, wild expectations and there's financial expenditure where they just think that they can just have whatever budgets they like. To the best of my knowledge, there was a lot of interaction with the candidates and they pretty much ran their own campaigns.
	CA	Subject to your approval insofar as you were prepared to approve expenses?
	W	Correct, yes.
50	CA	What about come election day - again, it's probably best to be specific. In Penny TOLAND's case, do you know whether the union was asked to facilitate volunteers to man her booths?
	W	We would have had a lot of supporters, volunteers, manning the booths, anyway. I mean, a lot of our members were quite happy to assist in the campaign, especially on election day. We are quite an active organisation getting people to work on elections, so it's not unusual for not just members internally, members outside of local government, to actually help out on election day. So we don't normally struggle at all in regards

Page 14 of 16 File No. CO-16-1664

	to manpower in regards to manning booths.
CA	Do you have any recollection of any specific request from Penny TOLAND?
W	Not to me, no.

CA Or Kimberly JAMES?W Not to me personally, no.

I was asking you about the first meeting that you had with Penny TOLAND. You were asked about that meeting when investigators from the CCC came to speak with you; correct?

W Yes.

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LR

W

CA Can I just suggest - and this may jog your memory or it may not - that you may have told the investigator that she had a big shopping list of what she wanted to do at that meeting, and there was discussion of putting billboards on buses, for example, as an example of something specific that she came with?

Well, at the first meeting, there was no discussion - she knew she had a big - she had to get her face out there in the campaign, because the Gold Coast electorate has over half a million people, so it's a pretty big campaign. But I do not recall talking about buses at that meeting.

CA Or any other specific item?

W Not that I recall at that meeting, no.

CA That's the evidence, Commissioner.

PO Thanks, Mr RICE.

Mr FUNCH, do you have any questions?

Just very briefly. Just following on from my learned friend's questioning in respect of the dynamic between the union and the candidate in terms of how you'd come to spend money on the candidate's campaign, would the union, as far as you are aware, ever spend money on a candidate's campaign without first being asked to by the candidate or a member of the candidate's team?

All elections that I've been involved in, we ask for the candidates to come forward with ideas, suggestions, give us invoices in regards to what they think the costs of whatever - what they want in regards to the election, however they're going to do it, we generally will approve before the expenditure actually happens.

LR And why is that?

W Oh, at the end of the day, first of all, you want to know - well, first of all, good governance says you want to know what you're actually expending your money on first. You want to know what they're seeking to do, the

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

Page 15 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**

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purpose of it, the effectiveness of it, whether it's - quite often they'll come with one price from a supplier and we'll say, "Go and get two or three other quotes." We never take - we go away and sometimes tell them to sharpen their pencil. Because we're used to this publicity and campaigning, we're always questioning about value for money. Some of them come up with ideas that just don't make campaigning sense. Sometimes they come up with ideas that are good. Sometimes they come up with prices that are just ridiculous and you just - you know, whatever the issue might be, you normally question what they put forward to you.

10

LR

Would the union ever engage in any form of campaigning on behalf of a candidate without first consulting with that candidate or a member of the candidate's team?

- We always consult with the candidate and the candidate's team before we do anything.
- LR Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner.
- 20 PO Thank you, Mr FUNCH.

Thank you, Mr RAVBAR. You are excused.

- CA Take a break, Commissioner?
- PO Yes, thank you. We'll resume at 2 o'clock.

EVIDENCE GIVEN BY MICHAEL RAVBAR

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Page 16 of 16 **File No. CO-16-1664**