

FILE :C.C. 94-01

COMPLAINANT:DAVID SILMSER

STATEMENT - CLAUDE SHAVER

S/Sgt. B. F. Wells:

I am investigating a public complaint made by David Silmsers, alleging that a member or members of the Cornwall Police Service, released his confidential statement which he gave police in context with a criminal investigation.

QUESTION:

What would you like to tell me about this incident.

ANSWER:

I became aware that the Silmsers case for all intents and purposes was over, when the Crown Murray MacDonald, sent a letter to us advising us that we could not proceed with the investigation because Silmsers had instructed us to withdraw his complaint. I was not satisfied with that decision, so I called the Crown to make an appointment to discuss this further. I was satisfied that the Cornwall Police Service had conducted a proper investigation, as a result of the verbal reports that I was receiving from Staff Sergeant Brunet. I met with the Crown on September 30, 1993 and at that time, he explained why we could not proceed, based on the information that he had at his disposal.

During the week of September 27 to October 1st, I had placed a call to Rick Abell, C.A.S. and met with him on October 1, 1993, at his office. I learned that he was also trying to contact me. We had a discussion and he advised me that he knew of the Silmsers allegations and that he had received this information from Constable Perry Dunlop, of the Cornwall Police Service, whom he considered to be a personal friend. He explained at that time that Constable Dunlop had spoken to him and then also stated that Constable Dunlop had provided a copy of David Silmsers' victim statement to him, which he had analyzed and believed (as it was reported from the analysis) that the statement was true.

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On the same date, October 1st, I returned to the office and requested, through the Deputy Chief's Office, that we should conduct an internal investigation: 1. Why the investigation took so long to complete and 2. Constable Dunlop's unauthorized involvement re; the unauthorized release of confidential information.

To the best of my knowledge, the internal investigation was assigned to Staff Sergeant Derochie by the Deputy Chief and began soon thereafter.

QUESTION:

Did you, as the Chief of Police, ever assign Constable Dunlop to the David Silmsler investigation?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION:

Did you, as Chief of Police, authorize Constable Dunlop to release any parts of the information that formed the investigation?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION:

Are you aware of the fact that the victim's statement was released to a news media person, Charlie Greenwell, at C.J.O.H.?

ANSWER: Yes, I watched C.J.O.H. that evening and saw what he purported to be David Silmsler's statement.

QUESTION: Are you aware of any information whereby Mr. Greenwell made a statement "I received a statement from John Parisien, President of the Cornwall Police Asso.?"

ANSWER: No. My recollection of the Greenwell report was that Constable Parisien's name was mentioned as being the source of the Greenwell story, but he did not specifically say that the statement was supplied by Constable Parisien. To the best of my recollection, both the Parisien involvement and Silmsler's statement appeared on the same story.

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QUESTION: What involvement did Constable Dunlop's wife have in this incident?

ANSWER: Staff Sergeant Brunet advised me that he believed that Constable Dunlop's wife was conducting a parallel investigation to the Police Service's investigation.

QUESTION: Did Mrs. Dunlop visit you at your residence and what was the purpose and duration of her visit?

ANSWER: Yes, Mrs. Dunlop attended my residence on the evening of October 14, 1993, at about 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. I invited her into my home and her opening comment was "do you remember me?" She wanted (demanded) to know by what right I had to have her husband investigated internally and that I was not going to get away with it. I advised her that I would not discuss any internal investigation with her and I asked her if Constable Dunlop knew if she was visiting me at my home. She refused to answer and I asked the question again and she also refused to answer. She then advised me that I was not going to get away with harassing her husband and going after his job. She threatened that this matter would not be over and that I was not going to get away with it. She also threatened going public, at which time I asked her to leave my residence, which at first she did not do and I requested again that she leave and she did.

QUESTION: Did Mrs. Dunlop ever elude to the fact that she was aware of the victim's statement or other parts of the criminal investigation?

ANSWER: Yes - to the best of my recollection, she advised me that Constable Dunlop was not going to be the "fall guy" for a poor investigation, which was botched up by people wearing stripes and the Cornwall Police Service. She made other references that led me to believe that she was very familiar with the criminal complaint. She went on to say that her husband was doing what he was doing because of the moral issues.

QUESTION: Is there anything else you wish to say regarding this incident?

ANSWER: No, other than the fact that I contacted Staff Sergeant Derochie and advised him of her visit.

3 March 94  
Date

  
CLAUDE SHAVER