



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Statement No.:		Date:	01/04/2005
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Statement of:

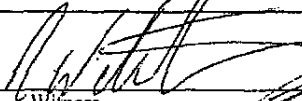
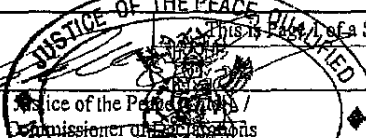
Name of witness:	Robert WEBSTER	Date of birth:	6/07/1965	Age:	39
Occupation:	Dive Instructor				

Police officer taking statement:

Name of police officer:	K J GEHRINGER	Rank:	DSC	Reg. No.:	10581
Region/ Command/ Division:	Northern	Station:	Mundingburra CIB		

Robert WEBSTER states:

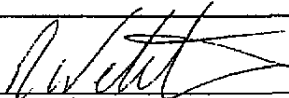
1. I am a male person 39 years of age and reside at 38 Granite Street Picnic Bay Magnetic Island. My contact numbers are w) 47785788 h) 47581437.
2. At the time of the incident I was and still am the owner operator of JOREE P/L trading as Pleasure Divers Acardia Bay Magnetic Island. I am a qualified PADI Open Water dive instructor.
3. I remember the 22nd of October 2003. On that day I had gone out on Jazz II with several students to carry out an advanced diving course on the Yongala wreck. I am able to obtain the names of the students from my records.
4. When we arrived at the dive site I observed that the Spoil Sport was at the location and I was aware that divers were in the water from the general activities out there.
5. At about 10:30, 11:00am we entered the water and made our way over to a surface float which is attached to a descent line which is attached to the stern of the Yongala wreck. From memory we were the first divers in the water from Jazz II. I am almost certain it was perfect dive conditions on the day, it was very calm and flat and the current was not very strong. I am aware that Jazz II will have a boat dive log that should show the sea and current conditions.
6. We then began our descent down the stern line. I did not see any other divers in the water during our descent. We got to about sixteen (16) metres and I was checking with all my students that they were okay before we left the line. Then I saw a diver who I assumed was a Mike Ball instructor with an unconscious diver. He was carrying her in the standard rescue

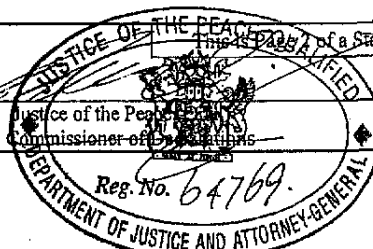
 Witness		This is Page 1 of a Statement comprising 3 Page(s). Police Officer
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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: Robert WEBSTER

position and I signalled to ask him if he was okay and he signalled no. I then signalled to my students to wait on the line and I proceeded to follow him to the surface.

7. He was carrying out an emergency ascent and did not stop for decompression. I followed him to four (4) or five (5) metres from the surface and I could see that he was going to surface right at the back of Jazz II, within a couple of metres. Due to the fact that we surfaced within a few metres of the back of Jazz II confirms that there was not a strong current on that day. Because of standard practices I knew that there would have been assistance on the back of Jazz II so I did not break the surface of the water.
8. From there I had to return to my students and when I met up with them on the descent line, where I left them, one of my students was trying to signal something to me. I now know that he was attempting to inform me that he was a Doctor but at the time I did not realise this.
9. We then continued with our dive and left the stern line at a depth of sixteen metres. We proceeded to the bottom near the stern of the Yongala on the deck side of the wreck where I completed the training skills for the advanced diver course. We then proceeded on a tour of the Yongala wreck which involved swimming against the current towards the bow. I can not be sure however I believe we made it to the forward cargo hold which is about ten (10) to fifteen (15) metres from the bow. Again I can state with certainty that the current was not strong on that day and that we did not have any significant difficulty swimming against it. We would have been in the water about thirty five minutes and only turned around and allowed the current to assist us to the stern line due to air supply limitations. We then made an ascent on the stern line making two stops for decompression purposes.
10. When we surfaced I looked towards Jazz II and I knew something was seriously wrong. As a result I sent the students over to Spoilport. It was at this time that I was made aware that one of my students was a Doctor so I sent him straight over to Jazz II.
11. I then exited the water and boarded Jazz II. From a conversation I had with the Doctors I understood that there was nothing more that could be done for the unconscious diver. Mike Ball crew members then told me they were bringing the husband over to Jazz II. A short time later I saw him come over and at that point I left the back deck where the deceased was and went upstairs to give him some privacy. I went upstairs with Jarrard FISHER who was a passenger on Jazz II and only thirteen years old.

	Justice of the Peace This is Page 2 of a Statement comprising 3 Page(s).
Witness	Police Officer



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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: Robert WEBSTER

12. About half an hour later I assisted with placing her body one of the small boats to be taken back over to Spoil Sport. I stayed on Jazz II and we departed at about 1pm and headed back to Townsville.

13. When we arrived back at Townsville I am aware that passengers were taken and interviewed by Police however I was not spoken to on the night.

14. I can state that I did not have any conversation with the deceased's husband or any other person who spoke to him on the day of the incident. Since the incident I have not corresponded with any other persons relating specifically to her death.

Oaths Act Declaration

OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)

I Robert WEBSTER do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

(1) This written statement by me dated 11th May 2005 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 3 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and

(2) I make this statement knowing that if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything I know to be false.

and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867

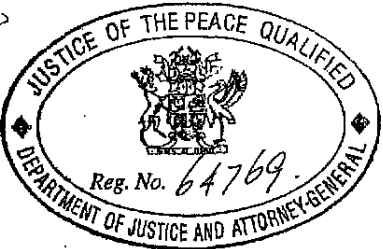
.....Signature

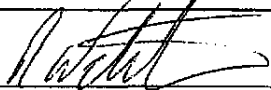
Taken and declared before me at Magnetic Island

This 11th day of May 2005

Witness

Justice of the Peace /
Commissioner of Declarations
Other (Please State)



	This is Page 3 of a Statement comprising 3 Page(s).	
Witness	Justice of the Peace (Qual) / Commissioner of Declarations	Police Officer

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003733



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Occurrence #: _____

Statement no.: _____ Date: 24/09/2007

Statement of

Name of witness: WEBSTER, Robert

Date of birth: 06/07/1965 Age: 42 Occupation: Dive Instructor

Police officer taking statement

Name of police officer: CAMPBELL, Gary Colin

Rank: Detective Sergeant Reg. no.: 6690

Region/Command/Division: Northern Station: Townsville Criminal Investigation Branch

Statement:

Robert WEBSTER states:

I have previously provided a statement to police on the 11th of May 2005 in relation to the death of Christina Mae WATSON. This death occurred on the 22nd day of October 2003.

On the day of death I was the Dive Instructor on the motor vessel "JAZZII". On the 22nd day of September 2007 I was contacted by Detective Sergeant Gary CAMPBELL of the Townsville Criminal Investigation Branch.

As a result I attended to the Magnetic Island Police station on Monday the 24th day of September 2007 and provided this statement to Detective Sergeant Gary Colin CAMPBELL.

In response to questions from Detective Sergeant Gary Colin CAMPBELL I can say the following.

I can not recall the specific time frame on the day of the death of the deceased however considering what the conditions were on the day I would not have expected it to take more than ten minutes from when we anchored to when scuba divers from the "JAZZII" first entered the water.

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.))
Commissioner for Declarations's signature



CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: WEBSTER, Robert

Prior to me actually entering the water I did not see a single diver surface anywhere within my sight.

Together with Alanda MCMAHON I hooked up the access line from the rear of the "JAZZII" to the buoy and the descent line.

While I was underwater on the day of the death I did not see a solo diver at any stage.

When the Mike Ball dive Instructor was ascending with the unconscious diver the mask of the unconscious diver was in place. The Mike Ball dive Instructor was holding the regulator in place in the mouth of the unconscious diver.

The doctor diver that was signalling to me underwater in paragraph 8 of my first statement was a doctor from the Townsville hospital.

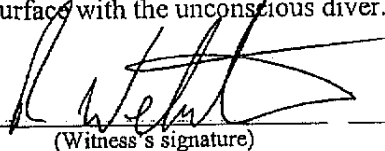
I did not recall his name of the top of my head however Detective Sergeant CAMPBELL said the name "Jay" and "STUTZ" and I recall that was that diver.

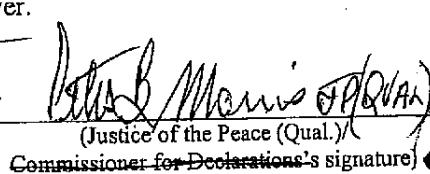
I did not realise at the time of the signalling underwater that he was a doctor and only found out once we later surfaced and he spoke to me.

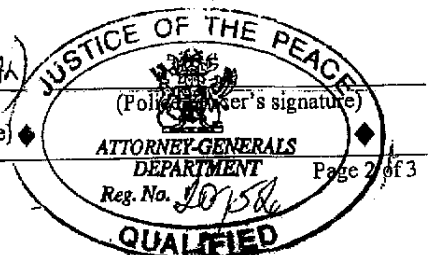
I recall that I was later told that STUTZ had seen someone bringing the deceased to the surface but had somehow lost her and that someone else brought her to the surface. I do not recall who told me this but if I remember I will contact Detective Sergeant CAMPBELL and tell him.

I do recall that conversation was on the way back to Townsville on the "JAZZII" on the day of the death.

I was under the impression this may have been when I followed the Mike Ball dive instructor to the surface with the unconscious diver.

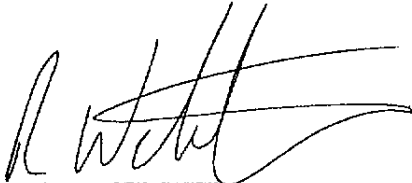

(Witness's signature)


(Justice of the Peace (Qual.))
Commissioner for Declarations's signature



CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: WEBSTER, Robert

By this I mean he may have lost her and she may have had to be recovered again.


Robert WEBSTER

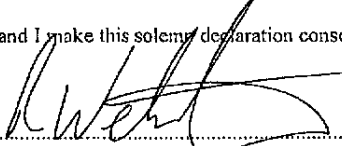
Oaths Act Declaration

OATHS ACT 1867 (DECLARATION)

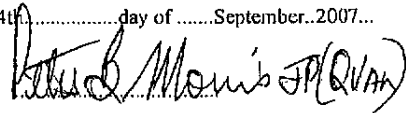
IRobert WEBSTER. do solemnly and sincerely declare that:


- (1) This written statement by me dated 24/9/2007 and contained in pages numbered 1 to 3 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything I know to be false.

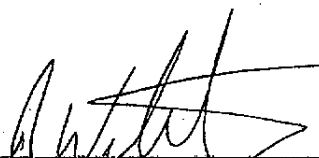
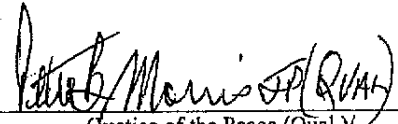
and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1867

.....Signature

Taken and declared before me at Magnetic Island
this...24th.....day of.....September..2007...

Witness 
Justice of the Peace /
Commissioner of Declarations
Other (Please State)



 (Witness's signature)  (Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature) _____ (Police officer's signature)