

CH.7

R - v - McKEE & McKEE

Court I respectfully submit might find that as far as the incident is concerned the Court may add some weight to these submissions. Firstly, your Honour, the charge is such that the Court might feel that he has of course nothing to do with the notorious killing in the incident involving Robert Hamilton.

Secondly, the essence of the charge is that he agreed with the Reserve constable to cover up a phone call which of course had been made by the Reserve constable and he agreed to do that in this context. That as the papers before you indicate, he had formed only one friendship really on coming back to the country and that was with the Reserve constable and his wife. He had no other friends whatsoever, no other acquaintances, no other connections apart from of course his wife.

It is clear from the material before us that the marriage had become particularly unhappy in the early 1990s and he had resorted to taking far too much drink. He in fact became and accepts that he became between 1993 and indeed 1999, over a six or seven-year period, an alcoholic. The papers reflect that certainly at the time at which he was approached, which appears to be in 1997, to say that he made this phone call he was drinking something between 20 and 30 beers a day and was living in an alcoholic haze. He clearly wasn't thinking straight. His judgment was impaired and he was a person who had formed a close connection, he and his wife, with the Reserve constable's family