

16. The police interview appeared to be thorough and covered the areas which I had been briefed about and a lot of areas I had not been briefed about.
17. At the end of the interview I cannot remember when I apprised Chris Mahaffey of what had went on during the interview but I did so as that was the purpose of my presence at the interview. I did record details of the interview in my notebook [Page 14462] and from those notes I prepared a witness statement [Page 27124] which is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
18. The interview stays in my memory for a number of reasons. Mckee presented himself on the day, in my opinion, as a broken man resigned to his fate. He was a man who had difficulties in his life, relationship difficulties, alcohol and possibly business difficulties. His body language was defeatist, his shoulders were slumped and he had no presence at all. Physically he was quite a big man who, I would have thought from his martial arts, could physically command a room but he did not come across in that way.
19. I was not in a position to comment in depth about the investigation, but I was not convinced about his selective memory when answering some of the questions. Although he had obviously made his mind up when confronted at the beginning of the interview to admit his involvement in telling lies about the phone call he relied on his loss of memory to avoid some of the questions put to him. Although he used his alcoholism to avoid questions there was a lot of information that he was very clear about which included his admission about telling lies about making the phone call from the home of Robert Atkinson.
20. I was satisfied in my role as supervising observer that the police interview was conducted properly. The admission by Michael McKee appeared to be straight forward when he realised the weight of the evidence against him and to my knowledge there were no inducements made in order to obtain his confession. The interviewers conducted the interviews with Michael McKee professionally and in accord with nationally approved interview technique.