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STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF CONOR BLACK

DATED THIS

DAY OF

2008

I, CONOR BLACK, declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence at the Inquiry, I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

1. The Inquiry has disclosed a number of documents to me. Where I make specific reference to a document in my statement I have given the number of the relevant page.
2. I was interviewed by the Robert Hamill Inquiry on 7 November 2006. Relying on the statement I made on 12 May 1997, I can confirm that I went to the Coach Inn on 26 April 1997 with Johnny Nelson, Kyle Magee, Chris Henderson and Stephen Bloomer. I do not recall how much I had to drink that night but I'm sure I would have had a few drinks.
3. I caught the bus back from the Coach Inn with Kyle, Johnny and Stephen and we were dropped off at Z-Cabs on Bridge Street. I cannot recall what time this would have been but I said in the statement I made on 12 May 1997 that it was around 1:40am. I recall going to Herrons, the chicken burger shop, after getting off the bus.
4. At some point later in the night, I recall seeing [REDACTED] who I knew from school, at Herrons [REDACTED] offered Johnny Nelson and me a lift home in his car. I'm not sure what time we left Herrons with [REDACTED]
5. There has now been produced and shown to me the statement of Johnny Nelson dated 12 May 1997 at containing page **09169**. In that statement Johnny Nelson states that he didn't leave the bottom of town and he does not refer to a lift from

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██████████ However, according to my statement I state that he was in the car, although I do not now specifically recall if he was in the car or not.

6. As Johnny, ██████████ and I were driving home along Northway, we saw a marked police car and an ambulance going past. I cannot recall where we saw them now. We decided to see what was going on. When we reached Call-a-Cab which is located on Castle Street, we stopped and got out of the car because we saw a crowd of people. It would have taken us no more than five minutes to drive from Herrons to Call-a-Cab. I saw Kyle and spoke to him. Kyle told me there had been a fight but I cannot recall anything else that was said.
7. There has now been produced and shown to me the statement of Kyle Magee dated 30 April 1997 containing page **00582** to **00584**. At page **00583** he states *"I observed a fellow lying on the ground...I think he was lying in a pool of blood"*. Kyle did not tell me about what he had seen. Also at page **00584** he states *"I also shouted something about Fenians when I was walking past the fight,"* Kyle did not tell me that he had shouted this to the police.
8. I do not recall if the crowd of people were rowdy. I did not see any fighting or anyone injured on the ground. I do not recall seeing Stephen Bloomer there.
9. I note that in the statement I made on 12 May 1997 I said I saw a police car blocking the street, but I cannot now recall which street this was. I do not recall whether I saw a Police Land Rover in the vicinity.
10. There has now been produced and shown to me the statement of Chris Henderson dated 12 May 1997 which contains page **017580**. He states that he spoke to Johnny and me outside Herrons from about 01:45 for almost an hour that is, until approximately 02:45. I cannot now recall speaking to Chris that night.
11. I recall I got a taxi home with Kyle and Johnny. ██████████ had gone home by this stage and Johnny and I had stayed on in town. I do not know where Stephen Bloomer was at the time. I did not see him at the scene and I cannot

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recall if he got a cab home with me that night. I did not know Tracey McAlpine or Tracey Newell and I did not go to a party at Tracey McAlpine's house that night. I do not know if, after leaving my house, Kyle went on to this party.

12. In April 1997 I did not know Allister Hanvey, Dean Forbes, Stacey Bridgett, Wayne Lunt, Andrew Allen, Rory Robinson, Tracey Clark, David Woods or Timothy Jameson.

SIGNED:

CONOR BLACK

DATED: