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STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF J [REDACTED]

DATED THIS 12TH DAY OF July 2006

1. I, J [REDACTED] of an address known to the Robert Hamill Inquiry, 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.
2. I am an officer in the PSNI but have been on sick leave since July 2004. In April 1997, I was attached to regional Crime Squad at Gough Barracks in Armagh. I reported to Acting Detective Inspector H [REDACTED] I was not involved in the murder investigation or the investigation of the complaint. My first involvement in the Robert Hamill case was around April 2001 working with [REDACTED] K [REDACTED] the SIO.
3. On 10 April 2001, I was involved in the arrest and interview of Michael McKee. During that interview he admitted his part in the conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. I was aware that he had received a threat but I can't now recall whether that arose during the interview. I was also involved in the analysis of telephone billing and the finger-printing of the threatening letter. I think the analysis of the finger-prints included the finger-printing of Robert Atkinson. A copy of the interview is now produced and shown to me marked "J [REDACTED] C1".
4. Between the 12 and 19 April, I was involved in the listening post based at Castlereagh in relation to the listening device placed at McKee's home, which I understand was part of the intrusive surveillance operation of the McKees' and Atkinsons' homes. I understand same was compromised but I do not know how it was compromised. Prior to the operation I was briefed by Colville Stewart. There were about 60 officers involved in that operation but I don't believe there were any officers from Portadown involved in the operation. Furthermore, we were not told the exact nature or location of the listening post duties.

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5. At the end of each day on listening post duty we were de-briefed in respect of our own listening post. During the period we worked shifts and briefed and de-briefed each other as we passed over our duty.
6. I had never before been involved in that sort of operation but I had received some training on the equipment and standing orders. I was one of a number of officers who monitored the listening device at the McKees' home. The quality of the recording, however, was very poor and largely inaudible. I was aware that the surveillance was later compromised but I believe it was compromised at another address not at the McKee's house and I knew no more about it.
7. On 30 May 2001, I interviewed Allister Hanvey with DC [REDACTED] I don't recall who did the preparation for the interview but [REDACTED] would have instructed us on the issues to be covered. I don't recall the content of the interview, however. A copy of the transcript of interview is now produced and shown to me marked "J [REDACTED] 2".
8. On 7 September 2001, I interviewed Jason McClure who was co-operative. He was being honest I think but due to a combination of the passage of time and his drunkenness on the relevant date in question he was subsequently being vague. A copy of the questionnaire is now produced and shown to me marked "J [REDACTED] 3".
9. On 19 November 2002, I arrested and interviewed Timothy Jameson with D.S McDowell. A copy of the transcript of interview is now produced and shown to me marked "J [REDACTED] 4". It did not appear to the case that he had previously been asked whether he told officers in 1997 that he had put the boot in. After the interview, buccal swabs were taken but proved negative. I don't know whether Robert Jameson was still receiving protection from the police but I know he was in 1997. We spoke to Davy McCaw when preparing for the interview of Timothy Jameson but he had no memory whatever of the events. I was aware there had been some confrontation between Robert Jameson and Davy McCaw and an allegation of assault but I do not know whether that was why he went off sick.
10. I visited Andrea McKee on 27 January 2004 at her home. DS Munn from witness protection was with me because she had received a threat and I took him to facilitate an introduction. He wanted to speak

to her about what could be offered to her in terms of changing home etc. I believe the police instigated this rather than Andrea McKee asking for it. She was adamant that she did not want to leave her home and if she had entered witness protection she would have had to move quite a distance away. She did tell us that she was determined to give evidence. She seemed determined to see it through in spite of concerns for her family.

11. I had met her previously with [H] and also when she signed some case papers. I also took some of the DPP representatives over to meet her but did not remain in the consultation during their discussions. After Andrea's failure to attend at the preliminary hearing I attended Wales to make some inquiries as to the veracity of her reasons for non-attendance. I believe the DPP representative decided she would not be a credible witness and I understand this was due to the fact that her reason for failing to attend court was not corroborated.

12. I have nothing further to add given the passage of time but I can refer to my previous statements and can confirm that the content of those statements are true.

SIGNED:

J [REDACTED]

DATED:

12 July 2006