

Meeting: Ex D/Insp P39 at her home on 28 Feb 2001

Present

P39

SIO Chris Mahaffey (CH)

K

General introductions were carried out and the purpose of the meeting was explained to P39. SIO Mahaffey made it clear to P39 that we were trying to identify audit trails reference the handling of Timothy Jameson and Andrea McKee. P39 was informed that the meeting was to be informal and that she was not under investigation.

CH opened the meeting by requesting that P39 recount her involvement in and knowledge of the handling of Andrea McKee/Tracey Clarke.

CH - Do you recall McCaw coming into the office?

P39 - somewhat vague about this point then indicated that she was off duty

Ch - Outlined circumstances of the "graveyard" meeting to P39 and also the events that occurred in the TKD club prior to same. CH then asked P39 to explain the billing enquiries that were authorised by her the day after McCaw related his information.

P39 - Difficulty remembering

- Handed P39 copy of TC statement dated 10 May to assist her recollection.

P39 - Spoke of the extreme difficulty in getting TC to make her statement. She referred to AMcK being present throughout the recording of the statement but stated that she did not say anything. P39 added that AMcK did not interfere in the recording of the statement and added that she P39 was encouraging TC throughout.

CH - Asked P39 again about the billing enquiry and when she became aware of the information re Atkinson's T/C to Hanvey.

P39 - Stated that she must have been aware of it prior to the statement of TC being recorded. P39 then volunteered that the request for billings had to be handwritten due to the sensitivity of the information. She indicated that there had been an interview in her office and that she had asked "John" to handwrite it and get the numbers. P39 endorsed the request which was authorised by Mr McBurney.

John

K - Enquired how it was arranged to get TC in.

P39 - Was unclear as to how this was arranged. Indicated that it would not have been her and that she did not make a phone call and would not have met her.

K - Asked P39 did she recall talk of the "Chinese" etc

P39 - remembered that AMcK would meet TC from the Chinese and bring her to the station afterwards. P39 also indicated that she had not received any T/C's the night before.

P39 - Indicated who was present at the briefing i.e. her, Mr McBurney, Michael Irwin and that John McAteer may have called in after.

CH - Enquired why it was necessary to keep the briefing so tight, was this because of the info provided by TC.

P39 - Indicated that the briefing was "tight" due to all of the information especially that relating to the Atkinson billing.

CH - Asked when P39 had first met AMcK

}

P39 – first met her when she walked in with TC. P39 stated that it had been a very busy night and that she had spoken with John who was worried about whether or not TC would make a statement.

K – stated that arrests were made shortly after (the recording of TC's statement)

P39 – TC came in at 11 o'clock and was there through to the early hours (9th-10th) On the following morning c 6am they had planned to go for "these people" P39 organising manpower for the searches. P39 indicated how she had went in to see TC with John and that she talked to TC in a motherly way and then got the statement. P39 again stated that AMcK was present throughout the recording of the statement and that she was unsure if there had been a break during the interview.

K – Did you plan some arrests on enquiry? And then wait to see what TC said

P39 – So confident after TC's statement

K – Were arrests on foot of TC's statement or did you have other information

P39 – The briefing would have been about what AMcK would tell us what TC would say (???????) Then added that we would have to have some admin done if we were going for them.

K – Was your intention to make the arrests without the statement

P39 – My intention was to get the statement, your talking about a situation that did arise

P39 – AMcK did not impart anything in my presence, she just sat there

CH – Referred to the "kernans" meeting and the AM briefing and asked had you started making plans on the names given

P39 – not sure

P39 – First met [REDACTED] when I took TC home after making the statement

K – was anyone else there (in TC's house)

P39 – Her father

K – [REDACTED]?

P39 – Can't remember

K – Michael McKee?

P39 – definitely not, only met her parents

K – What happened in the house, what conversation?

P39 – would have been all praise for TC

K – would parents have known what TC had said?

P39 – Parents/mother would have known. She was on the phone to me several times. I did as much to keep TC on board (as possible)

CH – (was) TC at risk?

P39 – tried to make sure she wasn't – tried to get her a job. McBurney involved in trying to get her a job in an Enniskillen hotel

K – was AMcK at parents?

P39 – No, TC, John and I

P39 – (I) was never in AMcK's house

K – how AMcK get home

P39 – her car?

K – She did not have one

P39 – Don't believe I spoke to AMcK again

K – (did you) meet Michael McKee

P39 – Never

K [redacted] - Why the retraction?

P39 [redacted] - I went to Belfast in August - not at meeting with the DPP. I think she (TC) told the DPP that she was not prepared to give evidence

K [redacted] - any attempts made to use AMcK to get TC back on board?

P39 [redacted] - Don't know

CH - Re the Atkinson t/c how from am on 9th (i.e. how did you become aware of it)

P39 [redacted] - got billing back - Mr [redacted] on the scene. Meeting , set ground rules. 3 separate investigations : 1 murder 2 inactivity 3 telephones. The murder investigation was ongoing

CH - (what was) your responsibility

P39 [redacted] - I was involved in the murder investigation as assistant SIO, Mr McBurney was the senior officer

K [redacted] - was Atkinson to be interviewed by officers outside of Portadown?

P39 [redacted] - think he probably did (should read was)

CH - AMcK and MMcK alibi re TC. (did you have) any dealings?

P39 [redacted] - No. when was that? ~~September~~

CH - 29 October

K [redacted] - Shows P39 [redacted] document dated 12 05 97

P39 [redacted] - my writing

K [redacted] - P39 [redacted] who do the numbers belong to

P39 [redacted] - Did we get these from somewhere?

K [redacted] - Phone book.

K [redacted] - why [redacted]?

P39 [redacted] - let me think, there's a reason. Give me more background - were the numbers from intelligence or during interviews

K [redacted] - phone book

K [redacted] - to assist - charged the 10th, Sunday searches, Interviews of KH (& others)

12/05/97

P39 [redacted] - Was he in court or something. Was it that he was seen with them at court, could it be that simple?

CH - (on a) bit of paper or during searches

K [redacted] - No

P39 [redacted] - remember just putting down phone numbers just to keep it tight

CH - how would you have got his number?

P39 [redacted] - I'll have to think, could be just in case, double check, someone may have seen him talking to them.

K [redacted] - Link between [redacted] and TC

P39 [redacted] - I'll have to think

CH - Anything else re initial investigation re Atkinson-TC, must have been discussed.

P39 [redacted] - discussed in the office-very tight-not mentioned outside

CH - aware of any plan or strategy apart from Mr [redacted]?

P39 [redacted] - I believe that (Mr) [redacted] said separate investigations. My priority = murder. The other 2 I would say mixture of C&D & McBurney (inaction) 3rd was the telephones.

K [redacted] - Anon calls to priest and [redacted]?

P39 [redacted] - huh

K [redacted] – 11 May Fr Dooley anon call made – had knowledge of incident & formed opinion that it was a cop & linked RA-AH. Then later call to [redacted].

P39 – Fr Dooley never told us.

P39 – Not someone working in the investigation.

why thought it was a cop "7"

After a break for refreshments the conversation then moved on to Timothy Jameson.

AL – No dealings directly. McCaw came in (didn't at first think he was a cop. Into office. AL McB (were present). Thought it was late afternoon. McCaw was not in uniform. McCaw said....think Michael may have come to the door and introduced him. (It's a) restricted area. McB stood up. McCaw said something like this fellow was in the centre of the town – jist = here is a fellow who heard what went on. Don't know whether he said seen or heard.

Get questionnaire

Got Eddy (Honeyford) & his partner.

Had to be invited in & ascertain what he knows & more importantly his involvement.

K [redacted] – do you remember Irwin leaving after McCaw went in

P39 – left him to the door

P39 – TJ said something about fellow in town & could be of help must have been tea time when we got him

CH – who brought TJ in

P39 – Honeyford?

P39 – TJ & TC would have been in the station at the same times

CH – did you speak to TJ?

P39 – No Eddy spoke with him, he was in for hours

CH – was TJ a suspect?

P39 – everyone in town centre could have been suspect

P39 – security, conversation, talking

CH & K [redacted] – explain content of questionnaire, was anything else said

P39 – McCaw – had said about AMcK therefore it (info re TJ) was well worth pursuing – go for it again. Arrests planned much later.

CH – was McCaw alone?

P39 – yes, in the office

CH – did he come to the station with anyone?

P39 – don't know

CH – therefore was drive to get Jameson in just because it was McCaw (who had provided the information)

P39 – yes

CH – (did) McCaw say anything else i.e. why go and get him.

P39 – no

CH – was McCaw excited

P39 – wouldn't surprise me

█ - did McCaw ask anything

P39 - No, wouldn't have had the confidence

█ - how long was he there?

P39 - couple of minutes

CH - was there further discussion?

P39 - Yes - very confidential keep it that way

CH - MAYNARD? MICHAEL? Debriefing.

P39 - yeah, that these witnesses are kept on board. Mindful that Jameson was the son of Bobby and knew that TC was girlfriend of AH. Confidential, not referred to by name, kept on board.]

CH - Was there contact with TJ's Dad?

P39 - No.

CH - any issues around him. Risk?

P39 - ask Eddy.

CH - How would he have been managed at court?

P39 - Confidential report went in. Part of a consultation with the DPP. Bring to DPP's attention & make sure details would come out in consultation.

CH - Court evidence?

P39 - up to the DPP

CH - Did you ever hear anything adverse against TJ?

P39 - didn't know they were UVF

CH - Retraction? (i.e. did you know anything about it)

P39 - no input - away from Armagh - Sept and then leave & that was me. I heard about the retraction at Xmas.

The meeting then terminated. P39 was informed that it may be necessary to speak to her again and indeed she could contact us if she recalled any further details.