

20 March 2021

To whom it may concern,

My name is Nikola Anderson. The following statement is based on my best recollection of events from the time and from notes recorded in my personal workplace diary from the night in question.

On the 23/03/2019 I commenced my rostered night shift for the evening starting at 2300 – 0700 as a roaming internal patrol for the Ministerial wing (Foxtrot 4).

At approximately 0200, two APH pass holders a male and a female, walked in through the sliding doors of the Ministerial basement entry known as Point 8.

I took particular notice of the female in her knee length white cocktail dress because I thought she looked rather attractive in the dress. Upon looking at her further I noticed that she had grass stains down one side of her dress, I am unable to recall if it was on the left or the right side.

As they approached the desk to be signed in, my colleague said words to the effect of “you guys must be busy to have to come in this late”; the response that he got from the male was “yeah”.

I proceeded to ask the male and the female for their names and looked them up individually on the Enterprise Building Integrator (EBI).

Upon positively identifying each of them from the EBI as current, active APH pass holders, I asked them to start filling in the “Register sheet” which they both did individually. I handed both the male and the female their green “Positively Identified” (PI) passes and they proceeded through the X-ray machine to start the screening process.

To the best of my knowledge the male walked through the X-ray machine first and then the female followed. As she walked through, she set off the machine (activated) so I instructed her to try again. The female attempted to clear herself again but was unable to as her shoes were “setting” off the machine.

I asked the female to step back once again, remove her shoes, place them in the tray and then try again. Once she cleared herself and her shoes came through the machine, I handed her the tray containing her shoes. It was at this point that I realized how intoxicated the female was, she was unable to get her shoes back on her feet – acknowledging her struggle I told her to carry her shoes and put them back on while she was in the Ministers suite.

The Parliamentary security operations room (PSOR) was called and informed of the two passholders entering into M1.46 in accordance with Ministerial procedure. I then escorted both the male and the female up to the Ministerial suite and unlocked the door for them and carried out the remainder of my designated duties.

At approximately 0300 I attended the ministerial basement (PT 8) to give my colleague his meal break. It was then that he informed me of the strange behaviour portrayed by the male that had come in with the female.

My colleague told me that the male had come down roughly 20mins after they were escorted up to the suite and left alone. My colleague told me that he attempted conversation with the male for which he would not engage; the male flicked his green (PI) pass at him (my colleague) as he walked past the desk and seemed to rush out the Ministerial basement exit doors

Both my colleague and I found this to be odd behaviour. My colleague told me that he would inform the nightshift team leader of the events that had taken place while he was on his meal break.

At approximately 0315 the nightshift team leader rang me on the Parliament house landline. He told me that if the female hadn't come down in the time that I was stationed on the point to go and do a welfare check on her as soon as my colleague came back from his break.

To the best of my knowledge at approximately 0420 I rang my nightshift team leader to let him know I was going to do a welfare check on the female as she hadn't left the building through the Ministerial entry/exit point.

I entered through the front door of M1.46 at approximately 0425 and started to announce myself multiple times. I did not get a response from anyone as I called out.

I noticed the Ministers office door was closed. As I made my way over to the door I called out once again before opening it.

I opened the door and found the female asleep lying on her back, completely naked on the lounge that was positioned at the entry way of the door.

The female half opened her eyes, looked at me and turned positions on the lounge so that she was then facing outwards.

I had noticed that her shoes and her dress were on the floor next to the lounge that she was sleeping on.

I believed the female to be sleeping off her night, she was breathing, conscious and didn't appear to be in any distress which then concluded my welfare check. To prevent any further humiliation and loss of dignity I closed the minister's door behind me as I left.

I immediately called my nightshift team leader from my personal mobile phone to inform him of the state in which I had found the female.

During this conversation I asked him if he wanted me to go back in and wake her up. My team leader told me to leave her there and let him know when she leaves. He told me that if she hadn't left by the time our shift was ending (0700) to let him know. I said "ok", and continued on with the remainder of my designated duties.

To the best of my recollection at approximately 0610 I rang my team leader to let him know that the female still hadn't left Parliament house or suite M1.46. My team leader informed me that I was to pass on the information to my day shift relief when he came in and to keep it as discreet as possible.

He told me that he had passed it on to the day shift team leader and given the compromising position the female had been in when I observed her earlier, and the potential loss of dignity, the relieving day shift team leader was going to attempt to find a day shift female security officer to do another welfare check later in the morning.

At approximately 0650, I handed over to the day shift relief officer. I cannot positively recall the personal identity of the day shift relief officer I handed over to, however, I do recall it was a male officer.

I do not specifically recall at what security point I exited the Parliament house building but the time was approximately 0700. I drove directly from the Parliament house building to my place of residence.

I do not recall hearing anything more about the incident that occurred on 23 March 2019. At no time in the intervening period between 23 March 2019 and 11 March 2021 did anybody from my workplace, that being any team leaders, security managers or DPS management, ever enquire or seek information with regards to the events of 23 March 2019. The first I had heard anything about it since the night in question (23 March 2019) was when the story about Brittany Higgins came to light in the media on or about 15 February 2021.

Nikola Anderson.



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10857.
24/04/21.