



QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
STATEMENT OF WITNESS



Occurrence #: QP110002800

Statement no.: 1 Date: 20/01/2011

Statement of

Name of witness: JENCKEL, Darlene Tory

Date of birth: [REDACTED] Age: [REDACTED] Occupation: _____

Police officer taking statement

Name of police officer: RONALD, Deane Andrew

Rank: Plain Clothes Senior Constable Reg. no.: 4017528

Region/Command/Division: Southern/Ipswich Station: Ipswich Criminal Investigation Branch

Statement:

Darlene Tory JENCKEL states:

1. I am a [REDACTED] year old female and I live at [REDACTED] at Grantham. This house is a high set Queenslander.
2. I live at Christopher Street with my partner Glen HENSLER, who is [REDACTED] years old, my son Clayton who is [REDACTED] years old and my daughter Isabell who is [REDACTED] old. I have lived at this address for about 3 years now. I have only lived in Grantham for 3 years as well but I have lived in the Lockyer Valley area all my life.
3. My mobile number is [REDACTED] and the mobile carrier is [REDACTED] I don't have a land line phone connected.
4. On Monday the 10th of January 2011, I was at home with my partner and children. I was just at home doing the normal stuff with the kids nothing exciting.
5. At 2:00pm I phoned my work, Orica, to tell them I was not coming to work today I know I phoned at 2:00pm because I had a look at the clock. I was meant to start work at 3:30pm at Air Force

[REDACTED]

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

[REDACTED]

(Signature of police officer preparing statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: JENCKEL, Darlene Tory

Road at Helidon. The phone number for Orica is [REDACTED] No one answered the phone and I thought it was a bit strange.

6. The reason I was not going to work was that I was flooded in as the water had gone under the Railway Line Bridge at Grantham. The bridge is at Victor Street and Lawors Road at Grantham. On Google maps Lawors Road is marked as Ditchmans Road.
7. I saw the water under the bridge on Saturday and the water was up and I could not get out and on Sunday the water was down and I was able to drive underneath the bridge on the top part of the road which is a dirt track. On Monday morning the water had risen again and I was unable to drive underneath the bridge on the dirt track. The actual concrete road that goes underneath the bridge was way under the water probably about 1 meter under.
8. It had been raining a fear bit and under the bridge always floods when there is a lot of rain. Since I have been living at Christopher Street the Railway Bridge would have flooded about 3 times where I could not have driven through.
9. About 10-15 minutes after I tried phoning work my girlfriend, Kemara DUFFEY, rang me and told me the Helidon Bridge was over with water. I can't remember Kemara's phone number. I was like 'really' I was very surprised I had never heard of it being flooded and I have lived in Lockyer Valley all my life. That was basically the conversation and Kemara told me if she heard anything else she would call back.
10. Glen was outside in the back shed and I went and told him about the Helidon Bridge being over and about 10 minutes after that Glen left home to go and have a look at the Railway Bridge.
11. About 3 minutes later I was standing in my front veranda and I could notice a car across the road at Linda's and Greg's house at [REDACTED] Street. They have a car in their back yard and the water was rising and the car was going under. The water just rose in 1 minute from being half way up the car until the car was submerged and I just could not believe how fast the water had come up.

[REDACTED]
(Witness's signature)

[REDACTED]
(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

[REDACTED]
(Signature of police officer preparing
statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: JENCKEL, Darlene Tory

12. About 5 minutes later I realised that across the railway line there was debris floating down the water as well as cars. There were also people running along the rail way line.

13. I ran across the other side of the road to Greg and Linda's house to have a look out the back of there section. I just could not believe the water that was coming down the road. Heaps of cars were getting caught under the Railway Bridge and the noise of them crashing together and it was really loud.

14. I raced back home to grab my camera and I went down to the school and took photo's of the water raging through the railway line. I saw a house float away as well as a shed that got swept away and I saw two shipping containers and a truck being swept away as well. The noise was just a crashing and clang noise of the stuff floating down and just crashing into each other. There were heaps of water tanks being swept away and floating down the road.

(I took a series of photographs from 2:20pm until 4:28pm of the flood water at Grantham)


15. One of the photographs I took at the Railway Bridge there was something like 'steam' coming up from the water.

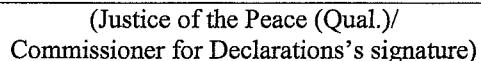
16. I spoke to people down on Victor Street and people were crying and in shock. I spoke to Rob and Jim WILKINS and Jim was telling me *people were coming down the flooded road on top of roofs of cars and people were just dragging them off when they could.*


17. I was just walking around and just watching it and I went home about an hour or two later.

18. About 3-4 hours later, just on dark, the Helicopters came and started rescuing people. I saw the helicopters rescue hover over houses but I did not see anyone get rescued. and I was watching this from the veranda of my house.

19. That was basically it and there was no power. The power did not get reconnected until the following Thursday sometime during the day.


(Witness's signature)


(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)


(Signature of police officer preparing
statement)

CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: JENCKEL, Darlene Tory

20. I did not see anyone get rescued that had be swept away in the flooded water or any vehicle with people on or inside them.

21. There was no warning and if I had been warned I would have gone down and told other people to get to higher ground.

22. I knew our house would have been okay as it was on top of the hill. All my time I have lived in the Lockyer Valley area I have never witnessed anything like this before. There have been floods in the Lockyer Valley before but in my time water has never flowed over the Helidon Bridge.

23. While all this was happening on the 10th of January the weather was overcast but it did rain in the morning heavily at Grantham.

24. I was stuck at my house from the Monday the flooding occurred until the following Friday.

25. On Friday the 21st of January I attended the Gatton Police Station and gave this statement.

[Redacted signature area]

Darlene Tory JENCKEL

Justices Act Acknowledgement

Justices Act 1886

I acknowledge by virtue of section 110A(5)(c)(ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:

- (1) This written statement by me dated 21/01/2011 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 4 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
- (2) I make this statement knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything that I know is false.

[Redacted signature area]

.....Signature

Signed atGatton.....this.....21st.....day of.....January.....2011....

(Witness's signature)

(Justice of the Peace (Qual.)/
Commissioner for Declarations's signature)

(Signature of police officer preparing
statement)