TRI BUNAL OF I NQU RY I NTO PROTECTED DI SCLOSURES MADE UNDER
THE PROTECTED DI SCLOSURES ACT 2014 AND CERTAI N OTHER MATTERS FOLLOW NG RESOLUTI ONS PASSED BY DÁl LÉI REANN AND SEANAD Él REANN ON 16 FEBRUARY 2017


#### Abstract

ESTABLI SHED BY I NSTRUNENT MADE BY THE M N STER FOR J USTI CE AND EQUALI TY UNDER THE TRI BUNALS OF I NQU RY (EV DENCE) ACT 1921, ON 17 FEBRUARY 2017


SOLE MEMBER: MR. JUSTI CE PETER CHARLETON, JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT

## HELD I N DUBLI N CASTLE

ON THURSDAY, 10TH MAY 2018 - DAY 72

Gwen Mal one Stenography Servi ces certify the

72following to be a verbatimtranscript of their st enographic not es in the above-named action.

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THE HEARI NG RESUMED, AS FOLLOVB, ON THURSDAY, 10TH MAY 2018:

MR. MEGUNESS: Chairman, the first witness this
morning is Ms. Elaine Strachan.

## ME. ELAI NE STRACHAN, HAM NG BEEN SUDRN, WAS DI RECTLY EXAM NED BY MR. MEGUI NESS:

MR. MEGU NNESS: Chairman, for your benefit and those of my colleagues, Ms. Strachan's statements and reports are all in volume 17 , and $I$ 'm commencing with her statement and report in relation to SM1, and that's to be found at -- commencing at page 4610 of volume 17.
1 Q. Ms. Strachan, could I just ask you to outline your qualifications and your experience.
A. I hold a BEng Honours Degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Ulster.

2 Q. Would you mind perhaps just speaking a little closer to the microphone?
A. Sorry. Is that better?

3 Q. Yes, thank you.
A. I hold a BEng Honours Degree in Engineering from the University of Ulster in Electronic Systems. I am a Higher Scientific Officer in Forensic Science Northern Ireland, and I have been a member of the Digital

Electronic Unit for over ten years conducting examinations on electronic and electrical devices and retrieve information from electronic devices, including mobile phones and memory cards.

4 Q. Yes. It might help if you angle the microphone up slightly. And I think you have been working in that capacity for the Forensic Service of Northern Ireland?
A. I have been, yes.

5 Q. And how long have you been working for them?
A. Over ten years.

6 Q. And could you just explain to the Tribunal what that is and what work it does?
A. The Forensic Science Northern Ireland is part of the Department of Justice. The employees are all civil servants. It is an independent forensic service provider, with responsibility for the provision of impartial forensic services to a wide range of customers.
7 Q. Yes. It's not exclusively, therefore, a state-based service; you provide services to all parties who wish to avail of your services?
A. That is correct.

8 Q. Right. Both within Northern Ireland, within the island of Ireland and the United Kingdom?
A. And further afield.

9 Q. And further afield?
A. Yes.

10 Q. And it's based in Northern Ireland?
A. Yes, it's based in Carrickfergus.

11 Q. In Carrickfergus. Now, the first item that I am going to ask you to give evidence on today relates to an item called SM1 and you provided a statement which is at page 4622 in relation to that and a report at 4611 of

Volume 17. If you wish to refer to the volume or your own notes or your own statement, please do so at any stage.
A. Yes, please.

12 Q. And I think this is a black Nokia phone that was received into evidence by the Forensic Science of Northern Ireland and you received it from Mr. Mark McConne11, is that correct?
A. That is correct.

And could you just outline the purpose of the examination of the phone?
A. The purpose of the examination was to retrieve information present on the handset to assist an investigation into certain disclosures made by members of An Garda Síochána in a time period from the 1st July 10:34 2012 to the 31st May 2014.
14 Q. Yes. And could you just outline the procedures and methodology used by you in examining that phone?
A. Okay. This phone was examined in line with Forensic Science Northern Ireland's Mobile Phone and Memory Card 10:34 Procedure. The procedure involves a manual examination to visually access the item and to ascertain the current date and time setting of the mobile phone, if available. The item was then examined using examination, forensic examination systems which consist 10:34 of forensic hardware and software for electronically downloading information from the handset. The system used in this case, or the systems used were Microsystemation XRY and Cellebrite's UFED.
Q. They are two different systems, as I understand it, each of which can be used but they have different, as it were, capabilities, is that right, in a general sense?
A. In a general sense, not every software will retrieve a11 information, and so both systems together gives the best result of recovering as much information as possible.
Q. Yes. Now, I think this phone was provided by the Tribunal?
A. Yes, that is correct.

17 Q. And I don't know whether you knew that it was identified as a phone that had been belonging or in the possession of the former Commissioner Martin Callinan?
A. Yes, I was aware of that. It was in the information provided by the Tribunal.

18 Q. Yes.
CHA RMAN If you wouldn't mind giving me the dates because I think I am going to take this as read, Mr. McGuinness; if you tell me that it's such-and-such a phone, such-and-such a date used between A and B, I am going to take that as a given because I know this stuff, I am inquiring, after all.

MR. MEGI NESS: Yes. Chairman, this phone was I think issued to former Commissioner Callinan in December of 2013 and remained in his possession until it was surrendered to the Fennelly Commission and then pursuant to an order made by the Tribunal it was surrendered to the Tribunal on behalf of the

Commission.
CHA RMAN And the Fennelly Commission would have been around what date, Mr. McGuinness?

MR. MEGI NESS: We11, the precise dates upon which it sat and reported, Chairman, I don't have --

CHA RMAN It's certain7y after the target 23 months we are talking about.

MR. MtGU NESS: Yes.
CHA RMAN So it's '15 or thereabouts.
MR. MEGUNESS: Yes. But the Chairman will know that Commissioner Callinan retired on 23rd March 2014, and the phone and the SIM, as I understand it, were surrendered after that date but we can get the precise date.
But in any event, Ms. Strachan, I think you used those extraction systems in relation to the phone, and I think you report on that at page 4623 of the volume, and you set out details of the make, mode1 and IMEI number of the phone.
A. Yes, I do.

20 Q. And Chairman, that phone number is one of the phone numbers in respect -- IMEI numbers in respect of which Superintendent Flynn gave evidence as having been issued to Commissioner Callinan. Could you explain in detail what you found on the phone?
A. On this mobile phone handset there was in excess of 1,100 contacts, including deleted contacts. There was email and web addresses associated with some of the contacts. There was also ten calls stored on the phone
and all of these were to 171 voicemail. There was 278 SMS messages recovered from the memory of the handset, 277 of these messages had been deleted. In addition, there was 241 email messages stored in the memory of the phone, including some that were identified as being de7eted.

21 Q. In relation to the deleted SMS messages, I think it didn't prove possible to retrieve full details in relation to those, in particular the identity of the sender or the recipient, is that correct?
A. That is correct. The direction, as in an incoming or an outcoming message, and the sender or the party it intended to be received by have not been recovered.
22 Q. Yes. I think you note on page 2 of your statement, at the bottom of it, that a number of SMS messages making reference to "Thanks Dave" were recovered but the direction and message sender details have not been recovered?
A. That is correct.

23 Q. Okay. You refer to the number of contacts stored in the memory of the phone and were they contacts that were, as it were, not deleted but available to be discovered?
A. There was a mixture of deleted contacts and live contacts.

24 Q. Yes. I see. At page 2 of your report on page 4610, you identify a number of contacts that might be considered relevant from the point of view of the Tribunal, and if you see that list there, 1 think at
number 5 there appears to be one which is "Con Noel ", which perhaps is Noe1 Cunningham; at number 8 there is "Di ar muid O Sul I ivan"; number 14, there is a "Leo MEGi nn"; number 15, a "J MECann"; number 24, "Paul Reynol ds"; 25, "Brian Purcell"; 28, "J Sheridan"; 29, a 10:41 "O Sul Ii van Di armiid"; and there is a "Tom Brady" there as we11 - is that correct?
A. That is correct.
Q.

And that is a selection of the potentially relevant contacts, as far as the Tribunal is concerned?
A. Yes, it's just a selection.
Q. At page 3 of your report, you describe the SMS deleted messages and at page 4 you detail a number of those that have been recovered, is that correct?
A. That is correct.

They continue on page 5, and on to page 6 of your report. The emails that you report upon are contained at pages 6, 7, 8 of your report, isn't that correct?
A. That is correct.

28 Q. There's a number of images which are of no relevance, I 10:42 think?
A. Yes, they were newspaper cuttings.
Q. Yes. You have provided a glossary of terms and perhaps it's appropriate to go through this just at this stage, it will be applicable to all of your other reports also, isn't that correct?
A. That is correct.

30 Q. And at page 10 of your report you describe what is an IMEI number?
A. Yes. Yes. It's an international manufacturer's equipment identity number.
Q. Yes. And that is a unique 15-digit number?
A. It is unique. It's found on the label on the handset and also stored electronically inside the device.
Q. Yes. You provide a definition then of a number of other terms: SIM service provider, SIM card number, IMSI, MSIDN, suggested phone numbers, and other details there, which are all available for people to see.
A. That's correct, yes. provided with a number of search terms by the Tribunal?
A. Yes, I was.
Q. And I think part of your conclusion is that:
"No evi dence was recovered fromitem SMI to support a cl ai mmade by Superintendent Tayl or that he was instructed by the former Commi ssi oner Martin Callinan to brief the medi a agai nst Sergeant Maurice McCabe or the allegation made by Superintendent David Tayl or that the former Commi ssi oner of An Garda Sí ochána, Nói rín should be noted that all of the information obtai ned fromitem SMI was within the time period covering the 17th January 2014 to the 16th April 2014. This is
within the time period of rel evance."

Is that correct?
A. That is correct.

Okay. I think you set out at the conclusion of your statement your understanding of your duty in relation to providing an expert opinion in these matters, and that's as recorded there by you in your statement?
A. That is correct.

37 Q. okay. Could I ask you to deal with the next relevant phone, which is SM3, and that's to be found in volume 17 at page 4527. And this relates to a Nokia Lumia 925, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
A. I did.
Q. And I think you were asked to perform the same task in relation to this matter, in relation to this phone?
A. Yes, I was.
Q. And you came to a conclusion from the data recovered that it was determined this was used by Superintendent Taylor from the 5th September 2014 to the 18th December

2014, and the recovered information from the memory of the mobile phone handset pertains to Superintendent David Taylor. You note that some image files predate the 5th September, and this would support a suggestion made by Superintendent Taylor that material from his previous phone was transferred to item SM3, these image files include photographs of a private family nature, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

42 Q. okay. And did your examination disclose how those predated photographs might have got on to the phone or not, or could it determine that?
A. Not conclusively. There is a number of ways that data could have got on to the phone: If a memory card had been used and the photographs were stored on a memory card and then transferred from a previous handset into this one, it would account for the movement of the photos.
43 Q. Yes.
A. Or if they were attached to an account.
Q.

Yes. Was there any evidence of any texts transferred from a previous phone or predating the issue of the phone?
A. No. The only information that predated the issue of the phone was image files.
yes. I think you set out on page 3 of your statement that this handset was examined so as to ascertain whether or not there was any data relevant to the Disclosures Tribunal terms of reference and you set out
the identical search terms that were used in that regard, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.

46 Q. And I think you reached a similar conclusion, that there was no evidence recovered from this item SM3 to support either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor in that regard?
A. That's correct.

47 Q. I think in your report, which commences on page 4532, you have a 63-page report in relation to the contents of the phone, I think you found over 200 -- sorry, 2000 contacts stored there, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. I think you set out the contacts commencing at page 2 of the report, and among the contacts are, at number 3, 10:49 there is Alison O'Reilly; number 10, Cathal McMahon; number 19, Conor Lally; number 21, Cormac O'Keeffe; number 28, Debbie McCann; number 33, Eavan Murray; number 39, Finan Sheehan, number 62, John Mooney, number 65, John O'Reilly; number 66, John Burke; number 10:49 72, Juno McEnroe; number 95, Mark Hi11iard; number 103, Michae1 O'Toole; number 108, Mick Clifford; number 109, Mick McCaffrey; on page 8 of your report, number 142, Paul Reynolds; 143, Paul Williams; 146, Philip Boucher-Hayes; 165, Sarah Bardon. And there is a large 10:50 variety of other contacts there, many other journalists and media organisations also?
A. Yes, that's correct.

49 Q. You report on the call history log, commencing at page

10 of your report in relation to calls dialled and received in that period?
A. Yes.

50 Q. You report on SMS messages from page 12 of your report onwards, a number of which have been redacted by the Tribunal, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.

51 Q. And a number of phone numbers which have been redacted at the request of parties also.
A. Yes.

52 Q. You report on a number of emails from page 4547 of the report onwards. I think there is in excess of 800 email messages stored there?
A. Yes, that's correct.

53 Q. There's some relevant to, it would appear, work in progress of Superintendent Taylor's, and you report on a document stored which relates to some thesis work of Superintendent Taylor, I think --
A. Yes.

54 Q. -- it would appear.
A. Yes, that's correct. That is in the -- towards the end, on page 4584.
55 Q. Yes. You reported in relation to a number of image files that the Tribunal isn't concerned with, and in short, you found no evidence directly relating to any of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. No, I didn't.

56 Q. Could I ask you then to turn to SM2, which is to be found at volume 17, page 4726. And this again is a

Nokia Lumia phone?
A. Yes, it is.

57 Q. The IMEI is set out on page 1 of your report, at the top - and, Chairman, that corresponds to the second Nokia Lumia 925 seized by Chief Superintendent Clerkin, 10:53 as detailed in his statement in the matter, seized on 19th February 2015 and provided to the Tribunal - and you received this from the Tribunal?
A. I did.

And this is dealt with by you as SM2, isn't that correct?
A. Correct.

CHA RMAN So that it starts on 18th December '14, isn't that correct?
MR. MEGU NESS: Yes.
CHA RMAN Yes.
MR. MEGU NNESS: And goes --
59 Q. I think you discovered that it was in use by Superintendent Taylor between the 18th December 2014 and the 19th February 2015?
A. I don't have a copy of the statement in this volume.

60 Q. In this volume. Perhaps just looking at your report.
A. The report is --

CHA RMAN Yes, we have the evidence from Chief Superintendent Clerkin, it wasn't challenged, we can take it as a given.
A. Okay.

61 Q. MR. MEGU NESS: Yes. You record that the user of the phone was David Taylor and there is a device account,
davidtaylor@garda.ie stored in the memory of the phone?
A. Yes.

62 Q. I think you reported on 950 contacts in that phone, is that correct?
A. That's correct, in excess of 950 .

63 Q. Yes. And you set out contact information associated with some potentially relevant parties from page 2 of your report onwards, including at number 6, cormac o'Keeffe --
A. Yes.

64 Q. -- Debbie McCann at number 7; number 9, Eavan Murray; number 16, John Burke; number 18, John Mooney; number 20, Juno McEnroe; number 25, Michael O'Toole; number 37, Paul Reynolds; and number 38, Paul williams. Is that correct?
A. That's correct.

65 Q. I think you report on calls made and received on pages 3 to 4?
A. Yes.

66 Q. And you report on the SMS message history commencing at 10:55 page 5 of your report, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.

67 Q. And there's a number of texts there which have been redacted by the Tribunal at present?
A. Yes.

68 Q. And the full details of those are in your original report?
A. They are.

69 Q. Yes. I think you report on 600 emails there which you
considered not to be of any relevance in the matter?
A. That's correct.

And I think were your findings the same in relation to SM2, that, having regard to the search terms and your analysis, there was no evidence found on the phone to support either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. That's correct.

71 Q. Right. Could we turn to SM4, upon which you reported, and it's dealt with at page 4735 of volume 17. And your statement commences there, I think do you have that?
A. I do have it.

72 Q. And I think this is reported as SM4, a Nokia mobile in a brown envelope?
A. Correct.

73 Q. This was presented to you by the Tribunal?
A. It was.

74 Q. And the IMEI number is reported on at page 2 of your statement?
A. Yes.
Q. And this was a Nokia Lumia 930 --
A. Correct.

76 Q. -- which was reported as having been seized by Chief Superintendent Clerkin?
A. Yes.

77 Q. okay. And I think from your examination, you report at the bottom of page 2 of your statement that it was ascertained that this mobile handset was used by

Superintendent Taylor from approximately the 24th February to the 29th May 2015?
A. Correct.

78 Q. And al1 of the recovered information from the memory pertained to Superintendent Taylor?
A. Correct.
Q. I think it was examined for the same purpose and with the same search terms by you?
A. Yes.

80 Q. And I think your conclusion was that no evidence was recovered from it to support either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. That is correct.

81 Q. I think your report on the matter commences at page 4738?
A. Yes.

82 Q. You report that there were 9 -- sorry, 580 contacts?
A. In excess of.

83 Q. In excess of that. You set out a number of those, commencing at page 2 of your report onwards?
A. Yes.

84 Q. And included there at number 5 is Debbie McCann --
A. Yes.

85 Q. -- number 18 John McCann; number 19 John Burke; number 20, Juno McEnroe; number 28, Michael O'Toole, number 39, Paul Reynolds; number 40, Paul Williams - is that correct?
A. That's correct.

86 Q. You set out the call history log there?
A. Yes.

87 Q. And you set out the message history log there, and include a number of SMS messages which have been redacted by the Tribuna1?
A. Yes, that's correct.

88 Q. But they were located by you on the phone?
A. Yes.

89 Q. There is a viber message history reported upon from page 7 onwards?
A. Yes.

90 Q. And your conclusion obviously remains the same, there was no evidence to support the claims based upon the search criteria given to you by the Tribunal?
A. That's correct.

91 Q. Could we turn to SM6, which is dealt with in the volume 11:00 at page 4749. I am sorry, I meant to deal with item number 5 next, sorry. SM6, which is at 4626. And SM6 is a Nokia Lumia 520, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

92 Q. And this was provided to you by the Tribunal?
A. Yes, it was.

93 Q. And you set out the IMEI number at page 2 of your statement?
A. Yes.

94 Q. And Chairman, that is the IMEI number of a phone that 11:01 had been issued to Superintendent Taylor -- or Commissioner Callinan, which had been handed back and has been faulty and was repaired and was issued to Superintendent Howard and this was disclosed to the

Tribunal and provided to the Tribuna1. And I think you examined this phone --
CHA RMAN And the dates for that phone -- oh, yes, you are going to tell me.
MR. MEGU NNESS: Yes.
CHA RMAN It would have been wiped prior to being given to -- in the ordinary routine.
MR. MEGU NNESS: Yes.
Q.

I think, could you just detail the period that you found that this phone was operational for in relation to Superintendent Howard?

CHA RMAK It seems to be June to July of '15, is it?
A. The SMS message history was in the period the 30th August '14 to 8th July ' 15.
CHA RMAN okay.
MR. MEGI NNESS: The call history was for a shorter period, it would appear?
A. It was, yes.

97 Q. And I think you determined that the user of this SM6, this Nokia, was Detective Superintendent Tony Howard, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And all of the recovered information from the memory pertained to him?
A. It did.

99 Q. And no information was recovered that was attributed to the previous user of the phone, as reported to you?
A. No, no.

100 Q. And did you find that to be consistent with that having
been the subject of a factory reset prior to the detective superintendent coming into possession of it?
A. That's correct, yes.

101 Q. Yes. I think it's obvious then no evidence was recovered from the phone which related to any of the search terms or matters of relevance to support any claim made by Superintendent Howard --
A. No.

102 Q. -- Superintendent Taylor.
A. No.

103 Q. And could I ask you then to deal with SM8, which is reported upon by you in Volume 17 at page 4749, and this was an iPad, is that correct?
A. Yes, yes, an Apple iPad.

104 Q. And this was received from the Tribunal?
A. Yes, it was.

105 Q. And could you just explain the methodology for examining this particular iPad; what is used to examine the contents of the iPad, including any deleted matters?
A. It's handled exactly the same as a mobile phone, the same software is used, but in this case the iPad was passcode locked when it was received into the laboratory, and there was three attempts left at entering the passcode before it was -- it would be wiped.

106 Q. And were there any unsuccessful attempts recorded as having been made to open it before you received it?
A. Well, it was on -- it was on its seventh attempt out of
ten, with three remaining, and three possible passwords were provided, so I didn't attempt any of them.

107 Q. Yes.
A. But we sent it to an external company to get it unlocked.

108 Q. But were those three passwords provided by the Tribunal as having come from An Garda Síochána --
A. They were, yes.

109 Q. -- as being the appropriate passwords?
A. Yes. But again, there was no degree of certainty with them as to which was the correct one.

110 Q. Yes. These were possible alternative ones that were being asserted as being the ones likely to open it, is that right?
A. That is correct.

111 Q. Okay. Were they in fact the correct passcodes?
A. I'm sorry, I can't answer that at the moment, I'm not -- I would have to check back on the notes, what the passcode was.
112 Q. Yes. Did you use any of the passcodes to open it or did you open it otherwise?
A. Opened it otherwise. I erred on the side of caution because there was three attempts left and three possible passcodes, if the wrong passcode was entered the device would have been wiped so I thought it best not to attempt any of them.

113 Q. Yes.
A. And to get it --

114 Q. Is that a regular setting or is it a customised
setting, that the contents are wiped after ten unsuccessful attempts?
A. It's an option available to the user to set. It's quite common with iPads belonging to a company, many companies would set that for security reasons. okay. I think at page 2 of your statement you detail the model and the serial number - and, Chairman, that is consistent with the iPad that was surrendered to the Tribunal on behalf of Commissioner o'sullivan in June of 2017 - and I think the user was recorded as Nóirín o'Sullivan, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

116 Q. And I think from the data recovered, it was determined that the item was used by the former Commissioner from approximately the 14th May 2014 to 21st November 2016?
A. That's correct.

117 Q. I think you examined the iPad to see whether there was any data relevant to the Tribunal's terms of reference --
A. That's correct.

118 Q. -- by reference to search terms, and I think no evidence was recovered from that to support a claim made by Superintendent Taylor that he was instructed by former Commissioner Martin Callinan to brief the media against Sergeant Maurice McCabe or the allegation that the former Commissioner was aware of the said instruction?
A. That's correct.

119 Q. And I think you indicate that the period of relevance
was both within and without the specified period --
A. Yes.
Q. -- of time there.

CHA RMAK I think, Mr. McGuinness, the necessity to have the matter unlocked was because of Commissioner O'Sullivan indicating that she had forgotten the four-digit password?

MR. MEGU NESS: Yes, and there were three ones then proffered with it.
CHAN RMAN Yes. As potential possibles.
MR. MEGU NNESS: Yes.
A. Yes.

CHA RMAN And if they were wrong, that was it.
MR. MEGUNESS: I think your report, a 67-page report on the iPad commences at page 4752 of the volume. I think you set out a list of contacts, many of which are Garda email contacts?
A. That's correct.
Q. Yes. And commencing from page 4 onwards, from page 4755 up until page 4794, you report on a number of potentially relevant emails, and I think you had provided an earlier report in January of 2018 of -- in 11:10 relation to emails that were then brought to the Tribunal's attention in connection with the O'Higgins module?
A. That's correct.

124 Q. And I think you were asked to modify your search by searching for a number of persons named within the Department of Justice, and you reported on those also at the time?
A. At the time, yes.

MR. MEGI NNESS: Yes. And, Chairman, those have been already considered in the context of the O'Higgins module and they contained, as you may we11 recal1, a number of emails from the Commissioner to the Minister at the time and to members of her Department.
CHA RMAN Yes. And all of those were actually given in open evidence before the Tribunal during that hearing.
MR. MEGI NNESS: Yes, yes. But none of those related to Superintendent Taylor or his allegations.
125 Q. And your conclusion was that there was nothing on the iPad relevant to the claims made by Superintendent Taylor, although these other matters were relevant to the Tribunal's other terms of reference?
A. That's correct.

126 Q. You also reported on another phone, SM7, and that's to be found in this volume at 4498. And this was an Apple iPhone 4 received from the Tribunal, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.

127 Q. There's an IMEI number at page 2 of your statement?
A. Yes.

MR. MEGI NESS: Chairman, that is one of the phones issued to the former Commissioner O'Sullivan, which was
set out in Superintendent Flynn's report, it's an Apple iPhone 4.
128 Q. And at the time you examined it you determined that the user was a son of the former Commissioner?
A. That's correct.

129 Q. And there was no evidence found on that to support a claim made by Superintendent Taylor --
A. No, there wasn't.

130
Q. -- of the type indicated?
A. Yes.
Q. You also examined SM 12 --

CHA RMAK Can I just go back to SM7, Mr. McGuinness? Clearly if it's used by somebody else there is nothing that one would certainly expect to find in relation to anything to do with this, but the relevant dates, I suppose, just for the sake of exactitude, when it was used, when it ceased, when it started, when it stopped, are we in a position just to indicate that?
MR. MEGU NESS: Yes.
132 Q. What did you find in terms of the use of it commencing, 11:13 relevant to --
A. Sorry, it commenced on the 1st February 2014 and --

133 Q. And that is, the then current user you believe commenced using it on 1st February, is that right?
A. That's correct, '14.

134 Q. Yes.
CHA RMAN So it's within the target 23 months but it has nothing whatever to do with anything to do with law, Garda business, allegations, nothing?
A. No.
Q. MR. MEGU NNESS: None of the Commissioner's contacts or SMSs or --
A. No. A11 information recovered from it pertained to the former Commissioner's son.
Q. Yes. SM12 then, just turn to that. That's a Samsung Galaxy S7 and I think you deal with that commencing in our papers at 4631. And, Chairman, this represents a Samsung Galaxy, one of a pair identified by the Commissioner as being used by her and which was offered to the Tribunal in June of 2017 and then later provided by the Commissioner. And you report on this in your statement dealing with it commences at page 4631. You use the same methodology in examining the phone, is that correct?
A. That is correct.

137 Q. And you recovered no evidence from it in terms of supporting either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. That is correct.

CHA RMAK Do we have dates for use in that one? was that possible to recover that?
A. It was used approximately from the 26th April 2017 to the 20th July 2017.
A. Yes.
Q. And it includes a number of journalists in the contacts there at that point, isn't that correct?
A. That is correct.

CHA RMAN Or it's again former Commissioner o'sullivan as opposed to -- yes.
MR. MEGU NESS: Yes, former Commissioner o'Sullivan.
140 Q. There is, at number 12, there is a Debbie McCann; number 13, Dave Taylor; there is number 41, John McCann; number 42, John Mooney; number 81, a Paul R. You set out the call history log, the SMS history, the page 7 to 23 of your report, which there's a number of SMS messages, some of which have been redacted at present?
A. That's correct.
Q. You set out emails from page 25 onwards. But in short, there was nothing which, in your opinion, supported either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. That's correct.

142 Q. I think the final phone you reported on was SM13, which is the other Samsung Galaxy proffered by the former Commissioner, and you report on that in your statement at 4671 of our volume, and that is a Samsung Galaxy S6? 11:17
A. Yes.

143 Q. And can you report on the period of use of that phone?
A. From approximately the 29th May 2016 to the 12th October 2016.
144 Q. Yes. And I think you recovered no evidence from the 11:18 phone that supported either of the claims made by Superintendent Taylor?
A. That's correct.
Q. In your report commencing at page 4674 , you set out the
contacts, you set out the SMS messages from page 5 of your report onwards?
A. Yes.

146 Q. Some of which have personal phone numbers redacted?
A. Mm-hmm.

147 Q. And you set out the emails from page 7 onwards --
A. Yes.

148 Q. -- many of which relate to the Department of Justice and contacts that had been had and some of which are replicated from the iPad in terms of content?
A. That's correct.

149 Q. Would that support a conclusion that she was accessing her emails via her phone or getting them also sent to her phone?
A. Yes, yes.

150 Q. And there was nothing else of relevance on that phone, as far as you could see?
A. No.

151 Q. okay. I think that concludes the nine items that you examined on behalf of the Tribunal, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

MR. MEGI NNESS: Okay. Thank you. Would you answer any questions anyone else may have?
MR. MEGARRY: I don't have any questions, Chairman.

THE WTNESS WAS CROSS- EXAM NED BY MS. BURNS:

MS. BURNS: I just have a few short questions. Ms. Strachan, just in relation to --
CHA RMAN Maybe you would te11 Ms. Strachan who you are.

MS. BURNS: Sorry, my apologies, Ms. Strachan. My name is Tara Burns and I appear on behalf of Superintendent Taylor.
A. okay.

154 Q.
Just in relation to your examination of SM1 and specifically if I could ask page 4616 of the Tribunal papers to be placed on screen, my understanding, Ms. Strachan, is that this is your examination relating to former Commissioner Martin Callinan's phone and specifically it's page 6 of your report, and at item number 35 there is a note of a text at 17:39:59 on the date of the 28/3/2014, and it reads:

## "Commi ssi oner

I feel so sorry for the way you have been treated.
It's despi cable. You will al ways be the boss to me and I amproud to have served under you and worked with you. You were inspirational to me. I wi sh you and your family all the best for the future, and if I can do anything to hel p, pl ease let me know. Dave. "

And it's noted "del et ed carved". That was found on former Commissioner callinan's phone, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. your examination of one of the phones of former Commissioner o'Sullivan, and specifically it's SM12 and if I could ask that page 4646 of the Tribunal papers be placed on screen. And at the end of that page, I hope, at item number 29, yes, just there, I think that that reads, it's from and there is -- I think there probably is a number that is redacted?
A. Yes, that would be the telephone number.

And it reads "Eugene Corcoran" and the date is
13/2/2017, the time 13:39, and then a text message:
"DPP has di rected no prosecuti on agai nst D Tayl or." That is a text found on former Commissioner o'sullivan's phone, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

157 Q. And just one further thing that I just don't understand more so than me having a question necessarily in relation to it. I note that in the course of your reports you are aware of use of a phone from a particular day, but then when you analyse the call
history it seems that the call history is at a later time, closer to when the phone in fact was no longer used; what is the reason for that?
A. That -- sorry, that is the information that was recovered from the phone. The full content of recovered.

158 Q. I see.
A. So it's -- there is internal housekeeping and whilst
more information is put on the phone, other information is effectively wrote over, and that's what was recovered, the cal1 history that was recovered from the phone. There is nothing to suggest that there wasn't call history prior to it, it's just $I$ haven't recovered it.

159 Q. I see. So in my very simple terms, is it that in terms of a call history, a phone only retains the call history for the last, we'11 say, 200 calls, or it's probably less than that even, but any calls prior to that are no longer retained on the handset, is that correct?
A. It depends on the particular phone and what way the user has set it it up.
160 Q. I see.
A. A user can set it up to delete call history once it reaches a certain number, or the phone will do it automatically as, for example, it runs out of space --
161 Q. I see.
A. -- to fit other information on the phone. It really depends on the make and model of the phone and the way the user has set it up.

MS. BURNS: I see. Thank you very much.

CHA RMAN Mr. Ó Muircheartaigh?
MR. Ó MU RCHEARTAI GH No questions.
MR. DONAL MEGU NNESS: No questions, Chairman.
CHA RMAN Was there anything?
MR. MEGU NESS: Nothing further.

CHA RMAN I don't know, Ms. Strachan, how many hours in all have the Forensic Service of Northern Ireland spent on work for the Tribunal between coming up and down to Dublin visiting Garda Headquarters, meeting us up there and doing these examinations, man and woman hours, are you in a position to give us even a ballpark figure?
A. I am sorry, I don't know the exact number of hours, I would have to -- that would have to be worked out. It is recorded somewhere, it could be found out. But a considerable amount of time.

CHA RMAN We11, it's months of work effectively.
A. Oh, yes. I have been working on this approaching a year.

CHA RMAN And can I just, a brief note of thanks. You have done a great job, you have always been very pleasant and the thoroughness and commitment has been outstanding, and thank you very much.
A. Thank you.

CHA RMAN And to Mr. McConne11 as we11.
A. Thank you very much.

## THE WTNESS THEN WTHDREW

MS. LEADER: The next witness, sir, is Mark McConnel1.

MR. SI MDN MARK MECONELL, HAM NG BEEN SUORN, WAS

## DI RECTLY EXAM NED BY MS. LEADER:

162 Q.
MS. LEADER: The various reports that Mr. McConne11 prepared are to be found in volume 17 at different page numbers and I will refer to them as I deal with them in evidence. Mr. McConne11, if you could first of all outline your qualifications?
A. Yes. I have a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Electronics, Electronic Engineering, and a Master's Degree in Forensic Computing.
163 Q. And I think you, along with the last witness, are currently employed about the Forensic Service of Northern Ireland?
A. That's correct, yes.

164 Q. How long have you worked for the Forensic Service of Northern Ireland?
A. Fifteen years now.
A. Essentially it's in digital and electronics forensics. So, the examination of anything of a digital or
electronic -- that has digital or electronic capacity, computers, mobile phones, and any other items with a plug, switch or a wire.

CHA RMAN Mr. McConne11, I don't know if you can move that device a bit closer to you there.
A. Sorry.

166 Q. MS. LEADER: And you, in common with the last witness, are an independent person working for the Forensic Service of Northern Ireland?
A. Yes. We are independent and impartial. We do
examinations for a wide range of customers and offer a wide range of forensic services, not just digital.
167 Q. Okay. Now, I think for the purposes of the Tribunal, you conducted a number of examinations, and if I could just, first of all, summarise exactly what you looked at, and we will go into each of those in detail --
A. Yes.

168 Q. -- in turn. So, the first thing you looked at was a laptop computer which is referred to as SM10, which was previously in the possession of Superintendent David Taylor, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

169 Q. Thereafter, we are going to deal with an image of that laptop computer, which we refer to as SM5, which the Gardaí prepared when they were investigating, conducting their investigations?
A. Sorry, the SM10 was David Taylor's laptop image --

170 Q. Image. And SM5?
A. -- and SM5 was the actual laptop itself, yes.

171 Q. The laptop computer. So SM5 is his laptop and SM10 is 11:29 the image which the guards prepared, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

172 Q. You also looked at the Spotlight system, is that correct?
A. Yes, I did.

173 Q. You looked at former Commissioner Callinan's laptop computer, is that correct?
A. I did, yes.

174 Q. And that is SM23.
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. You looked at a wide range of Garda systems, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

Right. So they are the areas that you were responsible for in particular, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Now, if I could first of all ask you about the Spotlight system as we have been dealing with the press queries generally, and that appears at page 4506 of the materials, your report in relation to that.
A. Yes.

179 Q. Now, I think before you looked at the Spotlight system, you were aware that it was a database used by the Press office in An Garda Síochána, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

180 Q. And you looked at that system on the 24th November 2017 at the request of the Tribunal?
A. That's correct, yes.

181 Q. And you, in summary, conducted a search of that system, looking for entries relevant to Sergeant Maurice
A. That's correct, yes.

182 Q. And all search results relating to Sergeant Maurice McCabe you downloaded on to a USB stick, is that
correct?
A. I did, yes.

183 Q. So I think the methodology was, you searched the system for McCabe, you looked at the results and any McCabe which was Sergeant Maurice McCabe, you downloaded it on 11:31 to the USB stick?
A. That's correct, yes.

184 Q. And you handed it over to the Tribuna1?
A. Yes.

185 Q. And just for the purposes of the Tribunal, the contents of that USB stick have been distributed in Volume 11 of the materials, sir. And that begins at page 2874 of the materials. Now, the next thing I want to ask you about is Superintendent Taylor's computers, his laptop computer, which is SM5 and the report begins at page 11:31 4520, and the mirror image of that laptop computer, SM10, which begins at 4502 of the materials. Now, just generally, your instruction given to you by the Tribunal, if you could confirm this to be the case, that you were to search that computer for any material that would show or tend to show that there was a campaign or an instruction or anything that can be interpreted as such, to brief the media with material that was negative to Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

186 Q. And you were asked to search the computer for that kind of material between July 2012 and May 2014 ?
A. That is correct, yes.

187 Q. And that, you may know at this stage that this refers
to the period of time when Superintendent Taylor was the Garda Press officer?
A. Yes.

188 Q. And in order to identify any such material, I think you were supplied with a series of keywords that would assist you in your searches for words that are likely to throw up material of that nature, is that correct?
A. Yes, there was a list of search terms, yes.
Q. Yes. And those search terms, if you could confirm this to be the case, include the words "McCabe", "Maurice", Ms. D, in her correct name --
A. Yes.

190 Q. -- both first name and surname, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

191 Q. The word "rat", "Oisin"?
A. Yes.

192 Q. The word "whistle", a separate word "blower" and then "whistleblower" together, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

193 Q. "Person of the year" as a phrase, is that correct?
A. Yes.

194 Q. "Child"?
A. Yes.

195 Q. "Child abuse"?
A. Yes.

196 Q. "Kiddie fiddler"?
A. Yes.

197 Q. "Negative publicity"?
A. Yes.

198 Q. "Reputation" and "RTÉ"?
A. Yes.

199 Q. Is that correct?
A. That's correct.

200 Q. So in all of the searches that you conducted, that was your instruction, to look for material that would suggest that there was some sort of a campaign, if I can put it that way, or an instruction to disburse negative material in relation to Sergeant McCabe and you used those keywords in common over all your searches, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

201 Q. Now, in relation to Superintendent Taylor's computer, the relevant report is at page 4520 of the materials, and I will take you through that. It was supplied to you by the Tribunal, is that correct?
A. That is correct, yes.

202 Q. And you outline the procedure you followed in examining the Tribunal -- or in examining the computer, essentially you downloaded an image on that computer, 11:34 is that correct, and you examined your download?
A. Yes.

203 Q. A11 right. Now, it's a De11 computer, is that correct?
A. That's correct, it's a De11 Latitude computer.

204 Q. A11 right. And it had been active from the period the 11:35 1st July 2012 to the 31st May -- to October 2014, I beg your pardon. So active from the 31st July 2012 to the 8th October 2014. It's included in your comments section at page 4523 of your report.
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. All right. And during that period of time, Superintendent Taylor didn't have access to his Garda email account on that computer, is that correct?
A. That's correct. On a visit to Garda Headquarters IT on 11:35 21st September 2017, it was verbally confirmed that during that period Garda email was not available on issued laptops.
Q. A11 right. And I think you found, and this is at the top of page 4523 of your report, there were 149,339 search hits --
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. -- produced from a search using those keywords, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And you reviewed each of those search hits and none of them displayed an instruction or any information that would suggest that there was an instruction given to disseminate negative material in relation to Sergeant McCabe?
A. That's correct, yes.

209 Q. A11 right. And I think your notes and so on are available should people need to see them in relation to your search of that laptop, is that correct?
A. Yes.

210 Q. Now, if I could turn then to the laptop image, the report begins at page 4502 of the materials. And as $I$ understand it, the laptop image contains a subset of the information which is actually on the laptop, is
that correct?
A. That is correct. It would contain all the logical information, the information that is available to the user but some of -- the unused space was not part of that image.
Q.

Okay. And that's not unusual in any way, is that correct?
A. Well, essentially the size of the image is much reduced because it doesn't include the unused space but the unused space can contain information that has been previously deleted and essentially that space is marked as unused. So it would not be available for any user of a laptop to actually see the content of that unused space.
212 Q. All right. And when you searched the laptop image, I think you found 90 -- and this is at page 4505 of the materials -- 90,819 hits generated from a search using the keywords, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

And the lesser number is explained by the lesser material on the laptop image, is that correct?
A. Yes. The unallocated space was not available so there were no hits from that area, which was quite extensive.

214 Q. Yes. And in relation to the hit, the search hits that were generated, you reviewed each of those hits, is that correct?
A. I did, yes.
Q. And you didn't find anything on each of those hits that would suggest that there was an instruction given to

Superintendent Taylor to disseminate negative information in relation to Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

And again, your notes, etcetera, are available, is that 11:39 correct?
A. Yes, yes, if needed, yes.

217 Q. All right. The next thing I want to ask you about is former Commissioner Callinan's laptop computer, and that is SM23, and it's at page 4518 of the materials. Now, I think you followed the same procedure in relation to examining that computer; you downloaded the computer, is that correct?
A. Not on this case. Essentially the computer was examined at Garda Headquarters IT section and the hard disk was removed and connected to a ripe locker to make sure that no data was changed on the hard disk and then it was examined in a live manner rather than actually making an image first and then recording it because of the nature of the examination, it was to confirm certain issues prior to running searches if necessary but it was found that searches weren't necessary.
218 Q. A11 right. Now, the Tribunal has already heard that, in accordance with Garda protocol, that computer was made available to former Commissioner Callinan after he 11:41 retired, he made arrangements to buy it and the computer was cleaned of all material that had been on it, in accordance with Garda protocol?
A. Yes.
Q. And what did your examination conclude?
A. My examination confirmed that; that the dates that were found on the laptop for the installation of the new operating system were consistent with the indicated time-line and that the previously-held data that was on 11:41 that device, whenever it was an official laptop, was non-recoverable.
A11 right. So that conclusion appears at page 4519 of the materials, we can see there that you conclude:
"Former Commi ssi oner Callinan's I aptop was found to have been sanitised and re-installed in accordance with Garda IT protocol. The I aptop user's account "Martin Calli nan" was created on Friday, 4th April 2014. Any data from when Mr. Callinan was in post as Commi ssioner 11:42 is no longer available and non-recoverable."
A. That's correct, yes.

221 Q. Yes.
CHA RMAN So that's within ten days of his resignation?
MG. LEADER: Exactly.
And you conducted that examination in Garda Headquarters on the 4th January of this year, is that correct? That would appear from page 4518 of the materials.
A. 4th January 2018, that's correct, yes.

223 Q. Now, I think you are aware that the Tribunal has a term of reference asking that we examine all electronic and paper files relating to Sergeant McCabe held by An

Garda Síochána and to consider any material therein relevant to other terms of reference which relate to the dissemination of material negative to Sergeant McCabe?
A. Yes.
Q. And you actually did that, you attended at Garda Headquarters from the 19th to the 22nd September 2017, examining various Garda systems, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Now, I think prior to you attending in Garda Headquarters, you had received two documents from An Garda Síochána, is that correct?
A. Yes.

228 Q. And those documents have recently been circulated in redacted format, you obviously got them in unredacted format, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

229 Q. And if page 6877 could be put up on screen in front of you, that is an An Garda Síochána request for information from the Disclosures Tribunal and the next page, you will see the contents, it provides an executive summary - "Garda IT Servi ce Cat al ogue, provi si on of access, contents of Pul se and cont act poi nts" - is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

230 Q. That is the document you were given beforehand?
A. That is the document.

231 Q. And if I could just turn to an example of the Garda Service Catalogue at page 6881, and this will have to be rotated. It provides a list of various applications that are available to members of An Garda Síochána, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

233 Q. In very crude terms.
A. Yes.
Q. So, for instance, and this is just as an example, it shows "AFI S", which is the Automated Fingerprint Identification System?
A. That's correct.
Q. And then there is "AFIS CT visa" which is a system
allowing for the receipt of files containing fingerprint data; and then underneath that there is "AGS portal", which is a web portal where the user can view Garda information; and then there is a system which automatically identifies number plate
A. That's correct, yes.

236 Q. And the last one on that page is a bomb scare database system?
A. That's correct.

237 Q. And the document goes on like that for a number of pages, until page, $I$ think it's 6892 of the materials, and it lists all the various Garda systems/databases, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Now, as I understand it, those databases are tailor-made for the information which they are designed to keep and the systems that assist the guards in their work, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

239 Q. So, for instance, if I was trying to input negative material about Sergeant McCabe into the fingerprint section, we will just take that as an example --
A. Yes.

240 Q. -- it wouldn't take it, is that correct?
A. No, that's correct, yes.

241 Q. And you satisfied yourself that that was the case, is that correct?
A. I did, yes, yes.

242 Q. So I think what you did is, you requested -- and also in that document there was a summary provided to you of the contents of the Pulse system which is at page 6893, is that correct? And that will come up, you can just identify that.
A. Yes, that's correct.

243 Q. And I think again, in very simple terms, the Pulse system is a database of information available to An Garda Síochána and that lists the main contacts --
contents of the Pulse system, is that correct?
A. Yes, it's a series of interconnected databases, yes.

244 Q. A11 right. And after you looked, considered that document, a further document was made available to you which the cover page appears at page 6895 of the materials, which is a service catalogue "Additional Inf ormation" and the summary of that document is on the following page. And you asked for further information on the file share cluster, and we have heard some evidence in relation to the file share system from Superintendent Ryan yesterday, the correspondence register, record ICT on line services, and then there are two matters which are redacted and there is the Computer Crime Investigation Unit and the post log, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

245 Q. And that information was made readily available to you by members of An Garda Síochána, is that correct?
A. We have the series of documents, yes, from --

246 Q. Yes. And I think in relation to the -- at the risk of getting too technical, the correspondence register is exactly what it says, it's a register which records correspondence to and from Garda Headquarters, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

247 Q. And the RECORD system is the successor to that system, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And there is a lot of information given to you in
respect of the migration of material or the starting of, when various stations used the record service, is that correct?
A. Yes, I believe that occurred in 2009/2010.

249 Q. On a phased basis?
A. On a phased basis, yes.

250 Q. And that information was given to you. Now, I think I should say there were some systems that you weren't granted access to and there are two witnesses tomorrow to deal with those systems, Superintendent Brunton and former chief Superintendent kirwan, you were made aware of that?
A. Yes, they are privileged systems, yes. Privileged systems. And there was a different way of searching those systems?
CHA RMAN we are talking there about crime and security, is that right?
MG. LEADER: Yes.
CHA RMAN which, in fact, I searched in my own way. M. LEADER: Supervised. And there are two witnesses tomorrow to deal with those systems.

252 Q. So I think following on your perusing of that system and various systems and the gathering of information, you decided to concentrate your efforts in relation to the following systems, and I will go through each of these, not particularly in order, the summary is on page 4608 of your report.
A. Yes.

253 Q. The first one is the AGS portal, and I think one of the
ways you narrowed your searches down was, in relation to, perhaps we'11 take the fingerprint example again, because it wouldn't accept any information other than fingerprint-related information it wasn't going to be searched, isn't that correct?
A. That's --

254 Q. That was one of the criteria you applied?
A. That was correct.
Q. And the other criteria you applied was the systems which the relevant parties, those being Commissioner Callinan, Commissioner o'Sullivan and Superintendent Taylor, had access to, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. So the first narrowing down of the search was would it hold information -- can it hold information that is likely to be relevant to the terms of reference which we are supposed to be searching for, is that correct?
A. Yes, that's correct, yes.

257 Q. And the first system you looked at was AGS portal, and that's described in the manual document, if I can refer 11:51 to it that way, at 6681, and which should come up on the screen in front of you, sorry, 6881, I beg your pardon. I wonder if a hard copy could be made available to the witness. It's just not reading it. 6881. It's the most recently distributed one, volume ${ }^{11: 52}$ 25.

CHA RMAN Do we have that, I wonder?
Mb. LEADER: It's better now, yes. You can read it now, Mr. McConnel1. Yes.

258 Q. "AGS portal: The AGS portal is a web portal where the user can vi ew Garda i nf or mation. "
A. Yes, that's correct.

And that adequately describes it in your view, is that correct?
A. Yes.
A. Yes.

262 Q. Yes. So when you searched that system, it generated 25 searched hits, you reviewed each individual one of those and they were all found to be official documents and not of significance and not matters that would suggest that there was an instruction given or that there was in actual fact material being disseminated which would negatively reflect on Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That is correct, yes.

263 Q. Now, I want to skip the correspondence register and file share just for the minute, and if we could then look at the Mail Meter searches, which is, in essence, the email system, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

264 Q. Now, yesterday we heard evidence from Superintendent Pat Ryan which, he explained to us that there was an archiving system employed in An Garda Síochána which archives all emails going back a considerable period of
time, and I think you searched that system using the keywords, is that correct?
A. I did, yes.

And in relation to what you found in relation to the searches, you found 71 search hits on Commissioner Callinan's email and none -- you reviewed each of those individually and none of them were significant insofar as they were impacted on our terms of reference?
A. That's correct. The emails and any attachments that were attached to the emails as well.
266 Q. You opened each one of those?
A. I did, yes.

267 Q. And in relation to former Commissioner o'sullivan's email you found 480 search hits on her email account and did you review each of those individually?
A. Yes.

268 Q. And were any of them of significance insofar as what you were looking for in that time, as you have already outlined?
A. Not in accordance with the terms.

269 Q. A11 right. And in relation to Superintendent Taylor's emails, I think there were 692 search hits on his emails, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

270 Q. And that would be using the keywords, is that correct?
A. Yes.

271 Q. And you reviewed each of those individually and none of them were of significance, is that correct?
A. No, there was no instruction to inform the press
negatively.
272 Q. All right. I just want to leave the Pulse and record just for the minute. You also had decided that the Computer Crime Investigation Unit was an area which potentially could have had negative material stored on it in relation to Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That was one of the shortlisted systems, yes. Yes. And the description of that system is at page 6882 of that manual that I referred to earlier on. I think our system is now reading it, yes. It's called -- it's described as "Forensic investigation of computers using CCIU database".
A. That's correct, yes.

274 Q. And I think when you looked further into that, you found that the former commissioners, both former Commissioner Callinan and former Commissioner o'Sullivan, and also Superintendent David Taylor, had no access to that system, is that correct?
A. That was correct, yes.
Q. So you didn't search it, that being the case?
A. No, it wasn't searched, yes. We made inquiries and were informed that there was no access for the parties to that system.
276 Q. All right. okay. The next thing that was on the shortlist was the Cohort Medical Access System and that 11:56 is described at page 6883 of the materials as the medical system used by staff in the medical centre. And I think when you look further into that matter you found that it became active on the 24th June 2015,
which was after the time period you were searching in, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

277 Q. All right. You also then shortlisted the fixed charge processing system, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

278 Q. And you noted that none of the parties had accessed that system during the relevant time period, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

279 Q. And you left your searches at that --
A. Yes.

280 Q. -- at that stage.
A. Yes.

281 Q. Yes. The next thing that is listed is GEMS, Garda Employment Management System, and that is described at 6886 of the materials, in redacted format, which is, it's described as a management information system used by the Internal Affairs section. "This application's purpose is to store key metrics on complaints recei ved in relation to menbers of An Garda Sí ochána. " That describes the system adequately?
A. It does, yes.

282 Q. And what you found when you looked further into that was that the system wasn't in place during the
timeframe of interest and since auditing was only introduced in October 2016 there is nothing of relevance to the Tribunal on the GEM System, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

283 Q. And you satisfied yourself with that. The next thing that was shortlisted was GRIPS, Garda Regional Integrated Personne1 System, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

284 Q. And that is at 6887 of the materials, it's described in redacted format again as "a systemtracki ng and updating members' personal records throughout the country", is that correct?
A. That's correct.

285 Q. And in actual fact, that system, no auditing is available on it, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And that means you can't search it, am I correct in saying that?
A. Yes, you wouldn't be able to say who had accessed it and when.
Q. All right. okay. And also, you found that the parties of interest, those being the two commissioners and Superintendent Taylor, didn't have access to the
system; therefore, on that basis you satisfied yourself that there was nothing of relevance to the Tribunal, is that correct?
A. Yes, that's correct.

288 Q. The next thing that was shortlisted was ICT online Services, and that is described at page 6888 of the materials. And I think, in essence, that is a service where various members of An Garda Síochána can request access to other databases that they may not have access
to or other applications, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Yes. And what you found in relation to that was, when you searched it, that nothing of significance to the Tribunal was located during searches, is that correct?
A. Yes. There's only a small period of overlap between the time in which the system went live and the date frame of interest to the Tribunal, and during that date frame there were only a small number of services available via the system, which were a web access, email and standard Pulse.
291 Q.
okay. All right. And when you searched that system, was it using the keywords and applying the criteria, is that correct?
A. Essentially, looking at that system, it would be to look to see who actually had access.
Q. Had access?
A. Yes. So it was a matter of accessing permissions, rather than actual key-word searches.
293 Q. Key-word search. All right. The next thing that was shortlisted was the NBCI database, the National Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and I think that may be totally redacted, the description of that database, but I think it's no secret, it deals with serious criminal matters?
A. Yes, that's correct, yes.
Q. Yes. And your search of that, you found that the persons of interest to the Tribunal do not have direct access to the system. while that may seem unusual, I think the system is that they go through somebody else who has direct access to the system, if they need information from it, is that correct?
A. That's correct. We made inquiries and that was the responses that we got.
Q. A11 right. And you then eliminated that database, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. In relation to, finally, before I go into the detail of what you actually found, the post $10 g$ system, which is described at page 6890 of the materials, which is exactly what it says, it's a logging system to record correspondence, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Yes. And you discovered that the commissioners and Superintendent Taylor did not have access to the system and you eliminated that from your inquiries, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Now, in relation to the correspondence register which that is exactly what is suggested it is, it's a register of correspondence, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. It's described as "a local access database used to trace correspondence sent by each department in Garda

Headquarters", is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And it's used to keep track of correspondence coming in and out of the office?
A. Yes.
Q. Yes. So what you found when you searched that was that there were 12 search hits for correspondence in relation to Maurice McCabe?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And when you looked for an electronic version of that file there was none to be found, is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Yes. It wouldn't be unusual. Now, the next thing of significance, I think you looked at, was the RECORD system, which is at 68 -- described at page 6891 of the materials, and that is, as I understand it, the successor to the correspondence register, is that correct?
A. It is, yes.

306 Q. 6891. And it, again, records correspondence, but I think it's not confined to Garda Headquarters, is that
correct, the system? Am I --
A. Yes, I do believe that it is distributed.

307 Q. Yes. Certainly on a phased basis, and you were given lists of dates for that, isn't that correct, in the first -- the second manual, is that correct?
A. Yes, yes.

308 Q. And if we just look at page 6891 - "The RECORD system is a repl acement for the correspondence regi ster system and has been desi gned to provi de si milar functional ity." - is that correct?
A. That's correct.

309 Q. Now, in relation to that system, you found six search hits in total, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

310 Q. And two of those entries were of potential interest to the Tribunal but weren't an instruction to inform the press negatively or distribute negative information to An Garda Síochána, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

311 Q. Now, if we just turn to the body of your report in respect of that document. I will just get the -- the page number is 4600. Sorry, I beg your pardon, it's 4606. And what you found, your report starts at page 4605:
"A search across offices of rel evance yi el ded five search results, only one result --"

And you reviewed each of those five search hits, is
that correct?
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. "-- and onl y one result, item 55, record date 16/ 5/ 2014 was deened to be of si gnificance to the Tri bunal."

And you outline the details of that. You give the reference CMR19101262/14, and it was the Tus1a record correspondence number CMR with reference 19101262/14 sligo, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

313 Q. And a broad description of that document is "The Tusla referral notification of suspected child abuse", is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

314 Q. And you may not be familiar but the Tribunal has heard evidence in relation to those documents of how they travelled from Sligo to Dublin to the Commissioner's office, from former Commissioner Kenny and various other officials?
A. Yes.

315 Q. And I think you downloaded -- there was a second search performed then on the RECORD system and it showed something received by the Commissioner's office on the 7th January 2013, and it would appear to be an FCPS complaint, which is fixed charge penalty notice, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

316 Q. But there was no electronic copy of that correspondence --
A. No, there wasn't.

317 Q. -- ever found?
A. No.
Q. So it goes into a different search criteria?
A. Yes.

319 Q. So I think prompted by the results of that RECORD search you then searched the file share system, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And you used that as a way of navigating your search in 12:09 the file share system?
A. Yes. I used the reference numbers that were found in the RECORD system and applied those search terms in the file share.

321 Q. A11 right. Now, again, yesterday, Superintendent Ryan told us, gave us some information about the file share system but the description of it, it's at page 6883 of the materials with the manual, and you'11 see -- sorry, maybe I am incorrect. Sorry, it's 6885. And it's essentially a file storage platform for An Garda Síochána?
A. That's correct, yes.

322 Q. It stores the files for the whole of the organisation --
A. $\mathrm{Mm}-\mathrm{hmm}$.

323 Q. -- is that correct?
A. It stores pretty much everything file-wise, yes.

324 Q. Yes. So it's a very big database, is that correct?
A. Yes, yes, considerable.

325 Q. Yes. So you managed your search in relation to that system as outlined in the body of your report, starting at page 4600. So you looked at former Commissioner o'Sullivan's user file share, which she has. Every, I think, member of An Garda Síochána has a user account in the file share system, is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Yes. It's at page 4600 , sorry, if you want to look at it in hard copy, it's your own report, or page 5 of your report. You have it. So what you found was, Commissioner o'Sullivan's user file share was found to be unused, is that correct? It's at the very top of the page under --
A. Yes.

327 Q. Yes. And former Commissioner Callinan's user file share was reviewed and nothing of significance found, is that correct?
A. That's correct.

328 Q. You looked through it using the keywords and --
A. Yes.

329 Q. -- applying the search criteria. And Superintendent Taylor's user file share was found to contain only information outside the timeframe of interest, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

330 Q. And then you commenced searching through the file share system in its entirety, as I understand it, using the RECORD search results which we have already referred to, is that correct?
A. Yes, looking for those documents that we came across previously from RECORD.
Q. Al1 right. And then again that showed you the Tusla notification, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

Exactly. And I may be incorrect in this, but the PDF one showed the notification, it was in essence like a photograph of the notification, is that correct? And the other file was the correspondence generated, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

334 Q. In very broad terms?
A. Terms, yes.
Q. That is how the breakdown was. In relation to the fixed charge penalty notice complaint, you couldn't find a file in the file share system corresponding with the record reference, is that correct?
A. That's correct. There was no digital copy.

A11 right. Now, you also looked at the -- in its entirety, the Commissioner's office group file share searches, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

337 Q. And that is the part of the file share system which directly relates to the Commissioner's office in its
entirety, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. So everybody in the Commissioner's office has access to that part of the file share system?
A. Yes. In the office, they would apply for access and then there would be a group, which is a list of people which would have access to the --

339 Q. To the system?
A. To the system, yes.

340 Q. And I think when you searched that system, you found seven separate files relating to Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

A11 right. And in relation to those files, they haven't been distributed but I think you downloaded those files along with the Tusla file on to a USB stick and you gave that to the Tribunal in the 1ast few days, is that correct?
A. I did, yes.

342 Q. Yes. And they will be available. But the first one, 12:14 it says "Confidential Report 1 to 10 Documents" and there is also a synopsis of that report at number 4, you see in your report, at the bottom of page 4600? Sorry, it's page 5 of your report, internal pagination, at the very bottom.
A. Page 5. Yes, that is correct.

343 Q. okay. And that, having looked at it, relates -- and this is again in very general terms, in relation to a meeting Sergeant McCabe had with Assistant Commissioner

Byrne and Chief Superintendent McGinn in the Hillgrove Hotel, is that correct?
A. Yes.

344 Q. Now, the next thing is, sorry, I beg your pardon, the confidential report to $2 / 28$, and that is at number 2, 12:15 and there is also a synopsis of that report and a supplementary file in relation to that. So that appears, in your table at number 2, is the confidential report, number 4 is the confidential report -- sorry, number 5, the synopsis of that report, and then there is supplementary matters related to that report, at number 3, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. They all can be read as one, isn't that correct?
A. Yes.

346 Q. And in very, very general terms they relate to issues of policing in the Cavan-Monaghan division, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

347 Q. And again, and they are available. Now, at number 7
you have a Maurice McCabe chronological sequence report, June 2013, and they relate to various matters relating to Sergeant McCabe, but in particular, the Ms. D issue is particularly referenced in that, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.

348 Q. And also there is a complete synopsis report and again that may be, having quickly looked at the document, a summary which was prepared by Superintendent walsh in
relation to Sergeant McCabe?
A. Yes.
Q. It lists a mixture of all different items in relation to Sergeant McCabe and confidential reporting, his dealings with the Commissioner and the confidential recipient?
A. Yes, it's a compilation.

350 Q. Yes. And I think you also placed all of those files on to the memory stick which has been made available to the Tribunal?
A. I did, yes.

351 Q. Now, you also searched the Pulse system, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

352 Q. Now, the summary of that is again at page 13 of your report at page 4608. You found 32 search hits for entries pertaining to Maurice McCabe on the system, 15 were false positives -- 17, sorry, I beg your pardon, 17 were false positives, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

353 Q. Now, we will go back to that in a minute, but in general terms you found 57 accesses by Nóirín o'sullivan on Pulse and none of them were of relevance, is that correct?
A. Yes, that's correct, none related to Maurice McCabe.

354 Q. Yes. So what you mean there, as I understand it, is: Commissioner O'Sullivan accessed the Pulse system 57 times during the relevant period, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And on none of those occasions was she accessing it in relation to Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. And you could see that from your searches, is that correct?
A. Yes, that was the -- essentially the searches were run using Scripts and the results came out along those lines.
Q. Yes. And just in my very basic terms, Scripts is a computer programme which you instructed the computer to search for different things but it takes quite a long time to do it, is that correct?
A. That's correct. It's a form of a computer programme and the search terms would be actually embedded in that computer programme and then the computer programme is run.
Q. So it wouldn't be quite as simple as just entering the keywords?
A. No.
Q. It would have to be put into a particular programme in order to search the Pulse system, is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And I think they take quite a long time to run, it's an overnight procedure, is that correct, or a long number of hours?
A. Yes. Well, it depends on the search criteria and the breadth of the search across the system, how long it will actually take. But it can be quite long, yes.
Q. Yes. And you also found that former Commissioner

Callinan and Superintendent David Taylor have no recorded inquiries on pulse during the timeframe of interest, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Now, you, at the request of the Tribunal, ran a search in order to locate people who were looking up pulse for Sergeant McCabe, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And in relation to that you generated a list on an Exce 1 spreadsheet, and that accounts for the search hits of relevance, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And that's is at present -- some inquiries are being carried out in relation to that but there were people accessing the system in An Garda Síochána relating to Sergeant McCabe and that document will be distributed in due course?
A. Yes.
Q. I see. But essentially, you provided that information to the Tribunal?
A. Yes, it is on the memory stick, yes.
Q. Yes. And I think that concludes your searches of the -- in Garda Headquarters, is that correct?
A. Yes, I think we have covered all --

367 Q. In relation to the systems?
A. Yes.
Q. Yes. And how you came to the conclusions you came to and what documents you found?
A. Yes.

369 Q. Now, there was one final thing the Tribunal asked you to search about, and that is a particular operation which was run by An Garda Síochána called Operation Squeeze, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

370 Q. And your report in relation to that matter appears at page 4512 of the materials, isn't that correct? It's dated 13th March 2018.
A. Yes, that's correct.

371 Q. All right. And if I could just go to the comments section of your report, which is at page 4 of that report. Sorry, page 4516 of the materials. Your inquiries established that "it was an investigation into the cancellation (squashing) of fixed charge penal ties in rel ation to traffic offences", isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

372 Q. And you established that the first job number was the 6th November 2012, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

373 Q. And you couldn't establish who had commissioned the operation, isn't that correct?
A. That's correct. Inquiries were made but they came back as unknown.

374 Q. A11 right. And the objective of the operation was to investigate and establish if the cancellation of fixed charged penalties were in line with the correct policy and procedure?
A. That's correct.
Q. And in relation to why it was given an operational name, first of all could you explain, from your inquiries, what an operational name is, as you understand it from the guards?
A. As I understand it, an operation is a series of investigations which combine in focusing on one thing.
Q. On one thing.
A. So each operation would then be given an operation name to identify that particular series of investigations.
Q. To associate it with an overall aim, is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. So it could perhaps be described as follows: That it's a number of small individual investigations or maybe not so small individual investigations, but it links into an overall theme, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And maybe to take the fixed charge penalty notice, there may be an investigation into inspector A in relation to the quashing of penalty points, which is an individual operation, and there may be another
investigation or an individual investigation, another one into inspector $B$, which is an individual investigation, but they all come under the umbrella of Operation Squeeze?
A. That's correct.

380 Q. Yes. But in relation to particular, a particular series of questions that were asked of a number of people, they fell under Operation Squeeze since it related in very broad terms to penalty points, is that
correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

381 Q. And I think in the summary of the results at the bottom of page 3 of your report, at page 4515 of the materials, you set out your findings. The correspondence register was outside the time period, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And then the Mail Meter, you found 33,167 search hits on Squeeze, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.

384 Q. And you refine that downwards and you limit it to 16 mail messages, is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And on Pulse there was no record of Operation Squeeze, is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And on RECORD, which records correspondence, there was 14 relevant search hits in total?
A. Yes, that's correct.

M5. LEADER: Could you answer any questions anybody else might have for you, Mr. McConnell.
CHA RMAN It might be useful to say at this point that all of the reports of Ms. Strachan and Mr. McConnell are now in evidence, not just the bits we have gone
through, the whole lot are in evidence. Thanks.
MR. GORDON No questions.
ME. BURNS: No questions, Chairman.
MR. Ó MI RCHEARTA GH No questions.
MR. DONAL MEGU NESS: Yes, Chairman, just one question.

## THE WTNESS MAS CROSS- EXAM NED BY MR DONAL MEGU NESS:

387 Q.
MR. DONLL MEGU NNESS: Donal McGuinness, on behalf of Martin Callinan and Nóirín o'sullivan. Just one issue I'd like to explore with you. In relation to sm10, which is the image of the Toshiba laptop --
A. Yes.

388 Q. -- you are familiar with that particular one --
A. Yes.

389 Q. -- there was no access at the relevant time. sorry, I should set out relevant time 31 July '12 to 8 October ' 14 was the time when that laptop was in use, isn't that correct?
A. This was the image -- I will have to check back on --
Q. It's 4505. It begins on 4502.

MS. LEADER: It is internal pagination page 215.
A. Yes. The period of use of the user account G22459F was the 31st July 2012 to the 8th October 2014.
MR. DONAL MEGU NESS: Yes. And, as I understand it,
this particular laptop didn't have access to Garda email at the time because it wasn't generally available, Garda email wasn't available on laptops at that time.
A. On laptops at that time, that's correct, yes.

392 Q. However, this laptop would have been able to access the ordinary email, the personal email account of Superintendent Taylor?
A. Yes. There was a SIM card connected to it and attached -- Internet access, yes.
Q. Yes. And in relation to your search of the image, as I understand it there were 90 -- approximately 90,000 hits on the image --
A. Yes.

394 Q. -- and 149,000 on the actual laptop itself, and you have already explained the reason for the differential between those two.
A. Yes, it was the unallocated space.

395 Q. Yes. And then on page 4505, which is page, internal pagination of your report page 4 , and you gave evidence to this effect, you used the formula of words: "No evi dence was recovered fromitem SMLO to support a cl ai mmade by Superintendent David Tayl or that he was instructed by former Commissioner Martin Callinan to brief the media agai nst Sergeant Maurice McCabe or the allegation made by Superintendent David Tayl or that the f or mer Commi ssi oner of An Garda Sí ochána, Nói rín O Sullivan, was aware of the said instruction."
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. And just in relation to leaving that formula of words aside for a second, and I understand the reason why you would use that formula because it's directly associated with the terms of reference, I take it that in the
event that there had been any information denigrating Sergeant McCabe at all found on that computer that that is information that you would consider relevant?
A. Yes, absolutely.

397 Q. And there was no such information?
A. No.

MR. DONAL MEGU NESS: Thank you.
A. Yes.

CHA RMAK Have you any questions?
ME. LEADER: No.
CHAI RMAN Just a couple of things. obviously what we couldn't supply you with was Superintendent Taylor's phone of October 2013, I think you noted that somewhere, that that was one of the things that is not available. That is the first thing. Then I am assuming from the tenor of your reports and from our previous correspondence that you received the fullest possible cooperation from the Gardaí?
A. Yes, absolutely. The help that we received was first rate, yes.
CHA RMAN Yes. And just the same note of thanks to you as to Ms. Strachan. It's been a great comfort to know that you have done this job so thoroughly, so thank you.

## THE WTNESS THEN WTHDREW

MR. MEGU NNESS: Chairman, they are the two witnesses
that we had scheduled for today and we have got through them a lot quicker and without any intensive cross-examination, so that concludes the evidence that we are scheduled to give today.
CHA RMAN Yes. So maybe you would just tell me, tell 12:32 us all about - I'm assumed to know, of course - about tomorrow and Monday and Tuesday.
MR. MEGU NESS: Tomorrow we have former Chief Superintendent Peter Kirwan and Superintendent Brian Brunton from Crime and Security, Headquarters. And 12:32 then next week we intend to commence the evidence of Superintendent Taylor, commencing on Monday.

## CHA RMAN Very good.

THE TRI BUNAL THEN AD ORNED UNTI L FRI DAY, 11TH MAY $2018{ }^{12: 32}$ AT 10: 00AM


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