TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO PROTECTED DISCLOSURES MADE UNDER
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MATTERS FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY DÁIL ÉIREANN AND
SEANAD ÉIREANN ON 16 FEBRUARY 2017

ESTABLISHED BY INSTRUMENT MADE BY THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY UNDER THE TRIBUNALS OF INQUIRY (EVIDENCE) ACT 1921, ON 17 FEBRUARY 2017

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

HELD IN DUBLIN CASTLE

ON THURSDAY, 17TH MAY 2018 - DAY 77

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Gwen Malone Stenography Services certify the following to be a verbatim transcript of their stenographic notes in the above-named action.

GWEN MALONE STENOGRAPHY SERVICES

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1			THE HEARING RESUMED, AS FOLLOWS, ON THURSDAY, 17TH MAY	
2			<u>2018:</u>	
3				
4			SUPERINTENDENT DAVID TAYLOR, WAS CROSS-EXAMINED BY	
5			MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS AS FOLLOWS:	10:27
6				
7	1	Q.	MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Good morning, Superintendent.	
8			When we broke up prior to your wife giving her evidence	
9			to the Tribunal, I was bringing you over Martin	
10			Callinan's position in relation to your meetings with	10:38
11			him subsequent your going on suspension, isn't that	
12			right?	
13		Α.	That's correct.	
14	2	Q.	You recall that. And I'd indicated to you	
15			Mr. Callinan's recollection that you and he had you	10:38
16			had called to his home in, he thought, June of 2014 and	
17			again around October 2014, and I think you had	
18			indicated you agreed with that?	
19		Α.	Yes.	
20	3	Q.	Right. And I was putting to you that in relation to	10:38
21			the next meeting that he recalls, where again you	
22			called over to his home was in, some time after your	
23			suspension and arrest?	
24		Α.	That's correct, yes.	
25	4	Q.	Is that right?	10:39
26		Α.	Yes.	
27	5	Q.	Right. And his position is that in the first two	
28			meetings you were sounding off or you were being	
29			critical of Commissioner O'Sullivan arising out of your	

- 1 unhappiness with having been transferred.
- 2 A. That's not true.
- 3 6 Q. That's not true?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 7 Q. All right. And your feelings, or your mood on visit
- 6 number three, after your arrest, were heightened, you

10 · 40

10:40

10:40

- 7 were more agitated and you were venting that's my
- 8 word now, but you were quite agitated in relation to
- 9 Nóirín O'Sullivan?
- 10 A. I was concerned for the family circumstances I was in
- 11 at the time.
- 12 8 Q. And his position is that you were giving out as to how
- badly you had been treated, as you saw it, at the time
- of your arrest and you were giving out -- well, first
- of all, do you accept that; you were giving out about
- 16 your arrest?
- 17 A. I was, as I said, telling him about the robust arrest I
- had and interview. But I wouldn't say it was giving
- 19 out. It was giving an account of it.
- 20 9 Q. And Martin Callinan inquired as to why you'd been
- 21 arrested and you said you were accused of leaking to
- the media when all you had done was your job and you'd
- 23 done nothing wrong?
- 24 A. I wouldn't say that. I just said I was arrested in
- 25 relation to leaks to the media.
- 26 10 Q. Well, sorry, did you not give Mr. Callinan to
- 27 understand -- did you not convey to him, really quite
- clearly, as far as you're concerned it was unfair,
- you'd done nothing wrong, you'd only been doing your

1	job?
_	.,

- A. No. As I said, I told him the circumstances of the arrest and the mechanics around it and what I had gone through.
- And my instructions are that he didn't pursue it with you, his thoughts were that there was an investigation ongoing and he didn't develop the matter further. Do you agree or disagree with that?
- 9 A. No, I didn't develop it any further.
- 10 12 Q. Right. But in terms of your arrest, he's clear in his recollection, I suggest to you, that you were blaming the Commissioner for his arrest, and I want to put this specific matter to you: You said you would bring her down "her" being Nóirín O'Sullivan because of what she had done to you?

10.42

- 16 A. Absolutely not. I wouldn't say such a thing to his 17 closest colleague -- about his closest colleague.
- 18 13 Q. I beg your pardon?
- A. Commissioner O'Sullivan and Commissioner Callinan were
  very close colleagues. I wouldn't say any matters like 10:42
  that.
- 22 14 Q. Well, we're talking now about a situation where Martin 23 Callinan has retired a year and a number of months ago.
- 24 A. Mm-hmm.
- 25 15 Q. Isn't that right?
- 26 A. That's right.
- 27 16 Q. You're agitated, I'm suggesting to you, highly agitated 28 and you're giving out about Nóirín O'Sullivan and 29 actually, at this point in time, I'm suggesting to you,

1	you have lost balance and you're making fairly wild
2	allegations and you are actually giving out very
3	severely about Nóirín O'Sullivan.

- 4 A. I don't accept that.
- And you are giving out about it being difficult to meet 10:42 your financial commitments due to the unfairness as to having been put on reduced pay.
- 8 A. I spoke about my pay and how it had been cut to 75% and how that was difficult, yes.
- 10 18 Q. And my instructions are that that's the last time you
  10:42
  11 called to Commissioner Callinan's, former Commissioner
  12 Callinan's home.
- 13 A. I would agree with that, yeah.
- 14 19 Q. Well, were you looking for Martin Callinan to do

  15 something for you?

  10:43
- 16 A. Absolutely not.
- 17 20 Q. But what was your purpose in going to his home? You 18 hadn't done that much when he was actually the Commissioner.
- 20 A. I was, I was at his home regularly when he was
  21 Commissioner.
- 22 21 Q. I wish to suggest to you that that's not correct.
- A. Well, I suggest it is. Because I was there.
- 24 22 Q. All right. And can you give a specific occasion on
  25 which you were in Martin Callinan's home prior to June 10:43
  26 '14?
- 27 CHAIRMAN: I think what we're talking about here 28 because again there's a possibility of misunderstanding
  29 is, okay, you may have called up with papers or

- whatever, because of a press briefing or anything like
- 2 that --
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 CHAIRMAN: -- but as I read the statement of
- 5 Commissioner Callinan, this was more in the way of a

10:44

10:44

10.44

- 6 social or a friendly visit, which you had not done
- 7 before. Do you see the difference?
- 8 A. Oh, yeah, I understand.
- 9 CHAIRMAN: That's what counsel's asking you about.
- 10 A. Yes, I would've called because, in the discharge of my
- duties I would've called to his house during my time as
- 12 Press Officer and he was Commissioner.
- 13 23 Q. MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Sorry, I just missed that
- 14 there. Say that again.
- 15 A. I would've called to his house concerning my duties as
- 16 Press Officer when he was Commissioner.
- 17 24 Q. And is it your position that you never called with any
- social call, 'How are you getting on Martin' sort of
- 19 call?
- 20 A. When? During the time he was Commissioner?
- 21 25 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. No, I wouldn't do anything like that.
- 23 26 Q. Right. These visits post his retirement, June '14,
- October '14 and, most particularly, the one after May
- '15, when you'd been arrested, after you'd been
- arrested, what was the purpose of those visits?
- 27 A. I'd great respect for Commissioner Callinan, you saw
- from my texts I sent him on the night he had resigned.
- 29 So I held him in high esteem.

- 1 27 Q. To see how he was keeping?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 28 Q. But if you don't mind me saying, it would appear that,
- 4 certainly from my instructions, it was all about you,
- 5 you were the one who was doing the venting, speaking,

10 · 45

10:45

10:46

10 · 46

- 6 giving out?
- 7 A. No. He asked me on one occasion, I think one of the
- 8 occasions I dropped up, to collect photographs for him
- 9 from an event, he had been down in Cork at the, he
- visited the Lord Mayor in Cork, and I got those
- photographs and dropped them up for him.
- 12 29 Q. Well, can I ask you this: Were you expecting or hoping
- that Martin Callinan would advocate for you in relation
- to the difficult position in which you found yourself?
- 15 A. Absolutely not.
- 16 30 Q. Were you disappointed that he didn't --
- 17 A. I wouldn't ask him --
- 18 31 Q. -- offer to do so?
- 19 A. I wouldn't ask him and I wouldn't put him in that
- 20 position.
- 21 32 Q. Do you take any view -- do you have any view on whether
- he did or didn't do anything to help you?
- A. well, all I can say is I didn't ask him, I didn't seek
- 24 any intervention by him.
- 25 33 Q. Well, there's three visits here. They're not related
- to work apparently. He's retired. You're not offering
- any work related reason as to why you were there.
- You've gone there in which you're giving out about
- Nóirín O'Sullivan, I'm suggesting to you, particularly

1 in visit number three, you're giving out about your 2 situation, you're giving out about having been arrested, you're giving out about your financial 3 difficulties, you're giving out about all things 4 5 personal to you, and I'm suggesting to you that all 10:46 6 points of the compass points towards you having a 7 purpose in going to his home, hopeful that he will do 8 something for you. Absolutely not. As I said, I still regularly keep in 9 Α. contact with retired members, people that I had worked 10 10 · 46 11 with who were bosses of mine down through the years. 12 And you were disappointed, I'm suggesting to you, that 34 Q. 13 his attitude, with his response, was pretty well along 14 the lines of Well, listen, knuckle down, get on with 15 it, do your best'. It wasn't offering you much 10:47 16 proactive help, isn't that so? 17 I never sought help from Commissioner Callinan. Α. 18 35 Now, can I ask you about -- just before we move off Q. 19 Martin Callinan I want to make one or two things clear 20 to you. Firstly, in relation to your suggestion that 10:47 you sought from him the Ms. D file, that's flatly 21 22 rejected. Are you clear on that, he does not accept that? 23 24 Okay. Α. 25 All right. And I think I've asked you this already, 36 Q. 10 · 47

12

relation to the Ms. D file?

26

27

28

29

but am I correct you're not in a position to identify

by approximate date or tie to any particular event the

occasion on when you say you did make that request in

- 1 A. No.
- 2 37 Q. You're not?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 38 Q. Now, in relation to Nóirín O'Sullivan, I wish to
- 5 suggest to you that and I've taken instructions on

10 · 48

10:49

10 · 49

- 6 this Nóirín O'Sullivan has no recollection of you
- 7 phoning her up to say along the lines of 'Paul Williams
- is in the home of Ms. D' or the D household, all right?
- 9 Are you clear on that?
- 10 A. Yeah, she didn't ring -- she rang me.
- 11 39 Q. She rang you to tell you that he was in the D
- household, is it?
- 13 A. No, no. No, no. I text her and she rang me back.
- 14 40 Q. I see. Well, I'm suggesting to you that that's not
- correct.
- 16 A. Well, that's my evidence.
- 17 41 Q. All right. And I think you've indicated your
- 18 recollection that you spoke to her -- whenever you
- 19 spoke to her, it was on the Saturday when you maintain
- 20 Paul Williams was in the D household, isn't that right? 10:49
- 21 A. That's my evidence, yes.
- 22 42 Q. And you've been insistent, whatever about putting a
- date on it, you're insistent it's a Saturday, I think,
- in March of 2014, isn't that right?
- 25 A. Yeah.
- 26 43 Q. Right. And you're clear she differs with you on that?
- 27 All right. Now, in relation to a number of matters
- arising from yesterday's evidence on transcript, can I
- ask you some questions in relation to those please?

1			Yesterday your wife Michelle confirmed that you told	
2			her the only thing you were being investigated for was	
3			the leaking of information in relation to the Roma	
4			children.	
5		Α.	Well, that was the main, that was headline issue.	10:50
6	44	Q.	Well, no, Ms. Leader was careful - actually I think it	
7			was in redirect, on page 232 of the transcript of	
8			yesterday, line 23 - she was careful to elicit that	
9			with clarity from your wife. And her position, as I	
10			read it certainly, was that you told her the only thing	10:50
11			you were being investigated for was the leaking of	
12			information relating to the Roma children. All right?	
13			So if that be the case, Superintendent, my question is:	
14			Why didn't you give your wife the full truthful	
15			picture?	10:50
16		Α.	My wife knows the full truthful picture.	
17	45	Q.	Well, why did you tell her why did you not tell her	
18			that you'd been investigated and subsequently arrested	
19			for far more than just allegedly leaking the	
20			information pertaining to the Roma children?	10:51
21		Α.	My wife fully, is fully aware of all the issues in	
22			relation to my arrest.	
23	46	Q.	So was your wife incorrect in the evidence she gave?	
24		Α.	I'm just saying my wife fully is aware of all the	
25			circumstances and the investigation.	10:51
26	47	Q.	Well, why would she misstate what she was told by you?	
27		Α.	Maybe it's the way the question was asked. All I can	
28			say is my wife is fully aware.	
29	48	Q.	You see, I'm suggesting to you that there may be a	

1	reason in fact that you undersold matt	ers to your wife,
2	there may be a reason as to why you di	dn't give your

3 wife the full picture concerning the investigation.

- 4 A. No, my wife is fully aware.
- 5 49 Q. And she may not be the only person you kept in the dark 10:52 or didn't provide the complete picture to.
- 7 A. My wife is fully aware.
- 8 50 Q. Your wife also indicates, in answer to questions from
  9 more than one barrister, certainly she said it to
  10 Mr. Whelan yesterday, page 229 of the transcript where 10:52
  11 she confirmed that at the meeting of 20th September
  12 2016 you told Maurice McCabe that Nóirín O'Sullivan was
  13 anxious to get a charge on you, isn't that right?
- A. I said that Nóirín O'Sullivan's husband was part of the investigation, and she would be fully aware of the investigation.
- 17 No, no, I'm putting something quite separate to that to 51 Q. 18 you now, Superintendent. Just focus on this please; it 19 was your wife's recollection that amongst the things 20 you told Sergeant McCabe at the meeting of 20th 10:53 September was that Nóirín O'Sullivan was anxious to put 21 22 a charge on you. Now, first of all, is your wife 23 correct in recalling that's what you said?
- A. I fully respect my wife's recollection. I've other recollections. So I can't put it any more than that.

10:53

26 52 Q. Well, what would you have -- what did you mean? What
27 did you say that caused your wife - whatever about
28 Sergeant McCabe, who also, I suggest to you, has a
29 better memory on these matters that you do - what did

1			you say that caused your own wife to think you were	
2			complaining that Nóirín O'Sullivan was anxious to get a	
3			charge on you? What might you have said?	
4		Α.	Well, it's a well known fact that Nóirín O'Sullivan's	
5			husband was part of the investigation. And there was	10:54
6			concern in relation to, as I said, get a fair hearing	
7			because of the obvious conflict, potential conflict of	
8			interest.	
9	53	Q.	Well, let's explore the possibilities. You see,	
10			there's this meeting of 20th September 2016, but there	10:54
11			were other meetings, isn't that right? And obviously,	
12			as you've confirmed to the Tribunal already, there were	
13			many, many discussions between you and your wife?	
14		Α.	Yes.	
15	54	Q.	So I'm wondering, and partly in fairness to your	10:54
16			position as to your insistence of matters as to the	
17			20th September meeting, but is it possible that on	
18			other occasions you gave your wife to understand that	
19			Nóirín O'Sullivan was anxious to get a charge on you?	
20		Α.	No.	10:55
21	55	Q.	But, sure, wasn't that your position as relayed to the	
22			deputies?	
23		Α.	No. Like, I mean, I said it was a matter of fact that	
24			Commissioner O'Sullivan's husband was part of my	
25			investigation.	10:55
26	56	Q.	No, no. We have the notes from Mick Wallace, Deputy	
27			Wallace, we have the notes from Deputy Daly. They	
28			speak volumes, if I may put it as bluntly as that.	
29			It's clear. You were maintaining a position to	

1			parliamentarians in Dáil Éireann that you were being	
2			unjustly pursued, these were trumped up charges is how	
3			Deputy Wallace noted it, trumped up charges. So can	
4			you just come clean about this? Weren't you telling	
5			various people around about this time, September or	10:56
6			October 2016, you were being unjustly pursued and these	
7			were trumped up charges?	
8		Α.	I don't agree with that.	
9	57	Q.	Well, wasn't that your view, these were unfair charges?	
10		Α.	I never said that.	10:56
11	58	Q.	Didn't you tell doesn't Sergeant McCabe have in his	
12			PD, in his protected disclosure, that you were being	
13			pursued because you knew too much?	
14		Α.	I can only say what I can say, Mr. O'Higgins. I can't	
15			comment on what other people say or record.	10:56
16	59	Q.	But all these people seem to have made similar mistakes	
17			or identical mistakes and you're the common you're	
18			the only one who has it right?	
19		Α.	Well, I can only say what I know from my knowledge. I	
20			can't speak for other people.	10:56
21	60	Q.	well, let's look at what Mr. Clifford's evidence is, or	
22			will be. And Mr. Quinn, on behalf of Examiner	
23			Publications, and Mr. Clifford set out with clarity his	
24			client's position in relation to these matters. All	
25			right? And I want to get you if we could deal with	10:57
26			these. He indicates that, or it was indicated on his	
27			behalf that Mick Clifford met you and your wife on, he	
28			believes, two occasions during the summer of 2016.	
29			First of all, is that correct?	

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 61 Q. That's right?
- 3 A. Hmm.
- 4 62 Q. Right. So are we agreed, therefore, that in fact,
- 5 contrary to the exchange you and I had yesterday, you

10:57

10:57

10:58

- 6 now agree with the position that you shared with Mick
- 7 Clifford your role in the smear campaign prior to your
- 8 meeting with Sergeant McCabe on the 20th September?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 63 Q. You remain of that --
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 64 Q. Sorry, I don't want to be mischaracterising your
- position --
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 65 Q. -- you're holding to that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 66 Q. All right. Well, Mick Clifford is going to say, as
- identified by his counsel, that in the first meeting
- 19 you laid out a case that the criminal investigation was
- 20 motivated by Nóirín O'Sullivan. Do you agree or
- 21 disagree with that?
- 22 A. I disagree.
- 23 67 Q. And you also put forward a case that she wanted to get
- her hands on your mobile phones, and that was why the
- 25 criminal investigation was brought?
- 26 A. No.
- 27 68 Q. You disagree with that, do you?
- 28 A. Yes.
- 29 69 Q. Your wife was asked about that and she didn't recollect

- 1 that.
- 2 A. Sorry?
- 3 70 O. Your wife was asked about that.
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 71 Q. And her response, and I'm paraphrasing here, but she

10:59

10:59

- 6 did not recollect that.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 72 Q. And Mr. Clifford, through counsel, indicated that you
- 9 pointed out in that first meeting the connection that
- 10 Nóirín O'Sullivan's husband was on the investigation
- 11 team. Did you do that?
- 12 A. Yes, yes.
- 13 73 Q. All right. And your wife agreed with that.
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 74 Q. And Mr. Clifford indicates that you said the reason she 10:59
- 16 wanted to get the phones was because there was evidence
- 17 that would link Nóirín O'Sullivan to the smear
- campaign.
- 19 A. No.
- 20 75 Q. Well, you see, aren't we moving to the core of it
- there, Superintendent? Because that would be important,
- 22 wouldn't it, if in fact the Tribunal were to decide
- that that was said by you to Mick Clifford.
- A. Well, as I say, I can only give my evidence and I'll
- leave it in the Chairman's hands to determine the --
- 26 76 Q. You see, that would be important, I'm suggesting to
- you, because that would be a link between the criminal
- investigation into you, the whole issue about the
- 29 phones, your position that the criminal investigation

T		was improper and was brought for an improper reason and	
2		your overall claim at the core of this Tribunal that	
3		there was a smear campaign; all of these things are	
4		bound up into that case you were making, I'm	
5		suggesting, to Mick Clifford. The reason Nóirín	11:00
6		O'Sullivan wanted to get the phones was because there	
7		was evidence that would link her to the smear campaign,	
8		that's what you said.	
9	Α.	I don't accept that.	
10		CHAIRMAN: In other words, it was an evidence	11:00
11		destruction exercise	
12	Α.	No.	
13		CHAIRMAN: as opposed to a genuine investigation.	
14	Α.	I accept the investigation, Judge.	
15		CHAIRMAN: No, but I mean	11:01
16	Α.	No.	
17		CHAIRMAN: I think the point that's being put to	
18		you, just so we all understand it, is	
19	Α.	Yeah.	
20		CHAIRMAN: that what you told Mr. Clifford is that	11:01
21		Nóirín O'Sullivan wanted to get hold of your phones,	
22		had them seized, had your computer seized as well in	
23		order to get them wiped so there would be no reference	
24		to her being involved in the campaign against Maurice	
25		McCabe. I think I'm putting that correctly, am I,	11:01
26		Mr. O'Higgins.	
27		MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Yes, Chairman.	
28		CHAIRMAN: All right. So that is the point.	
29	Α.	Yeah. I don't accept it.	

1			CHAIRMAN: Yes.	
2	77	Q.	MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: And further to that,	
3			Superintendent I'm just looking at the transcript	
4			from yesterday on page 223, this now is questioning of	
5			your wife Michelle. She was asked:	11:01
6				
7			"You were present at the meetings with Mr. Clifford in	
8			June or July of 2016?"	
9				
10			And she says:	11:01
11				
12			"No. I think Dave did say that there was a campaign."	
13				
14			And question:	
15				11:02
16			"Sorry?"	
17				
18			And she answered:	
19				
20			"I think, you know, Dave did acknowledge there was a	11:02
21			campaign, to the best of my recollection."	
22				
23			And then the question was:	
24				
25			"Sorry, I didn't hear that answer. Tell me it again."	11:02
26				
27			And she came back in answer:	
28				
29			"I think he did say there was a campaign, like that he	

1			was part of a campaign.	
2			Q. He told Michael Clifford he was part of a campaign?	
3			A. Yeah, I think so. To the best of my knowledge,	
4			yeah.	
5			Q. That was at the meeting in June or July?	11:02
6			A. Well, in our house.	
7			Q. In June or July?	
8			A. I can't remember which, but	
9			Q. Well, they were before he met Maurice McCabe for the	
10			first time?	11:02
11			A. Yeah, they were before Maurice McCabe."	
12				
13			That's your wife's testimony.	
14		Α.	Yes.	
15	78	Q.	So it seems you're the odd one out here; your wife and	11:02
16			Mick Clifford are clear that you relayed the smear	
17			campaign and your role in it to the journalist prior to	
18			the meeting with Sergeant McCabe, which was apparently,	
19			on your case, some class of cathartic meeting.	
20		Α.	I don't accept that.	11:03
21	79	Q.	So now, in the light of that being your wife's	
22			evidence, you've an opportunity to revisit the	
23			position; do you wish to revisit your evidence	
24		Α.	No.	
25	80	Q.	and perhaps clarify and accept that that is the	11:03
26			case?	
27		Α.	No.	
28	81	Q.	well, then if we move to the second meeting that you	
29			had with Mr. Clifford. And his counsel indicated that	

Т			this was towards the end of the summer of 2016. In	
2			fairness, he wasn't in a position his client's	
3			instructions didn't indicate it was a precise time, but	
4			the estimate was given "a month or so after the first	
5			meeting." Now, do you agree or disagree with that; did	11:0
6			the second meeting with Mr. Clifford take place a month	
7			or so after the first meeting?	
8		Α.	I would generally accept that.	
9	82	Q.	You would?	
10		Α.	Yeah.	11:0
11	83	Q.	So, does that mean, therefore, that the second meeting	
12			also predated the meeting with Maurice McCabe on 20th	
13			September?	
14		Α.	I think so. I think so.	
15	84	Q.	You think so?	11:0
16		Α.	Yeah.	
17	85	Q.	Right. And Mr. Clifford's position, as relayed by	
18			counsel, was that he came back, as journalists do	
19			acting properly	
20		Α.	Yeah.	11:0
21	86	Q.	he came back to check up on a couple of details so	
22			he'd have them clear and he'd have them right.	
23		Α.	Yeah.	
24	87	Q.	And the three things he needed to come back on with you	
25			were the following: Firstly, to check with you that	11:0
26			texts, that is text messages, had been used to blacken	
27			Sergeant McCabe's name. That's the first thing. And	
28			Mr. Clifford, through counsel, indicated you confirmed	
29			"Yes" to that.	

- 1 A. I don't accept that. I've never said that.
- 2 88 Q. The second thing that he asked clarification on in the
- 3 second meeting was that there was an intelligence
- 4 file -- whether you were saying that there was an
- 5 intelligence file on you in Garda Headquarters; do you
- 6 remember that?
- 7 A. I stated that it was my belief. I now know from direct

11:06

11:06

- 8 evidence that's not true.
- 9 89 Q. So do you accept -- I appreciate you accept, quite
- properly, to your credit, that's not a true claim.
- 11 A. No, I accept that.
- 12 90 Q. But are you accepting that you did confirm to
- 13 Mr. Clifford that that was a claim you were making,
- there was an intelligence file on you in Garda
- 15 Headquarters and that this confirmation by you was
- given in the second meeting with Mick Clifford?
- 17 A. I can't actually recall that, and that's being totally
- honest. I can't recall saying that. I just can't
- 19 recall that.
- 20 91 Q. But if he says that, you wouldn't contradict it?
- 21 A. Well, I just said I had said it and I accept it now
- that it's not true.
- 23 92 Q. The third thing that he indicates he sought clarity on
- 24 was your contention that a guard had been assigned to
- 25 monitor Sergeant McCabe on Pulse. All right?
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 93 Q. And the indication was, through counsel again, that you
- confirmed that as well.
- A. No, I would've said that your Pulse activity would be

- 1 monitored, I didn't say any particular guard, because I
- 2 don't know who monitors that.
- 3 94 Q. So is that a yes to that, you agree with him? I just
- 4 want to ascertain the differences --
- 5 A. Oh, yeah, your Pulse records, yeah.
- 6 95 Q. All right. Now, just then so I have the sequencing
- 7 clear in terms of the roll call of people to whom you

11:07

11:07

11:08

11:08

- 8 confessed, on your contention, your role in the smear
- 9 campaign and in whom you confided. The first person
- 10 was Michelle?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 96 Q. You're not able to put a date on that?
- 13 A. No.

Α.

15

- 14 97 Q. Did you hear her evidence yesterday --
- 16 98 Q. -- did she bring that earlier a little bit than you?
- 17 A. I didn't hear her evidence yesterday.
- 18 99 Q. All right. The second person was Mick Clifford.
- 19 A. I don't accept that.

No.

- 20 100 Q. Well, who was the second person then?
- 21 A. Father Joe, the priest.
- 22 101 Q. Well, when was the priest?
- 23 A. August I think. August, August '14, end of July/August
- '14. I can't give you the exact date. My wife rang
- 25 the priest.
- 26 102 Q. But you see, does that tally? I had understood you not
- to differ with Mr. Clifford's position that both
- 28 meetings with him were in the summer.
- 29 A. Yes.

- 1 103 Q. And there was about a month or so and I acknowledge
- there's wriggle room there but there was an interval
- of a month or maybe a month plus between the two
- 4 meetings?
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 104 Q. Right? Summer is, some people put May into the summer,

11 . 09

11:09

11:09

- 7 let's go June or July or August. Forget about May;
- June July August is the summer, isn't that right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 105 Q. That would put your first meeting certainly, I'm
- suggesting to you, it would predate the meeting with
- 12 Father Joe.
- 13 A. Well, as I said, I've always said my wife, Father Joe
- 14 and Sergeant McCabe.
- 15 106 Q. I wonder is that a problem for your account and how
- 16 might your account be assessed; your priorities were
- 17 journalist first, the priest later?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 107 Q. Then Maurice McCabe?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 108 Q. Then protected disclosure. That's the sequence, isn't
- 22 it?
- A. It was my wife, Father Joe, Sergeant McCabe, protected
- 24 disclosure.
- 25 109 Q. Followed by politicians?
- 26 A. I didn't seek the politicians' attention.
- 27 110 Q. You opened up a front, a political front. You were
- using your skills as somebody who is doing a Master's
- in political communications.

- 1 A. I don't subscribe to that.
- 2 111 Q. Can I ask you about something different now, if I may,
- 3 Superintendent, and that is the PAC meeting of 23rd
- 4 January 2014 so we're going back in the time machine

11:11

11:11

11:11

11 · 11

- for a moment and ask you to deal with the PAC
- 6 meeting, all right?
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 112 Q. And you accept, do you not, that you met Deputy
- 9 McGuinness -- well, my question, first of all, is when
- did you first meet Deputy McGuinness?
- 11 A. In January '16.
- 12 113 Q. In January '16?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 114 Q. And how often did you meet him?
- 15 A. I just met him once in the Skylon Hotel.
- 16 115 Q. Just the one meeting?
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 116 Q. And were there -- I think there were other meetings, or
- were there, or contacts, between Deputy McGuinness and
- 20 your wife?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 117 Q. Right. But your recollection is, in terms of your own
- presence, you were present for just the one meeting?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 118 Q. Now, your account of the contentious remark which you
- 26 claim was uttered by Martin Callinan about Sergeant
- 27 McCabe at the end of the PAC meeting was what?
- 28 A. That I heard Commissioner Callinan say to Deputy
- 29 McGuinness that Sergeant McCabe was a kiddie fiddler.

- 1 119 Q. was a kiddie fiddler?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 120 Q. You see, I wonder if we could have page 1419 up please,
- 4 which is Volume 6 for your benefit there,
- 5 Superintendent. 11:12

11:13

11:13

- 6 A. 1419 is it?
- 7 121 Q. 1419.
- 8 A. Are you sure it's Volume 6?
- 9 122 Q. I think so, yes.
- 10 A. Sorry, I can't see --
- 11 123 Q. Do you have it there?
- 12 A. It's come up on the screen, yeah.
- 13 124 Q. It's on the screen?
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 125 Q. All right. Sorry, I thought that was the correct
- 16 volume. Now, this is now the statement of Deputy John
- 17 McGuinness of 28th March 2017. And this is the first
- 18 statement, the first of two statements that Deputy
- 19 McGuinness provided to the Tribunal, isn't that right?
- 20 A. Em --
- 21 126 Q. You see, isn't that a difficulty for you,
- 22 Superintendent he provided two statements? You're
- 23 aware of that, are you?
- A. No, I wasn't aware, I'm not aware what statements he
- 25 makes.
- 26 127 Q. Well, are you not getting the material circulated to
- 27 you?
- A. Well, I accept what you're saying; if you're saying
- there's two statements, I accept that.

1 128 Q. Well, you see, Deputy McGuinness was cross-examined, at some length actually, by different people, including myself, as to his allegation concerning what he says Commissioner Callinan said on this occasion in a pejorative fashion with respect to Sergeant McCabe.

11:14

- 6 You're aware of that --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 129 Q. -- there was contention over that?
- 9 A. Yes, yes.
- 10 And it was put to Deputy McGuinness that he had 130 Q. 11 · 14 11 enlarged upon, or maybe the word was "improved" upon 12 his account in statement number two that he gave, which 13 was given as recently as 2018, this year. But you see, 14 I'm suggesting to you the difficulty for you - which is 15 revealing, I'm suggesting to you, Superintendent - is 11:14 16 that you decided to sign up to statement number one, 17 the reference to "kiddie fiddler", and no more. Do you 18 understand?
- 19 CHAIRMAN: Mr. O'Higgins, maybe you'd just be so kind 20 as to explain that, because I'm not completely getting 11:11 21 it.
- MR. MÍ CHEÁL O' HI GGI NS: Certainly.
- 23 CHAIRMAN: If you wouldn't mind please? So if you
  24 wouldn't mind just quoting the first statement and then
  25 if you say the statement of the Superintendent came
  26 after that and then if there's a modification in the
  27 second statement, maybe you'd just put that, just so as
  28 the witness understands.
- 29 131 Q. MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Thank you, Chairman. I'll try

Т			to do it more crearry. (To withess) so on page 1419,	
2			Superintendent, paragraph 6, we have what is the only,	
3			the only wording or allegation provided by Deputy	
4			McGuinness in his first statement concerning the	
5			"kiddie fiddler" alleged remark. And in fact what it	11:15
6			says is the following:	
7				
8			"At the conclusion of the hearing on 23rd January 2014,	
9			as was my usual practice when Chairman of the	
10			committee, I approached Mr. Callinan to thank him for	11:15
11			attending the committee. Mr. Callinan was with	
12			Ms. Nóirín O'Sullivan and David Taylor and he said to	
13			me 'This man fiddles with children. This is	
14			outrageous'. I took the reference to 'this man' to	
15			refer to Mr. McCabe."	11:16
16				
17			And that was the extent of what he said. All right?	
18			And I'm suggesting to you that your version, "kiddie	
19			fiddler", is pretty close to that.	
20		Α.	well, all I can say is what I heard.	11:16
21	132	Q.	Isn't that right; they are pretty close?	
22		Α.	Again I can only reiterate what I have in my	
23			statements, what I heard Commissioner Callinan say to	
24			Deputy McGuinness.	
25	133	Q.	And of course, we know, don't we, that there is no	11:16
26			reference whatever by you to this having been said by	
27			Martin Callinan in your protected disclosure?	
28		Α.	The protected disclosure was never a complete document.	
20	12/	^	Voc. But now if we look at John McCuinness' second	

Τ			statement, we see what he says, which is, I'm	
2			suggesting to you, a considerable enlargement - I say a	
3			different account, but that's a matter for the Tribunal	
4			ultimately - it's something really quite different to	
5			what is said in the first statement to which you appear	11:17
6			to have signed up to, I'm suggesting. All right? And	
7			that's on page 2165 in the materials. And this is a	
8			statement from an interview that Deputy McGuinness gave	
9			to the investigators on 15th March sorry, on 28th	
10			March 2018. And it starts on page 2162 and I think the	11:18
11			relevant part to bring you to is page 2165. Do you see	
12			that there?	
13		Α.	Yes.	
14	135	Q.	And Deputy McGuinness says here in his statement that:	
15				11:18
16			"In this particular case I did exactly as I would	
17			normally do and in the course of that I came down to	
18			where Commissioner Callinan was."	
19				
20			And he says:	11:18
21				
22			"He was in the flow of conversation about former Garda	
23			John Wilson."	
24				
25			Just pause there. Do you have any recollection of	11:18
26			Commissioner Callinan re-telling a yarn or a story	
27			about John Wilson?	
28		Α.	As I said yesterday or the day before, at the end of	
29			meetings the protocol was for me, when the senior	

1			officers would stand up, I'd go and retrieve their	
2			hats, the Commissioner's hat and satchel. So I had	
3			turned away and then I turned back to hand the	
4			Commissioner his hat and satchel.	
5	136	Q.	You appear keen to tie yourself to the hat and satchel	11:1
6			piece. You've said that now perhaps four times.	
7		Α.	I'm just giving you what my protocol would've been	
8			always to do.	
9	137	Q.	No, it's a simple question. You're there, according to	
10			John McGuinness, according to Martin Callinan.	11:1
11		Α.	I was aware spatially that they were engaged, but I was	
12			turned away and then turned back.	
13	138	Q.	Spatially they were engaged? Who was engaged?	
14		Α.	The Commissioner and Deputy McGuinness.	
15	139	Q.	Well, as I understand it, Deputy McGuinness' position	11:1
16			in fact was that Martin Callinan was telling this story	
17			to those around him other than himself, so in other	
18			words, to guards.	
19		Α.	Well, the only guards there were Deputy O'Sullivan,	
20			Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony, Andrew McLindon.	11:2
21	140	Q.	And you.	
22		Α.	Yes.	
23	141	Q.	So what do you say to Deputy McGuinness' suggestion	
24			that when Deputy McGuinness came upon the group	
25			Commissioner Callinan was telling a story about John	11:2
26			Wilson? Did you hear any of that?	

27

28

29

Α.

I didn't hear that. Because as I said to you before, I

had turned away to get his hat and satchel, then I

turned back and I was then standing right behind him.

1	142	Q.	But was there any impediment? You were close enough, I	
2			understood Deputy McGuinness to indicate you were close	
3			enough to hear things?	
4		Α.	Well, I was focused on retrieving the Commissioner's	
5			hat and his satchel.	11:20
6	143	Q.	But was the Commissioner in a group?	
7		Α.	Yes, there was a group there, yes.	
8	144	Q.	Right. Which included you?	
9		Α.	Well, I was behind he was in front of me, Deputy	
10			O'Sullivan to the left, Commissioner O'Mahony, Andrew	11:21
11			McLindon, so the group, and then Deputy	
12	145	Q.	All right. Well, were you close enough to hear what	
13			was being said by the man?	
14		Α.	When I turned back around after handing him his hat, I	
15			could see him saying to Deputy McGuinness.	11:21
16	146	Q.	You could see him saying?	
17		Α.	Well, I was behind him and I could see him directly, I	
18			could hear him.	
19	147	Q.	So you could hear what was being said by Martin	
20			Callinan in the group?	11:21

- When I heard him saying the "kiddie fiddler", yes. 21 Α.
- 22 Well, did your ears close after that? Did you hear 148 Q. 23 what the man was saying?
- 24 No, it's just that I heard, I heard him saying to Α. 25 Deputy McGuinness that Sergeant McCabe was a kiddie 11:21 26 fiddler.
- 27 149 Q. Well, you see, if Deputy McGuinness is correct, you, as 28 part of the Garda group, would also have heard a story being told, quite a colourful story I'm suggesting to 29

1			you, that would stick out in a person's mind. Let's go	
2			through the story as relayed by the Deputy on the	
3			statement:	
4				
5			"Commissioner Callinan was relating a story about how	11:22
6			John Wilson was called with other Gardaí to a	
7			disturbance in Grafton Street involving horses."	
8				
9			Now, did you hear that, anything about horses?	
10		Α.	I didn't hear that part of the story, no.	11:22
11	150	Q.	You didn't?	
12		Α.	No.	
13	151	Q.	Because that would stick out in your mind, wouldn't it,	
14			a story about horses?	
15		Α.	As I said to you before, I was retrieving his hat and	11:22
16			satchel. So I'd gone to the seat behind where he'd	
17			been sitting.	
18	152	Q.	Well, no, whatever about horses, that's perhaps not of	
19			itself memorable, but horses on Grafton Street is	
20			slightly memorable; you'd remember that? It's an	11:22
21			unusual event, isn't that right?	
22		Α.	But I wasn't listening I didn't hear that	
23			conversation.	
24	153	Q.	Right. He goes on:	
25				11:23
26			"When John Wilson got to Grafton Street, Commissioner	
27			Callinan in his own words said" - according to John	
28			McGuinness - "he pulled the knackers off the horse, he	
29			confiscated the horse, mounted the horse and rode it	

1 back to the barracks, where he tied it to the 2 railings." 3 Now, did you hear Commissioner Callinan use 4 5 inappropriate language, presumably directed at members of the travelling community? 6 7 As I said before, I was retrieving his hat and satchel, Α. 8 I turned away and then when I turned back I heard the kiddie fiddler conversation. I wasn't concentrating or 9 10 I wasn't listening to any other conversation before 11 · 24 11 that. 12 Would Martin Callinan, as a guard, as the most senior 154 Q. 13 guard in the land, use the expression "the barracks"? Isn't that a civilian terminology? 14 15 No --Α. 11:24 16 Old style terminology? 155 Q. 17 It's a very old style police terminology. Α. 18 156 I'm suggesting to you it's terminology used by Q. 19 civilians. 20 No, still, as I said, it still would be en vogue today. 11:24 Α. In any event, did you hear it? 21 157 Q. 22 Did I hear which? Α. 23 158 Did you hear him mention something about riding a horse Q. 24 back to the barracks? 25 I didn't hear that part of the conversation. Α. 11:24 26 159 Or it being tied to the railings? Ο. 27 No. Α. 28 160 And did you hear him mention "and the other fella Q.

fiddles with kids"?

29

- 1 A. I heard the "kiddie fiddler", yes.
- 2 161 Q. No, no, "and the other fella fiddles with kids"; did
- 3 you hear that?
- 4 A. I heard Commissioner Callinan say to Deputy McGuinness
- that Sergeant McCabe is a kiddie fiddler. That's what
- 6 I heard.
- 7 162 Q. Well, help me with this: Did you hear Commissioner
- 8 Callinan say:

9

- "And that's the type of fucking headbangers I'm dealing  $_{11:25}$
- 11 wi th"?
- 12 A. I can't recall hearing that.
- 13 163 Q. No, because that would certainly stick out in your
- 14 mind, wouldn't it?
- 15 A. Well, I don't recall hearing that.
- 16 164 Q. Bad language like that in front of a parliamentarian,

11:25

11 · 25

- 17 senior Garda officers, formal setting, Dáil Éireann,
- 18 PAC meeting?
- 19 A. I have to be -- in fairness to Commissioner Callinan, I
- 20 never heard him using bad language. It wasn't part of
- 21 his vocabulary.
- 22 165 Q. Pardon?
- 23 A. I've never heard Commissioner Callinan use bad language
- in his vocabulary.
- 25 166 Q. All right. Well, thank you for that. So that isn't
- the type of thing he would've said?
- 27 A. Well, I've never heard him saying it. I don't know
- 28 whether he would say it, but he's never said it in my
- company.

Т	101	Q.	You see, Deputy McGuinness position was that he didn't	
2			participate in conversation at all. Do you agree or	
3			disagree with that?	
4		Α.	Well, I can't say what Deputy McGuinness did. All I	
5			can say is what I heard and what I saw.	11:26
6	168	Q.	You see, it was Martin Callinan's recollection that in	
7			fact he had asked Deputy McGuinness whether John Wilson	
8			would be called before the PAC and that the deputy had	
9			said 'You must be joking. Sure he's a fucking header.	
10			Do you remember that?	11:26
11		Α.	No, I don't.	
12	169	Q.	Well, whatever about the bad language, do you remember	
13			the deputy making a comment, perhaps not the most	
14			positive of comments, with respect to John Wilson?	
15		Α.	As I said, the conversation part that I heard is the	11:26
16			one I placed in my statement and placed on record.	
17			CHAIRMAN: I think maybe the point that counsel is	
18			making to you is that one drifts in and out of	
19			attention	
20		Α.	Yeah.	11:27
21			CHAIRMAN: unless one concentrates and when, if, as	
22			you say, you heard the words "kiddie fiddler", you	
23			would then have concentrated on what else was being	
24			said. That's, I think, the point that counsel is	
25			making.	11:27
26		Α.	As I said, when I heard the kiddie fiddler comment, I	
27			think the conversation broke up at that stage and	
28			everybody retreated out of the room.	
29	170	0.	MR. MÍCHFÁL O'HIGGINS: But vou see. I wish to suggest	

Т			to you, Superintendent, if, as you claim, you heard	
2			"kiddie fiddler"	
3		Α.	Mm-hmm.	
4	171	Q.	your ears would've pricked up, because you would've	
5			been concerned, 'What is this about? What is he saying	11:27
6			to somebody, a deputy in Dáil Éireann, amongst other	
7			Garda colleagues?' Apparently out in the open, in a	
8			formal setting, 'What is he saying?' You would've been	
9			concerned, isn't that so?	
10		Α.	Well, I never heard him saying it before.	11:27
11	172	Q.	That's all the more reason. What was he doing? He was	
12			going on some sort of mad solo run. He's accusing	
13			Sergeant McCabe, who was to come before the PAC, about	
14			whom there's been much controversy, you claim to have	
15			heard him denigrate and use language reflective of a	11:28
16			belief that somehow he was a child abuser to the	
17			Chairman of the very committee before whom he was	
18			supposing to give evidence. So this would, I suggest	
19			to you, had it occurred, would've immediately put you	
20			on alert and caused you to listen in as to exactly	11:28
21			what's going on. You were the Press Officer.	
22		Α.	That's what I heard. That day was taken up with the	
23			whole "disgusting" word, because that was the day the	
24			word "disgusting" was said and that was the whole	
25			centre of the media attention that day.	11:29
26	173	Q.	Ah, come on, Superintendent. "Disgusting" is league	
27			division two compared to this. This is the	
28			Commissioner accusing Sergeant McCabe, to the Chairman	
29			of the PAC, of being a child abuser. This could've	

- been explosive on the radio, on the television, on the newspapers that night.
- A. Well, it wasn't. The whole -- that night dealt with
  the "disgusting" word, that was the whole centre of the
  whole media furore that day because of what had been
  11:29
- 6 said at the PAC.
- 7 174 Q. But surely you took Andrew McLindon or Nóirín
  8 O'Sullivan or one of your Garda colleagues aside and
  9 say 'What did Martin just say? Did you hear what he
  10 said?'

- 11 A. No, I didn't. Because they were in the same company.
- 12 175 Q. I beg your pardon?
- 13 A. They were in the same company.
- 14 176 Q. No, but if not the immediate seconds but in the
  15 corridor out or in the postmortem afterwards or in the 11:30
  16 car home?
- 17 A. The postmortem afterwards, Mr. O'Higgins, was all about 18 the word "disgusting".
- 19 177 Q. And there was no mention of "kiddie fiddler"?
- 20 A. It was all about "disgusting", that was the huge media 11:30
  21 furore that day and for a number of days afterwards.
- 22 178 Q. In fact there was no mention of "kiddie fiddler" for months and months later, isn't that right?
- A. How do you mean?
- 25 179 Q. There was never any furore in relation to an alleged
  26 remark about "kiddie fiddler" until this Tribunal was
  27 set up and Deputy McGuinness put in his statement,
- 28 isn't that right?
- 29 A. Whether that's right will become a matter of inquiry by

- 1 this Tribunal.
- 2 180 Q. And you made no reference to it in your protected
- disclosure. And the first time you made a reference to

11:31

11:31

11:31

- 4 it is at a point in time after you and you accept
- 5 this, as I understand it had spoken to John
- 6 McGuinness, isn't that right?
- 7 A. I don't accept that.
- 8 181 Q. But as a matter of temporal sequence, that is correct?
- 9 A. As I said, I always heard that, and I put it in my
- 10 statement.
- 11 182 Q. But you didn't put it in the PD.
- 12 A. As I said to you earlier on, Mr. O'Higgins, the PD is
- 13 not a complete document.
- 14 183 Q. And in your cathartic session with Maurice McCabe, you
- 15 didn't tell him about it.
- 16 A. Well, as I said, I put it in my statement and I placed
- 17 it before the Tribunal.
- 18 184 Q. And can you provide any explanation for how the remark
- that you signed up to was the old version of Deputy
- 20 McGuinness' account and is not his new improved one?
- 21 A. I can only say what I heard and what I placed on
- 22 record.
- 23 185 Q. Now, Superintendent Taylor, I think you're aware of
- this, but I wish to formally put to you the allegation
- 25 you made concerning the kiddie fiddler remark simply
- never, that never occurred, Martin Callinan never said
- 27 any such thing. You're clear on that?
- 28 A. It was said.
- 29 186 Q. And you differ with him. All right. Now, I want to

Т			move to your more core arregations, if I may,	
2			concerning why this Tribunal was set up at all. And I	
3			want to suggest to you that there is a reason,	
4			Superintendent, as to why your account is vague and	
5			lacking in specifics, all right? And I'm suggesting to	11:32
6			you that there's a reason there are no texts or	
7			documents substantiating your account. Do you	
8			understand?	
9		Α.	Yes.	
10	187	Q.	And I'm suggesting to you that there is a reason you	11:33
11			appear to have watered down your account and removed	
12			texts from the equation and that is your fear of being	
13			directly caught out. Do you understand the point I'm	
14			making?	
15		Α.	Yes.	11:33
16	188	Q.	And I'm suggesting to you that you have abandoned much	
17			of what you told Sergeant McCabe, Deputy McGuinness,	
18			Michael Clifford, Deputy Wallace and Deputy Daly and	
19			possibly others, you've abandoned much of that again	
20			for fear that your account would be exposed. Do you	11:33
21			understand the point I'm making?	
22		Α.	Yes.	
23	189	Q.	And I'm suggesting to you that there's a reason that	
24			not a single person is offering direct evidence to	
25			support your story of an orchestrated smear campaign.	11:33
26		Α.	Well, I can only place my knowledge before this	
27			Tribunal and I'll leave it to the Chairman to make his	
28			decision.	
29	190	Q.	And regrettably, I must put to you that in the	

1			predicament in which you found yourself, with your	
2			world closing in around you effectively, you were under	
3			pressure at home, with your finances in disarray and	
4			above all else you had a strong sense of grievance that	
5			you were being unfairly targeted in the criminal and	11:34
6			disciplinary proceedings, and I'm suggesting to you	
7			that you had become fixated upon Nóirín O'Sullivan and	
8			her husband in particular and you came up with a plan	
9			to exact revenge for what you felt had been done to	
10			you. Do you understand the point I'm making?	11:34
11		Α.	I understand the point you're making.	
12	191	Q.	And I'm suggesting to you that you came up with a plan	
13			to shield yourself from the criminal and disciplinary	
14			proceedings that you were facing. And I'm suggesting	
15			to you that you decided that what better way of	11:35
16			defending your own self, of protecting yourself than	
17			painting yourself as a victim and aligning yourself or	
18			seeking to align yourself with Sergeant Maurice McCabe.	
19			And as a result of this, as part of this plan, you	
20			attempted to sell to Sergeant McCabe what were a load	11:35
21			of lies. Do you understand the point I'm making?	
22		Α.	I understand the point you're making.	
23	192	Q.	And I'm suggesting to you that you hawked around those	
24			lies to politicians and journalists, whomever would	
25			listen to you, and that is the process that we see	11:35
26			underway in September/October of 2016 and onwards,	
27			before and after you made your protected disclosure.	
28			Do you understand?	
29		Δ	T understand what you're saving	

1	193	Q.	And that the purpose of this was to undermine Noirin	
2			O'Sullivan, and as part of that you had, and you felt	
3			you had, to also attack Martin Callinan and you decided	
4			to extend it out to Andrew McLindon as well. Were you	
5			present for Andrew McLindon's evidence?	11:36
6		Α.	No.	
7	194	Q.	So you didn't hear him, when it was squarely put to	
8			him, that he would have absolutely no truck with any	
9			smear campaign if he heard any hint of it being	
10			mentioned in Garda Headquarters, he would simply have	11:36
11			no truck with it and would have been appalled; were you	
12			aware of that evidence?	
13		Α.	Well, you're telling me now.	
14	195	Q.	And the same position of Commissioner Callinan and	
15			former Commissioner O'Sullivan; they would be appalled	11:36
16			with that, would have no truck with that and, had it	
17			occurred at all, they would simply not have tolerated	
18			it. Do you understand?	
19		Α.	I hear what you're saying.	
20	196	Q.	There's a few matters I want to, before we conclude,	11:37
21			put to you concerning Mr. Callinan's position.	
22			Firstly, he disputes your position that - and these are	
23			perhaps tangental matters, but it's proper I put them	
24			nonetheless so you've a chance to deal with them.	
25		Α.	Okay.	11:37
26	197	Q.	He disputes your position that he requested you to leak	
27			the letter concerning the Bandon Garda tapes to Paul	
28			Reynolds on the day of his retirement. All right? His	

position on that is that you came back in to him and

1			asked him for a copy of that letter because you	
2			inevitably were going to be facing questions from	
3			journalists as to the background to that matter and you	
4			needed to read your way into it because you knew	
5			nothing about it. Do you understand?	11:38
6		Α.	I understand what you're saying.	
7	198	Q.	He acknowledges that he gives you the letter, and	
8			indeed he regrets doing that, but he says he certainly	
9			did not give you any command or instruction to leak it	
10			to the media and that was not his intention.	11:38
11		Α.	I have to reject that.	
12	199	Q.	All right. And I'm suggesting to you that	
13			CHAIRMAN: Well, just, Mr. O'Higgins, vis-à-vis the	
14			Bandon letter, as it's been called, I'm not going to	
15			make a decision on that one way or the other.	11:38
16			MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: May it please your Lordship.	
17			CHAIRMAN: I mean, it's there, it's been chucked into	
18			the mix, it's a matter of credit. I really think it's	
19			very, very far removed from anything that I'm trying to	
20			deal with. But I appreciate you've put your client's	11:38
21			part	
22	200	Q.	MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Thank you, Chairman. That'll	
23			speed it up then, I can strike a few matters from the	
24			list I think. (To Witness) I'm suggesting to you,	
25			Superintendent, that Martin Callinan had a conversation	11:39
26			with you in relation - perhaps a number of	
27			conversations - in relation to the John O'Mahony report	
28			when it was published and in the context of that	
29			Sergeant McCabe was undoubtedly mentioned and the	

Τ			instruction that Sergeant McCabe that Commissioner	
2			Callinan gave to you was to familiarise yourself with	
3			the contents of the O'Mahony report, because it was	
4			going to be a media issue and you needed to be on top	
5			of the detail and across the detail in relation to	11:39
6			that. Do you recall that?	
7		Α.	Commissioner Callinan, in relation to the O'Mahony	
8			report, gave me a specific instruction to brief.	
9	201	Q.	I beg your pardon? To which?	
10		Α.	He gave me a specific instruction to brief.	11:39
11	202	Q.	To brief the media?	
12		Α.	In relation to Sergeant McCabe not cooperating with the	
13			O'Mahony report.	
14	203	Q.	Well, that's a difference between the two of you. But	
15			you are aware, aren't you, that Commissioner Callinan	11:40
16			went on public record and made no secret of the fact,	
17			his position that it was inappropriate for Sergeant	
18			McCabe - and Sergeant McCabe, in fairness to him, holds	
19			a different view - it was inappropriate for Sergeant	
20			McCabe to not exhaust resources within An Garda	11:40
21			Síochána before going out with his allegations to the	
22			PAC; you're aware that was the Commissioner's position?	
23		Α.	As I said, I can only be I asked the Commissioner	
24			for a direction on what to brief in relation to the	
25			core point: Did Sergeant McCabe cooperate? And he told	11:40
26			me to brief that he didn't cooperate.	
27	204	Q.	Well, I'm suggesting to you that Commissioner Callinan	
28			was clearcut in his publicly declared position, both	

before the PAC and elsewhere, that he was not in favour

1			of serving Garda members disclosing personal sensitive	
2			information from Pulse, he was not in favour of them	
3			doing it before the PAC, there was different avenues to	
4			pursue and one of those avenues was to exhaust internal	
5			Garda structures, principally, in the case of Sergeant	11:41
6			McCabe, proactively getting involved and engaging with	
7			John O'Mahony's investigation. Wasn't that	
8			Commissioner Callinan's stated view?	
9		Α.	I agree with you. But all I can say is the instruction	
10			I got is	11:41
11	205	Q.	And he made no bones about that. And that wasn't	
12			hidden, nor was it sinister. It was contrary to the	
13			position of Sergeant McCabe, I credit you, but it was	
14			not in any way related to any sexual allegation or any	
15			impropriety of that sort, isn't that right?	11:41
16		Α.	Well, as I say, that's Commissioner Callinan's words	
17			so	
18	206	Q.	I wish to suggest to you that, contrary to the	
19			impression you've sought to give, Commissioner Callinan	
20			was not fixated on Sergeant McCabe, the issues he was	11:41
21			raising were one of many significant issues for	
22			Commissioner Callinan, who had a lot of other issues on	
23			his desk, certainly the Sergeant McCabe issue, for want	
24			of a better expression, was an important matter, was a	
25			constant matter, but he'd a lot of other matters to	11:42
26			deal with. Broadly speaking, you'd accept that, I take	
27			it?	
28		Α.	As Commissioner of An Garda Síochána, he had a wide	
29			body of work to do.	

- 207 Q. And I'm suggesting to you that insofar as you gave 1 2 evidence yesterday that on one occasion - and I don't 3 think you were able to give it an approximate date that Martin Callinan rang you up and gave it to you in 4 5 the neck - do you recall that evidence? 11:42 6 Yes. Α. 7 208 I'm suggesting to you that that did not happen, that it 0. 8 was not his style. Em, I know his style. 9 Α. Well, I'm suggesting to you that isn't his style. 10 209 Q. 11 · 42 11 You've already indicated he's not a man who uses 12 intemperate language. 13 Well, as I say, I worked with him, so I know him. Α. 14 210 Q. And I'm suggesting to you, finally, that the allegation 15 which is contained within your protected disclosure 11:43 16 which forms the basis of this Tribunal, you'd 17 appreciate it's Sergeant McCabe's position that he made 18 his protected disclosure because what you had told him, 19 isn't that right? 20 Yes. Α. 11:43 And his obviously is, with respect to him, Sergeant 21 211 Q. 22 McCabe's position is hearsay as to what he recalled you 23 So this Tribunal is, in significant measure -24 if we forget about the tangent dealing with Keith 25 Harrison - this Tribunal is about your allegation in 11 · 43 your protected disclosure, this is a protected 26
- 29 A. I don't accept that Mr. O'Higgins.

the truth?

27

28

disclosure Tribunal about your allegation and it is not

Т			MR. MICHEAL O'HIGGINS: Thanks very much.	
2			CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. O'Higgins. Now, I'm just	
3			wondering is there anybody left? Media individuals	
4			first of all. Yes.	
5			MR. PHELAN: Chairman, my name is David Phelan, I	11:44
6			represent the Irish Times and Conor Lally and I've just	
7			one matter I want to put to Superintendent Taylor.	
8			CHAIRMAN: Okay. Do you understand now who he	
9			represents?	
10		Α.	I do. Yes, I do.	11:44
11				
12			THE WITNESS WAS CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. PHELAN AS	
13			<u>FOLLOWS</u> :	
14	212	Q.	MR. PHELAN: In the interests of fairness,	
15			Superintendent Taylor, I want to put to you what Conor	11:44
16			Lally told the Tribunal when he met its investigators.	
17			There's a statement amongst the papers circulated by	
18			the Tribunal which I can bring you to if needs be, but	
19			it's a fairly fundamental proposition I want to put to	
20			you. Mr. Lally said that whilst he's constrained in	11:44
21			some respects by journalistic privilege, there were a	
22			couple of general statements he could make, and that's	
23			what I want to put to you.	
24				
25			He said that he had not at any time had any discussions	11:44
26			with any member of An Garda Síochána, past or present,	
27			which he regarded as an attempt to engage in negative	
28			briefing about Sergeant McCabe or in any way undermine	
29			or denigrate his character. And he said he could	

Τ		confirm that no member of An Garda Stochana, past or	
2		present, ever spoke to him about allegations of	
3		criminal misconduct, whether sexual abuse or anything	
4		of the like, about Sergeant McCabe. So in light of	
5		your evidence, I wanted to put those to you to give you	11:45
6		an opportunity to respond	
7	Α.	I just reiterate - and I just want to place on the	
8		record I've great respect for Conor Lally as a	
9		journalist - that I did speak to Mr. Lally and carried	
10		out the instructions of Commissioner Callinan.	11:45
11		MR. PHELAN: I'm obliged, Chairman.	
12		CHAIRMAN: So that's it? Right, thank you very much	
13		Mr. Phelan. And then	
14		MR. PHELAN: Chairman, sorry, if it's of assistance to	
15		the Tribunal, I understood that Mr. Berry, who has been	11:45
16		here and was here this morning, had intended to put	
17		questions. I'm not sure has he just left the room. I	
18		only say that if it's of assistance to the Tribunal.	
19		CHAIRMAN: All right. I don't know, if you wouldn't	
20		mind just sending him a text in the event that he's	11:45
21		just in or around the area then please.	
22		MR. McGUINNESS: Chairman, I understand he will be here	
23		very shortly. He had been here a little bit earlier.	
24		CHAIRMAN: Okay. well, there's no panic. Okay, let's	
25		not worry about it. He'll be here when he's here and	11:46
26		he can put whatever matter he wishes to put.	
27		MS. BURNS: Chairman, perhaps I'll proceed then. I	
28		only have a few questions for	
29		CHAIRMAN: Well. if you feel you can.	

Т			MS. BURNS: Well, if Mr. Berry returns and he then	
2			raises an issue that I need to return to, perhaps I	
3			could. But I don't imagine that I will.	
4			CHAIRMAN: Yes, of course.	
5				11:46
6			THE WITNESS WAS EXAMINED BY MS. BURNS AS FOLLOWS:	
7				
8	213	Q.	MS. BURNS: Superintendent Taylor, just a few very	
9			short questions, firstly in relation to the evidence	
10			that you gave to Mr. McGuinness when being questioned	11:46
11			by him in relation to Ms. Debbie McCann and Ms. Eavan	
12			Murray in terms of them attending at Ms. D's house.	
13		Α.	Yes.	
14	214	Q.	I think that in the course of your evidence to	
15			Mr. McGuinness that you indicated that you would have	11:46
16			informed Martin Callinan and Nóirín O'Sullivan in	
17			relation to their interactions, as had been your	
18			routine practice regarding updates from journalists, is	
19			that correct?	
20		Α.	That's correct, yes.	11:47
21	215	Q.	Now, I think that Mr. McGuinness brought your attention	
22			to page 218 of the papers and an interview that you	
23			provided to the Tribunal relatively recently. And I	
24			think on that page there's reference sorry, if I	
25			just can get my own. At the very bottom line, so it's	11:47
26			line 236, Mr. McGuinness drew your attention to the	
27			fact that you indicate in that interview:	
28				
29			"I do believe that I would have texted or contacted the	

1			former Commissioner Callinan at the time about what the	
2			journalist told me."	
3			Now, I think then Mr. McGuinness asked you whether that	
4			meant that you didn't have contact with Ms. Nóirín	
5			O'Sullivan in relation to that matter.	11:47
6		Α.	It was my standard practice to send two texts all the	
7			time.	
8	216	Q.	well, if I could then ask that page 220 of the papers	
9			be placed up. And perhaps actually it goes into page	
10			221. And I think that at the very end of page 220 you	11:48
11			refer to practices of journalists, but then when you go	
12			into page 221, at the very top line, line 271, you say:	
13				
14			"I would have texted the former Commissioners to update	
15			the information I received from Eavan Murray and Debbie	11:48
16			McCann. "	
17		Α.	Yes.	
18	217	Q.	Now, in relation to your reference to the former	
19			Commissioners, who were you referring to there?	
20		Α.	That's Mr. Callinan and Ms. O'Sullivan.	11:48
21	218	Q.	I see. Thank you. In relation then to the smear	
22			campaign that you say you received directions from	
23			Mr. Callinan in relation to, your evidence has been	
24			that that commenced sometime in the middle of 2013, is	
25			that correct?	11:49
26		Α.	That's correct, yes.	
27	219	Q.	Now, the evidence has been that Mr. McLindon began his	
28			occupation with An Garda Síochána in September of 2013?	
29		Α.	That's correct.	

- 1 220 Q. Had Mr. McLindon began his work with An Garda Síochána
- before or after you had received those directions from
- 3 Mr. Callinan?
- 4 A. After.
- 5 221 Q. After. I see. Now, in relation then to your
- 6 interactions with Father it's Father Joe Kennedy, I

11:49

11:49

- 7 think, is that correct?
- 8 A. That's right, yes.
- 9 222 Q. When do you recollect having any dealings with him?
- 10 A. I think around August, August '16.
- 11 223 Q. I see. And in relation to that, we heard evidence
- 12 yesterday that it was your wife Michelle who had
- 13 contacted him?
- 14 A. That's right, yes.
- 15 224 Q. Your wife indicated that he came to your house; is that 11:49
- right?
- 17 A. That's right.
- 18 225 Q. In terms of when he came to your house, how were you at
- that stage, do you recollect?
- 20 A. I was at a low, a very low point.
- 21 226 Q. Did you speak with him?
- 22 A. I did.
- 23 227 Q. Do you recollect how long that meeting went on for?
- 24 A. I'd say about probably half an hour I'd imagine.
- 25 228 Q. I see.
- 26 A. Somewhere around that time.
- 27 229 Q. Do you recollect what you spoke to him about?
- 28 A. I do, yes.
- 29 230 Q. And what was it about?

- 1 A. In relation to Sergeant McCabe and what I'd been
- 2 instructed to do and what I'd done and seeking
- forgiveness for what I'd done.
- 4 231 Q. And how did the meeting with Father Kennedy conclude
- 5 itself?

11:50

11:50

- 6 A. It concluded, as I said, I felt comfort that he had
- 7 heard what I had to say and he blessed me and that and
- 8 I found great heart from it and great comfort from it.
- 9 232 Q. I see. Now, in terms then of meeting with Sergeant
- 10 McCabe, we've heard evidence that there had been
- 11 contact from Sergeant McCabe to your house --
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 233 Q. -- in terms of perhaps meeting with you.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 234 Q. The indication appears to be that that was before the
- 16 summer of 2016.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 235 Q. What was your reaction to meeting with Sergeant McCabe
- 19 at that stage?
- 20 A. I didn't want to meet him.
- 21 236 Q. Why not?
- 22 A. I just wasn't in the space to meet him. I felt I
- couldn't look at him straight in the eye.
- 24 237 Q. I see. We're obviously aware from your wife's evidence
- yesterday that she then went and met Sergeant McCabe on 11:51
- 26 two occasions --
- 27 A. Yes.
- 28 238 Q. -- before the summer of 2016. Were you aware of that?
- 29 A. Yes.

- 1 239 Q. I see. Now, September then came --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 240 Q. -- and there again was contact from Sergeant McCabe?
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 241 Q. What was your attitude to meeting with him at that
- 6 stage?
- 7 A. I wasn't going to meet him. I wasn't -- it wasn't in

11:51

11:52

11:52

- 8 my position to meet him, I hadn't -- I simply just
- 9 wasn't going to meet him.
- 10 242 Q. And why was that?
- 11 A. Again, I couldn't bear to face him. I couldn't, as I
- said, confront what I had done.
- 13 243 Q. In any event, as matters transpired I think that a date
- of 20th September was arranged because Sergeant McCabe
- 15 was in fact going to be in Dublin?
- 16 A. That's right, yes.
- 17 244 Q. Coming up to that date, what was your attitude in
- 18 relation to meeting him?
- 19 A. I wasn't going to meet him.
- 20 245 Q. I see. But the day came. And we're aware that there
- 21 had been a family issue --
- 22 A. Yeah.
- 23 246 Q. -- the previous night. On the day of 20th September,
- 24 what was your attitude to meeting Sergeant McCabe?
- 25 A. I agreed to meet him and I agreed to tell him exactly
- 26 what had gone on.
- 27 247 Q. And why had your position changed?
- 28 A. Because of the night before and because of the
- evolution I'd gone through, that I had to tell him, I

- 1 had to tell him the truth.
- 2 248 Q. I see. So in meeting Sergeant McCabe, what did you
- 3 intend to do?
- 4 A. To confess as to the campaign that I'd been directed by

11:53

11:53

11:53

- 5 the Commissioner to be involved in.
- 6 249 Q. Were you lying to Sergeant McCabe --
- 7 A. No.
- 8 250 Q. -- when you met him that day?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 251 Q. I see. Just then, Superintendent Taylor, in relation
- to the day that Mr. Callinan retired --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 252 Q. -- I think your evidence is and I'm aware that the
- 14 Chairman doesn't want to make decisions in relation to
- the actual issue but I think your evidence as --
- 16 CHAIRMAN: Well, I think I've enough decisions to make.
- 17 And I'm not entitled to step outside my terms of
- 18 reference. Okay, a matter of credit. But I really
- don't see it as a matter of credit very much.
- 20 MS. BURNS: well, I'll just address the Chairman in
- 21 relation to why --
- 22 CHAIRMAN: No, but I'm not stopping you, Ms. Burns.
- You may persuade me otherwise. So please, you carry
- 24 on.
- MS. BURNS: The only issue that I'm attempting to
- 26 address --
- 27 CHAIRMAN: No, I'm inviting you to carry on with the
- 28 witness --
- MS. BURNS: May it please you, Chairman.

- CHAIRMAN: -- and then if you want, you can tell me something at the end.
- 3 MS. BURNS: May it please you Chairman.
- 4 CHAIRMAN: All right.
- 5 253 Q. MS. BURNS: Just in terms of that day, did you have 11:53 contact with Mr. Paul Reynolds?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 254 Q. And why did you have contact with Mr. Paul Reynolds?
- 9 A. Commissioner Callinan rang me from his desk number to
  10 my desk number asking me to get a letter out and
  11 release Mr. Reynolds in relation to a letter that he
  12 had written to the Department of Justice concerning the
  13 Bandon phone tapes.
- 14 255 Q. And was there any other contact that you had with

  15 Mr. Reynolds on that day?
- A. Apart from that morning when Commissioner Callinan rang me around, just after nine o'clock that morning. He told me that he had gone and I inquired of him was he gone and he said he had resigned. And he said 'Get it out to Paul straightaway'.

- 21 256 Q. I see. So your contacts with Mr. Reynolds that day
  22 were directed by Mr. Callinan is your position, is that
  23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 257 Q. Thank you very much. There's just one further matter, 11
  26 Chairman, that I don't want to adduce evidence of -27 CHAIRMAN: Can I just ask you, Ms. Burns, just in
  28 relation to that and again please underline the word
  29 "suppose" so suppose that's true; what am I to take

1	of it?	
2	MS. BURNS: Well, in due course, Chairman, what I will	
3	be submitting to the Tribunal is that this is evidence	
4	from Superintendent Taylor of Mr. Callinan directing a	
5	contact with a journalist that's outside the normal	: 55
6	role and reporting structures of the Press Office. And	
7	that's as far as I seek to place that.	
8	CHAIRMAN: All right. Well, thank you for making the	
9	point, I see it. Yes, thank you.	
10	MS. BURNS: The only other matter of clarification -	:55
11	it's not an evidential issue, Chairman, and I did draw	
12	this to the Tribunal's attention - when Mr. McGuinness	
13	was examining Superintendent Taylor he indicated that	
14	Mr. Ferry, my junior counsel in the matter, had put to	
15	Mr. Paul Williams, on Superintendent Taylor's behalf,	:55
16	that Superintendent Taylor recollected a phone call	
17	from Paul Williams the following week. In fact when	
18	one looks at the transcript, that wasn't what was put.	
19		
20	I can draw the Tribunal's attention to page 89 of day	:55
21	11 and what was put mirrors in fact what Superintendent	
22	Taylor says, to the effect that his recollection was	
23	that a phone call had been on the Saturday and that	
24	Superintendent Taylor was of the view that an interview	
25	was to take place in relation to Ms. D. So it's just 11:	:56
26	simply a point of clarification.	
27	CHAIRMAN: well, the question you're referring to is:	
28		
29	"My instructions are that Superintendent Taylor	

1	received a phone call on a Saturday in February or,	
2	sorry, a Saturday in March and that the content of the	
3	phone call was that you" - that's, Mr. Williams - "were	
4	present in Ms. D's house and had just concluded an	
5	i ntervi ew. "	11:56
6		
7	So in other words, he's saying that he was contacted	
8	very shortly after Mr. Williams had spoken to Ms. D and	
9	that Mr. Williams was still present, or giving the	
10	impression that he was still present. And then the	11:56
11	answer from Mr. Williams was:	
12		
13	"I don't believe I called Mr. Taylor, Superintendent	
14	Taylor, until the following week."	
15	MS. BURNS: Yes, Judge. And I think	11:57
16	CHAIRMAN: Is there much	
17	MS. BURNS: Chairman, I think it was that	
18	Mr. McGuinness mistakenly put, or suggested to	
19	Superintendent Taylor that we had put to Mr. Williams	
20	that the phone call was the following week. Now, I	11:57
21	think that's Mr. Williams' evidence in relation to the	
22	matter, but that isn't what we put. So it's just	
23	simply to correct the record in relation to what we in	
24	fact put, which accords with the evidence that	
25	Superintendent Taylor has given in relation to that	11:57
26	issue.	
27	CHAIRMAN: well, if you look at page 103, Ms. Burns:	
28		

"It is our instructions that to the best of our

1	client's recollection there was only one phone call,	
2	which occurred on the Saturday Mr. Williams attended at	
3	Ms. D's house. Mr. Williams telephoned our client,	
4	Superintendent Taylor, and told him he was at Ms. D's	
5	house and had interviewed her, that Maurice McCabe had	11:57
6	destroyed this person and that he was going to write an	
7	article that was going to be very damaging to Maurice	
8	McCabe. "	
9	MS. BURNS: And that's the exact point, that what was	
10	put reflects the evidence of Superintendent Taylor on	11:57
11	the issue. Whereas Mr. McGuinness, when he introduced	
12	this the other day, indicated that we had put that	
13	Superintendent Taylor's position was that there was a	
14	phone call from Mr. Williams the following week. That	
15	was never put. On our side, Chairman, it's just simply	11:58
16	to correct the record.	
17	CHAIRMAN: No, consistently you've said it was the	
18	Saturday	
19	MS. BURNS: Yes.	
20	CHAIRMAN: and he was there	11:58
21	MS. BURNS: Yes. Just in case	
22	CHAIRMAN: and saying 'I am speaking to you from',	
23	like the vote of the Latvian jury or whatever in the	
24	Eurovision Song Contest, 'I am now speaking to you from	
25	Ms. D's house', yes. All right. No, I get it, the	11:58
26	point is in my mind. Thank you.	
27	MS. BURNS: Thank you very much.	
28	MR. McGUINNESS: Chairman, I see Mr. Berry has arrived.	
29	CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Berry.	

1	MR. McGUINNESS: Chairman, might I just also say that	
2	there are a number of other journalists who were	
3	granted representation and in respect of whom the	
4	superintendent in the witness box has given evidence	
5	and I think they're probably represented by legal 11:5	58
6	representatives here today; Mr. Mooney, Ms. McCann and	
7	Ms. Murray. And I hope I'm not leaving anyone out.	
8	But it might be proper to inquire whether they wish to	
9	cross-examine Superintendent Taylor.	
10	CHAIRMAN: All right. So Mr. Mooney is represented by? 11:5	<b>i</b> 9
11	Did someone want to tell me? Mr. Mooney is represented	
12	by? Does anybody know who Mr. Mooney is represented	
13	by? He was granted representation, that's for certain.	
14	MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, it's Mr. Keeley I think.	
15	CHAI RMAN: Hmm?	<b>i</b> 9
16	MR. McGUINNESS: Mr. Keeley.	
17	CHAIRMAN: Mr. Keane?	
18	MR. McGUINNESS: Keeley. I'm sorry. I'm sorry, it's	
19	Mr. McAleese.	
20	MR. KEELEY: Sorry, Mr. Chairman, my microphone here is 11:5	<b>i</b> 9
21	not really working. I'm not representing	
22	MR. McGUINNESS: I am sorry, it's Mr. McAleese.	
23	CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mcaleese, yes.	
24	MR. KEELEY: I am not representing Mr. Mooney.	
25	Mr. McAleese represents Mr. Mooney, as I understand the $_{11:5}$	<b>i</b> 9
26	position.	
27	CHAIRMAN: And is Mr. McAleese here?	
28	MR. KEELEY: I don't believe that he is. I don't	
29	believe that counsel on Mr. Mooney's behalf is here	

1	either.	
2	CHAIRMAN: well, again the <u>Haughey</u> rights apply. I	
3	simply give them and if people don't want to take them	
4	up, as I said before, it's like being invited to a	
5	dinner; if you don't want to eat the dinner, you don't	2:00
6	turn up. So he's not here?	
7	MR. KEELEY: No, Mr. Chairman.	
8	CHAIRMAN: All right. Then Ms. Debbie McCann is	
9	represented by?	
10	MR. KEELEY: Chairman, I represent Debbie McCann - 12	2:00
11	Michael Keeley - and I was asked if I have any	
12	questions for the witness the day before yesterday and	
13	I indicated that I had no questions to ask.	
14	CHAIRMAN: And your basis for not asking any questions,	
15	given that Debbie McCann has been centrally involved in 12	2:00
16	this and in particular in going up to visit Ms. D and	
17	being at her house and in respect of the proposition	
18	put that this was at the behest of Superintendent	
19	Taylor or with the assistance Superintendent Taylor,	
20	who has waived any issue in relation to journalistic	2:0
21	privilege or being identified as source of information?	
22	MR. KEELEY: well, Mr. Chairman, my position on that, I	
23	don't want to particularly traverse again the	
24	interaction that you had with Mr. Quinn for the Irish	
25	Examiner, but I think it would be fair to say that the	2:01
26	position of my clients, including Ms. McCann, would	
27	mirror that in relation to the constraints that are	
28	imposed upon Ms. McCann about what she can put to	
29	Mr. Taylor because of her obligations regarding	

1	journalistic privilege.
2	CHAIRMAN: And does she say that she actually has the
3	privilege herself and that it's not the privilege of
4	Superintendent Taylor?
5	MR. KEELEY: Well, we would be I think at some stage 12:01
6	submissions will be given in relation to that. But
7	Ms. McCann's and my clients' position has been
8	consistent with that throughout, which is that the
9	waiver of privilege by Mr. Taylor, or indeed any other
10	witness, does not release them from the obligation of $_{12:02}$
11	journalistic privilege.
12	CHAIRMAN: well, you seem to be at odds with the
13	European Court of Human Rights there Mr. Keeley.
14	MR. KEELEY: well, we may disagree on that
15	CHAIRMAN: Well, no, it's not a question of agreeing or 12:02
16	disagreeing. I've read the decision and what it says
17	is it is a factor.
18	MR. KEELEY: It is a factor.
19	CHAIRMAN: So are you saying it is the definitive
20	factor, which the European Court of Human rights don't 12:02
21	say?
22	MR. KEELEY: I'm saying it's an extremely important
23	factor to be taken into account. And I think there are
24	two aspects to this; the first is the ethics which my
25	clients have as journalists, and secondly then the 12:02
26	legal position that they have in relation to that, upon
27	which you will obviously have to make a ruling at some
28	stage. But certainly in relation to the ethics of the
29	profession, the fact that a source has decided to

1	self-identify does not release them from that, from	
2	that privilege.	
3	CHAIRMAN: I'm not bound by ethics, except the ethics	
4	of telling the truth and doing my best. The law is	
5	what applies to every citizen	12:02
6	MR. KEELEY: Yes.	
7	CHAIRMAN: in this State.	
8	MR. KEELEY: And as I indicated in relation to the	
9	legal position, the legal position so far as my clients	
10	are concerned is that that waiver, while a factor to be	12:03
11	taken into account, is not one which would, even	
12	legally, release them from their obligation or the	
13	rights which they have under the European Convention.	
14	CHAIRMAN: You'll be aware as well, I'm sure, from	
15	reading the case law that the circumstances under which	12:03
16	a journalist's privilege can apply is fact specific.	
17	Do you wish to put any fact of any kind to	
18	Superintendent Taylor with a view to supporting the	
19	assertion that you may or may not wish to make later on	
20	when your client comes to give evidence?	12:03
21	MR. KEELEY: well, Mr. Chairman, there has been pretty	
22	detailed correspondence between myself and the	
23	solicitor for the Tribunal in relation	
24	CHAIRMAN: No, but I've said this before - and excuse	
25	me for interrupting you - but this is a public	12:03
26	Tribunal.	
27	MR. KEELEY: Yes.	
28	CHAIRMAN: And it's fine to write and thank you very	
29	much for your submissions in that regard, but if things	

1 are to be said, they sought to be said in public. 2 doing everything in public. So what is your position 3 then? MR. KEELEY: Well, I think we have indicated throughout 4 5 our wish to make submissions on this particular point, 12:04 and my understanding was that we would do that in some 6 7 more detail at a later stage. But I can revisit the 8 correspondence if you wish, I have it to hand here if needs be, and I think that that does set out certainly 9 some of the factual basis upon which my clients would 10 12:04 be seeking to rely in relation to this issue. 11 All right. That is fine. But this is an 12 CHAI RMAN: 13 evidence-based process. There is a witness in the box. 14 He has spoken extensively in relation to your client. There has been evidence as well from Chief 15 12:04 16 Superintendent Clerkin in relation to contacts between Superintendent Taylor and your client. I'm simply 17 18 inviting you, if you wish, if it is within your 19 client's instructions, to put any question which may 20 ground a claim of privilege later on or any question 12:04 which you feel needs to be put with a view to 21 22 contradicting what may be damaging allegations or 23 inferences from facts that may be drawn from the 24 evidence of the Superintendent. Now, it's an invitation, that's as far as I can put it. 25 12:05 26 MR. KEELEY: Well, at this particular stage, as I say, the position that we have in relation to that I think 27 has been set out. A number of points have been put to 28 us by Tribunal's counsel in relation to the evidence 29

1	that is being given and our reliance upon that and we	
2	have replied in some considerable detail in relation to	
3	the reasons that we have for that. I can take up the	
4	Tribunal's time should you wish in going over that	
5	correspondence again, but I'm not sure that's necessary 12:0	15
6	at this stage, I think we can have perhaps a more	
7	detailed discussion on that at a stage whenever this	
8	issue is arising.	
9	CHAIRMAN: well, Mr. Keeley, can I take you then as	
10	declining to ask any question of this witness either in 12:0	15
11	relation to anything damaging that may have been said	
12	about your client, any inference that may be raised on	
13	foot of his evidence and declining also to establish,	
14	if it is possible, through the superintendent, any fact	
15	which may ground a claim of privilege on a later 12:0	16
16	occasion when your client gives evidence; are you	
17	declining?	
18	MR. KEELEY: Our position in relation to that is that	
19	the witness has given evidence which is favourable to	
20	our client, the witness has given evidence which is 12:0	16
21	less favourable to our client. Because of the	
22	constraints that are imposed on them because of	
23	journalistic privilege, they are unable to put	
24	questions to Mr. Taylor without breaching that	
25	privilege. And in light of that, that is the nature 12:0	16
26	of that is the reason why we are declining to raise	
27	questions of Mr. Taylor, as is the position of the	
28	Irish Examiner, as you've heard.	
29	CHAIRMAN: well, I'm not interested I'm simply	

1	interested in what your view is. But you're declining
2	to ask any questions?
3	MR. KEELEY: That is correct.
4	CHAIRMAN: Yes, all right. Well, that's fine. And
5	then vis-à-vis Ms. Murray?
6	MR. KEELEY: I don't represent Ms. Murray. Ms. Murray,
7	I understand is not represented by Mr. McAleese.
8	MR. McGUINNESS: Chairman, I can say that I know, I've
9	been told by Mr. Barnes that Mr. Mooney himself was in
10	the room and he's attempting to contact his solicitor, 12:07
11	Mr. McAleese. So
12	CHAIRMAN: All right. Well, I don't want to put
13	Mr. Mooney on the spot.
14	MR. McGUINNESS: No.
15	CHAIRMAN: I mean, he was granted representation and 12:07
16	MR. McGUINNESS: Yes. well, perhaps we might return to
17	it if and when.
18	CHAIRMAN: Yes, exactly, I think that's the right thing
19	to do.
20	MR. McGUINNESS: And in the interim, Mr. Berry is here. 12:07
21	CHAIRMAN: Yes. And, look, if somebody isn't here and
22	it's a mistake, I'm not cross. And in any event, if I
23	am, so what? But if necessary, Superintendent, we may
24	have to re-call you on that particular point. But it's
25	not going to take very long. And Mr. Berry is here. 12:07
26	
27	
28	

1			THE WITNESS WAS CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. BERRY AS FOLLOWS:	
2	258	Q.	MR. BERRY: May it please you Chairman. Superintendent	
3			Taylor, I'm at the rear of the room and I represent	
4			Ms. Gemma O'Doherty. Superintendent Taylor, I just	
5			wish to ask you about the contact that you had with	12:08
6			Commissioner Callinan when he learned that a journalist	
7			had called to his house to ask about penalty points	
8			being wiped. You indicated on Monday morning that you	
9			received a telephone call that the Commissioner was in	
10			Europe, is that so?	12:08
11		Α.	That's correct, yeah, he was out of the country at the	
12			time. He rang in relation to Ms. O'Doherty calling to	
13			his private house and speaking to his wife.	
14	259	Q.	And you described him as being very annoyed. Now, I'm	
15			going to ask you to expand on that ever so slightly.	12:08
16			Somewhat peeved? Annoyed? Very annoyed?	
17			Incandescent? Can you put that on a scale please?	
18		Α.	Well, he was extremely annoyed and extremely angry that	
19			Ms. O'Doherty had called to his house without notice	
20			and had spoken to his wife concerning penalty points.	12:08
21	260	Q.	And I understand he gave you a direction during the	
22			course of that conversation; can you tell us what that	
23			direction was?	
24		Α.	He informed me to make contact with management of	
25			Independent News and Media to express at the highest	12:09
26			level his annoyance and what he considered a breach of	
27			the code of ethics in relation to journalistic	
28			engagement, that if any journalist wished to put a	
29			matter to the Garda Commissioner they should use the	

1	facilities	of the	Garda	Press	Office
<u>+</u>	iaciiicics	OI CIIC	Jui uu	1 1 633	011166.

also present at that meeting.

- 2 261 And how did you convey that message to management in Q. 3 INM?
- I obtained a phone number for Mr. Michael Denieffe, who 4 Α. 5 was the Managing Director of Independent News and Media 12:09 6 and we arranged to meet in Harcourt Square in the offices of Assistant Commissioner John Twomey, who was 7

12:09

12:10

12:10

9 262 Now --Q.

8

- A number of days later. 10 Α.
- 11 263 -- you've described Mr. Denieffe as being the Managing Q. 12 Director; I think he might've been a managing editor. 13 Are you certain about the job title?
- 14 Α. I'm not sure of his title, I just know he held a senior position within Independent News and Media. 15
- 16 264 And did you put any of this communication in writing? Ο. Did you write a formal letter on foot of an instruction 17 18 from the Commissioner?
- 19 I understand there may have been a letter issued and Α. that, I think the Commissioner may have dealt with that 12:10 20 with his legal advisors. 21 But we attended a meeting a 22 number of days later, I think it could've been a 23 Tuesday, in Harcourt Square with Commissioner Twomey, 24 Mr. Denieffe and Mr. Denieffe brought a colleague with him. 25
- I think that now Deputy Commissioner Twomey was 26 265 Q. 27 Assistant Commissioner Twomey at the time in charge of the Dublin Metropolitan Region? 28
- 29 That's correct, yes. Α.

1	266	Q.	Why, when this matter was related to press inquiries,	
2			was the meeting held not in Phoenix Park where the	
3			Garda Press Office is, but instead in Harcourt Square	
4			with the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Dublin	
5			Metropolitan Region?	12:10
6		Α.	Because Commissioner Callinan was Commissioner, he is a	
7			person who would be a protected person, there'd be a	
8			security matter and that might ensue. Assistant	
9			Commissioner Twomey, who was in charge in Dublin, would	
10			be in charge of the personal protection and security of	12:10
11			Commissioner Callinan's residence.	
12	267	Q.	And you indicated that Mr. Denieffe may have brought a	
13			colleague; was that colleague Tom Brady, the crime and	
14			security correspondent for the Irish Independent?	
15		Α.	No, it was a female colleague. I don't know her name.	12:11
16	268	Q.	Can you tell me on how many other occasions during your	
17			tenure as Press Officer of An Garda Síochána were you	
18			instructed to arrange meetings of this nature?	
19		Α.	That's the only one I ever had.	
20			MR. BERRY: Thank you very much, superintendent.	12:11
21		Α.	Okay.	
22			MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Just arising out of that,	
23			Chairman, I wonder may I ask one question before	
24			Mr. McGuinness resumes?	
25			CHAIRMAN: Yes.	12:11
26				
27				
28				
29				

1			THE WITNESS WAS FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. MÍCHEÁL	
2			O' HI GGI NS AS FOLLOWS:	
3	269	Q.	MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Superintendent, you're aware,	
4			are you, that Gemma O'Doherty has sought to make out a	
5			case that Commissioner Callinan was somehow connected	12:11
6			with or responsible for the Tusla allegation and	
7			everything surrounding it causing prejudice or hurt to	
8			Sergeant McCabe. You're broadly speaking aware that	
9			this is my question: Are you aware that Ms. O'Doherty	
10			provided a statement to the Tribunal in which she	12:12
11			sought to connect the Tusla allegation and the fact	
12			that Martin Callinan was named as a person abusing, on	
13			her case, the fixed charge penalty system?	
14		Α.	If you're asking me direct, Mr. O'Higgins, no I'm not.	
15			I haven't seen that statement.	12:12
16	270	Q.	Well, can you just confirm for me that not only did	
17			Martin Callinan not know about the Tusla allegation but	
18			in fact you make no claim that you knew about	
19		Α.	No, I didn't.	
20	271	Q.	the Tusla development, isn't that right?	12:13
21		Α.	Yes. Never knew.	
22			MR. MÍCHEÁL O'HIGGINS: Thanks very much.	
23			MR. BERRY: Chairman, I'm loth to play tennis with	
24			Mr. O'Higgins, but he's indicated that that was	
25			contained in the statement. I wonder if that could be	12:13
26			brought up and shown please?	
27			CHAIRMAN: well, I've been at this since February of	
28			last year and whereas I haven't read absolutely	
29			everything, I've read everything I believe that is of	

Т			importance.	
2			MR. BERRY: Very good.	
3			CHAIRMAN: And there's nothing to indicate in fact that	
4			the timescale in terms of communications between Garda	
5			Headquarters and Tusla or any notification of anything	2:13
6			from Tusla is such that anything of the Tusla	
7			allegations could have been included in the alleged	
8			instruction to Superintendent Taylor allegedly made by	
9			Commissioner Callinan and affirmed by Commissioner	
10			O'Sullivan. And I'm using the word "alleged" obviously 12	2:13
11			to indicate that I haven't made my mind up about	
12			anything. But the documentary trail is not there. And	
13			there's no evidence to suggest that at the particular	
14			time when this alleged campaign was allegedly going on	
15			that this could have been in fact included in it. So I $_{ m 12}$	2:14
16			think the matter can be safely dropped.	
17			MR. BERRY: May it please you, Chairman.	
18			CHAIRMAN: Yes.	
19				
20			THE WITNESS WAS RE-EXAMINED BY MR. McGUINNESS AS	2:14
21			FOLLOWS:	
22				
23	272	Q.	MR. McGUINNESS: Superintendent Taylor, could I just	
24			clear up a number of matters firstly Mr. Barnes has	
25			just passed me a note confirming that Mr. McAleese's	2:14
26			solicitors wrote to the Tribunal yesterday or last	
27			Friday, stating that he had no questions to put to this	
28			witness, Superintendent Taylor. So he appears to be	
29			declining an opportunity to cross-examine.	

1				
2			If we could go to page 156 of the documents. And in	
3			the middle of this page, the Tribunal says:	
4				
5			"The Tribunal notes that your client spoke to various	12:15
6			journalists on foot of the instructions as given to him	
7			by the Commissioner to encourage him to write	
8			negatively about Sergeant McCabe and to brief."	
9				
10			I'm not quite sure what that says.	12:15
11				
12			"The Tribunal would be most grateful if your client	
13			could let it know who these journalists are. The	
14			Tribunal would also be most grateful if your client	
15			would provide to it as much detail as possible as to	12:15
16			what your client said to each of those individual	
17			journalists and when it was said."	
18				
19			Now, in your protected disclosure, as we've seen, the	
20			only journalist you make reference to is Mr. Williams,	12:15
21			in the context of receiving a call from him. So why	
22			did you not include, in your first statement to the	
23			Tribunal in March, the list of journalists?	
24		Α.	The full list, is it?	
25	273	Q.	Yes.	12:16
26		Α.	well, at the first available opportunity then, I did	
27			provide the complete list.	
28	274	Q.	Well, you didn't, you didn't provide any list of any	
29			iournalist in your first statement to the Tribunal.	

- 1 A. I don't know if I was asked that question, I can't
- 2 recall if --
- 3 275 Q. Well, this is a statement that was volunteered on your
- 4 part --
- 5 A. Yeah.
- 6 276 Q. -- by your solicitors dated 13th March I think. And no

12:16

12:17

12:17

- 7 journalists are identified. Were you having trouble at
- 8 that stage remembering what journalists you say you
- 9 briefed?
- 10 A. No, I remember what journalists, I remember what
- journalists I briefed.
- 12 277 Q. Well, in the list that was provided in April by your
- 13 solicitors, not in a statement --
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 278 Q. -- we've obviously seen that there were nine.
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 279 Q. And two were omitted.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 280 Q. Were you having difficulty recalling at that point in
- time what members of the press you say you briefed?
- 21 A. No. But I wanted to -- at the first available
- opportunity again I provided the full and complete
- 23 list.
- 24 281 Q. Yes. Well, I'm not sure that is accurate.
- 25 A. Yeah.
- 26 282 Q. Because you omitted, obviously we've been through this
- before with Ms. McCann and Ms. Murray --
- 28 A. Yeah.
- 29 283 Q. -- and when you were confronted with the investigators

- in relation to their visits you confirmed that you had
- 2 spoken to them in advance of their trips, etcetera,
- 3 etcetera.
- 4 A. Yes, yes.
- 5 284 Q. But had you forgotten, is it your evidence that you had 12:17
- forgotten that those two journalists that you were in
- 7 very extensive contact with --
- 8 A. It's not a case I'd forgotten, I just wanted to be sure
- 9 to be sure and when I was sure I included it.
- 10 285 Q. Okay. At page 158 of the Tribunal papers, if we bring
- that up in the middle of that page, further down it's
- 12 noted there:

13

- "Our client has provided us with his work diaries for
- the relevant period and we are in a process of
- reviewing same with the view to extracting, identifying
- or highlighting relevant entries."
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 286 Q. Now they're obviously your diaries, and presumably you
- 20 went through them --

- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 287 Q. -- yourself?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 288 Q. And did you go through them with your solicitors then
- 25 as well --

12:18

12:18

- 26 A. Yes.
- 27 289 Q. -- on foot of this?
- 28 A. Yes.
- 29 290 Q. And did you identify any relevant entry relating to

1			anything that you said to the Tribunal in your	
2			evidence?	
3		Α.	In relation to the press conference in Dundalk, I'd a	
4			note of the time it was going to be on at.	
5	291	Q.	Okay. And is there anything else noted in any of your	12:18
6			diaries of any relevance to the Tribunal or to your	
7			evidence to the Tribunal?	
8		Α.	I don't think so. A lot of it was just short notes of	
9			the times press conferences would be on and that kind	
10			of stuff.	12:19
11	292	Q.	Now can I just turn to another topic? Could we bring	
12			up Mr. Wallace's statement, Volume 25 page 6857. It's	
13			obviously at line 149 there:	
14				
15			"18/12 Frank Clerkin took State phone re Roma	12:19
16			children David Taylor said this was just trumped up	
17			charges to get his phone off him."	
18				
19			Now have you a recollection of saying that to Deputy	
20			Taylor?	12:19
21		Α.	Not saying trumped up charges.	
22	293	Q.	Pardon?	
23		Α.	I recollect saying that Mr. Clerkin took my phone in	
24			relation to the Roma children, but not trumped up	
25			charges.	12:19
26	294	Q.	Can we just go to 6860? And down the page. If we just	
27			stop there. Deputy Taylor was Deputy Wallace was	
28			kind enough to send us a statement that he had made	
29			with Deputy Daly in relation to the matter.	

2	295	Q.	Then he provided the Tribunal with a statement and he	
3			provided the Tribunal with his notes.	
4		Α.	Yes.	
5	296	Q.	And you know, I think, very clearly that he, amongst	12:20
6			others, believes that you told him you had sent texts	
7			to the media and others. Not texts to the Commissioner	
8			but texts to the media and others that was derogatory	
9			of Sergeant McCabe.	
10		Α.	No. I always made it clear and I've always made it	12:21
11			clear from day one, I sent texts concerning Sergeant	
12			McCabe	
13	297	Q.	Yes.	
14		Α.	to Commissioner	
15	298	Q.	Now perhaps Deputy Wallace was surprised that his	12:21
16			skills as a notetaker were very poor, because he	
17			appears to have phoned you when this became public to	
18			confront you about this suggestion, isn't that right?	
19		Α.	I can't actually recall that, but I hear what you are	
20			saying.	12:21
21	299	Q.	Can we just read from line 196, it says:	
22				
23			"When it was made public in the Disclosures Tribunal	
24			that Superintendent Taylor said that he wasn't actually	
25			sending derogatory texts about Maurice to the media I	12:21
26			phoned him and asked him did he not tell Clare and I	
27			that he had sent derogatory texts about Maurice to the	
28			media, he said no."	

1

29

A. Yes.

- 1 Is that right?
- 2 A. Yeah, I never sent derogatory texts.
- 3 300 Q. Do you recall the phone call?
- 4 A. I don't. But I hear what you're saying.
- 5 301 Q. Right. But this is a very recent phone call, is it

12.22

12:22

12:22

12.22

- 6 not?
- 7 A. How recent?
- 8 302 Q. Well, you tell me when you think it happened.
- 9 A. A month or so ago, or six weeks ago, I can't --
- 10 303 Q. And is your memory that poor --
- 11 A. No, it's not.
- 12 304 Q. -- that you don't remember Deputy Wallace --
- 13 A. Yeah.
- 14 305 Q. And he appears to be a very forceful and effective
- deputy obviously, he raises a lot of matters in the
- 16 páil.
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 306 Q. But you know obviously that Deputy Daly went on
- 19 radio --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 307 Q. -- and referred to the texts, hundreds if not thousands
- of texts, as did Mr. Clifford on the 4th, 6th and 7th
- 23 and it was also raised in the Dáil --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 308 Q. -- was it not, in the context of a demand for Nóirín
- 26 O'Sullivan's resignation, isn't that right?
- 27 A. Yes, I hear what you are saying. Yes.
- 28 309 Q. Pardon?
- 29 A. Yes. I hear what you are saying.

1	310	Q.	He quotes you then as saying at line 199:	
2				
3			"He said he was sending texts that were derogatory	
4			towards Maurice in relation to things happening or	
5			being said in the media about Maurice and he was	12:23
6			sending these on to Callinan and O'Sullivan and she	
7			often replied "perfect". I asked was he not sending	
8			derogatory texts about Maurice to the journalists and	
9			he said no. He said that he was feeding them, the	
10			media, negative things about Maurice but not in text	12:23
11			form."	
12		Α.	Exactly, yeah.	
13	311	Q.	Okay. But is that line at 199 correct; "He said he was	
14			sending texts that were derogatory towards Maurice to	
15			the Commissioners"?	12:23
16		Α.	No. It was updates. As I was always said, it's	
17			updates in relation to the Maurice McCabe situation as	
18			it played out in the public arena.	
19	312	Q.	So any texts you sent to the Commissioners, you say,	
20			were texts merely about matters that were going on in	12:23
21			public	
22		Α.	Yeah.	
23	313	Q.	or in the media?	
24		Α.	Yeah.	
25	314	Q.	And were not derogatory?	12:23
26		Α.	Yes.	
27	315	Q.	Okay. Now in September 2014 when you replaced your	
28			phone	
29		Α.	Yes.	

- 1 316 Q. -- Inspector Moroney gave evidence that none of the
- texts from your previous phone were transferred to your
- 3 new phone, do you accept that?
- 4 A. I accept the evidence as given, yes.
- 5 317 Q. He also gave evidence that that was not wiped, but it

12.24

12:24

12:25

- 6 was returned to you, isn't that right, and that wasn't
- 7 challenged?
- 8 A. Yeah. Well, one phone is downloaded into another phone
- 9 that's -- I'm not a technical expert.
- 10 318 Q. All right. In your protected disclosure, after you
- refer to Mr. Williams' phone call to you --
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 319 Q. -- you say no article was ever published.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 320 Q. And it seems an extraordinary thing to say because you
- 16 were the Press Officer and your explanation for what
- that means is that you never saw any article, is that
- 18 right?
- 19 A. I didn't see it, no.
- 20 321 Q. But you were the Press Officer --
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 322 Q. -- for two months afterwards, isn't that correct?
- 23 A. That's right, yeah.
- 24 323 Q. At the time of the article. And you were getting the
- 25 press clippings --
- 26 A. Yes.
- 27 324 Q. -- on a daily basis during this period that we're
- talking about, from the beginning of April until when
- you left on the 10th June 2014?

- 1 A. That's right, yes.
- 2 325 Q. And was Mr. Williams' article not included in the press
- 3 clippings?
- 4 A. I'm sure it was, but I didn't notice it because, as I
- 5 say, by that time I didn't have a leadership role in

12:27

- 6 the Press Office.
- 7 326 Q. Now, your recollection of course of what Mr. Williams
- 8 has told you is sort of, guess where I'm phoning from?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 327 Q. Is it possible that that is erroneous and he might have 12:25
- 11 said something like guess where I've been --
- 12 A. No.
- 13 328 Q. -- and who I'm going to interview?
- 14 A. No. He said, guess where I am?
- 15 329 Q. Right. Okay. Well if we look at page 3323, this is -- 12:26
- perhaps that's not the right page. If we just check.
- 17 If we just go on to, just bear with me, 3233, it's
- there on the 6th March, do you see that?
- 19 A. It's not up yet.
- 20 330 Q. Yes.
- 21 A. Oh yeah, sorry, yeah.
- 22 331 Q. That appears to be a phone call from you to
- 23 Mr. Williams --
- 24 A. Yeah.
- 25 332 Q. -- on the day after he had been --
- 26 A. Yeah.
- 27 333 Q. -- and two days before he was due to go back and on his
- own account he did go back?
- 29 A. Mm-hmm.

- So is it possible that he could have told you on the 1 334 Q. 2 6th that he had been in the house and he was going to interview her on the 8th or in a couple of days? 3 My recollection, Mr. McGuinness, has always been 4 Α. 5 that he rang me unsolicited to tell me, guess where I 12:27 6 am. Now in terms of learning of the outcome of 7 335 Okay. Yes. 0. 8 the visit, you had other calls with him and if we could look at page 7008. 9 Maybe just explain how the chart actually 10 CHAI RMAN: 12 · 27 11 works. Because obviously we only have one side of 12 this, isn't that right, Mr. McGuinness? 13 MR. McGUI NNESS: Yes. These are outgoing contacts 336 Q. 14 initiated by you, isn't that correct? 15 That's correct. Α. 12:27 16 And if we just go down the page to where it begins on 337 Ο. 17 the 12th, which is at the bottom, nearly all of these 18 calls are to a Ms. Eavan Murray? 19 Yes. Α.
- 20 338 Q. There's a call on the 10th there to Mr. Williams?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 339 Q. If we just go back up. And is it possible he told you

12:28

23 he was writing an article?

On the 10 /4?

- 24 A. I don't recall him telling me he was going writing an
- 25 article.

Ο.

26

340

- MR. McDOWELL: It seems to have lasted four minutes.
- MR. McGUINNESS: Two minutes 12.
- 29 CHAIRMAN: There's one for two minutes, yes.

- 1 I can't -- I don't recall, Mr. McGuinness, him telling Α. 2 me he was going to write an article.
- 3 341 MR. McGUINNESS: All right. If we go down the page, it Q. 4 goes on from the 10th onto the succeeding days. And 5 you've a number of calls and texts to Ms. Murray there. 12:28

Just further down on the page, where it goes into the 6

7 12th, this is the day that Mr. Williams' article was

published in the Sunday Independent. I'm sorry, go

back up, Mr. Kavanagh, please. If we just go back up a 9

little bit further, thank you. Now presumably you read 12:29

12:29

12:30

the Sunday Independent as part of your job?

12 Yes. Α.

8

10

11

13 Yes. And are you saying to the Tribunal that you never 342 Q. 14 saw Mr. Williams' article knowing that he had phoned 15 you from the house, that you were anxious to brief the 16 Commissioners about and is it your sworn evidence you

didn't know of the outcome of that visit or the 17

- 18 publication of the article?
- 19 No, because this is a month after the initial call I Α. think, and I didn't think there was ever articles 20 12:30 written. 21
- 22 You see you've told me it was your job to read the 343 Q. 23 papers and you'd read the Sunday Independent?
- 24 Yes. Α.
- 25 You'd get the press clippings in your capacity as head 344 0. of the Press Office and you now actually -- you're 26 27 sending texts to Ms. Murray on the 12th there at nine 28 in the morning, Sunday morning, some more calls then it 29

1			text to Ms. McCann, there's a short call with	
2			Ms. Murray at 17:20, there's a text then that or	
3			perhaps a call you made to Mr. Williams and another,	
4			another call later there. You seem to have been trying	
5			to get through to Mr. Williams, isn't that right?	12:30
6		Α.	Yes. I see by the records, yeah.	
7	345	Q.	Yes. And presumably you were calling him to	
8			congratulate him on the article about Ms. D?	
9		Α.	I've always said, Mr. McGuinness, I don't recall seeing	
10			the articles, because, as I said, by this stage I was	12:31
11			not in position of authority in the Press Office.	
12	346	Q.	You were still Press Officer, isn't that correct?	
13		Α.	I was, yes.	
14	347	Q.	Now how do you say you weren't in a position of	
15			authority in the Press Office?	12:31
16		Α.	Well, as I said, a new Commissioner had come in, I was	
17			never in the Commissioner's office again so	
18	348	Q.	Well, there wasn't a new Commissioner, there was an	
19			acting Commissioner, isn't that right?	
20		Α.	well, yes, there was.	12:31
21	349	Q.	Now did the acting Commissioner say anything about not	
22			doing your press duties or that you'd lost your	
23			authority as Press Officer?	
24		Α.	Well, I didn't have the same access that I did have	
25			before, with the previous	12:31
26	350	Q.	Even supposing that's true for a moment, that wouldn't	
27			affect your ability to read the papers, speak to the	
28			three people or try and speak to the three people on	
29			the day that this article is published?	

1		Α.	Yes.	
2	351	Q.	Or it wouldn't stop your ability to read the papers?	
3		Α.	No.	
4	352	Q.	To read your press clippings?	
5		Α.	Yes.	12:32
6	353	Q.	Isn't that right? So isn't it most likely that you saw	
7			this article on the day it came out?	
8		Α.	I have to be honest with you, I have always said,	
9			Mr. McGuinness, I've no recollection of seeing the	
10			articles.	12:32
11	354	Q.	Okay. Now on day 74, perhaps we'd look at that, page	
12			22, you were being examined on Monday	
13		Α.	Yes.	
14	355	Q.	about the events coming up to the PAC meeting.	
15		Α.	Yes.	12:32
16	356	Q.	At page 22, which is coming up soon, you were asked	
17			about the I'm sorry just bear with me. I'm sorry my	
18			tab has gone out, just bear with me. At the bottom of	
19			page 42. You're asked then at line 22:	
20				
21			"Q. You go on to describe the PAC hearing. You	
22			attended some of the pre-PAC meetings, is that correct?	
23			A. Some, yes.	
24			Q. Have you any recollection of the allegation	
25			relating to Sergeant McCabe being discussed at either	
26			of those meetings?	
27			A. The preparation for the PAC would centre around	
28			likely questions, what questions were going to be	
29			fielded. The Commissioner of the day would, prior to	

1 going down to the PAC, would send out a circular to all 2 relevant departments seeking briefing material in 3 relation to the topics. The topics would have been 4 notified in advance, what he was going to deal with it. 5 So they would be going through the topics, they'd be 6 going through the likely questions, there would be a 7 fire round, a rapid fire, say what questions would be 8 requested, formulating answers. There'd be also a look 9 at the members of the PAC to see who was likely to ask 10 And because each member of the PAC has a 11 particular interest in particular issues, and who would 12 be likely to ask questions, so they were trying to 13 anticipate all those questions. In relation to 14 Sergeant McCabe they knew that that issue would be 15 The allegation wasn't mentioned at these coming up. 16 meetings but Sergeant McCabe, dealing would Sergeant 17 McCabe would have been a central point of going down to 18 Because you have to understand this was the the PAC. 19 first time, I think, the PAC were dealing with penalty 20 point issue in this substantive way and it was of huge 21 concern to the Garda Commissioner and the senior Garda 22 management."

23

24

25

Now, you attended two of the PAC meetings, isn't that correct -- pre-PAC meetings?

- 26 Yes. Α.
- 27 357 Q. And was it the practice to circulate a brief to 28 everyone who was attending at the pre-PAC meetings?
- 29 Α. No.

- 1 358 Q. Because we have evidence from Mr. McLindon and notes
- from Mr. McLindon and for from Assistant Commissioner
- 3 Jack Nolan's notes that the 2006 allegation was
- 4 referred to. Have you any recollection of that?
- 5 A. I've no recollection of that coming up at any of the

12:36

- 6 meetings I was at.
- 7 359 Q. Well, I asked you yesterday about the notes of the
- 8 discipline synopsis that had been produced, and do you
- 9 recall the document?
- 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 360 Q. And it transpires that that document was in the
  - 12 Commissioner's office and Superintendent Frank Walsh
  - gave evidence on day 16 relating to it, and he said he
  - 14 didn't know where it had come from. But that is a
  - document which was part of the Commissioner's PAC brief 12:36
  - for these pre-PAC meetings.
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 361 Q. And does that help you in your recollection in that
  - regard?
  - 20 A. Well, certain material will be circulated to a certain
  - level. It wouldn't come down to my level.
  - 22 362 Q. Perhaps we will look at it again, it's at 7225.
  - 23 A. Okay.
  - 24 363 Q. This comes from page 40 of the pre-PAC brief that was
  - 25 prepared for these meetings. If we can go down to the
  - bottom of the page. This relates to, it seems to
  - emerge from the discipline side of Garda HQ but it
  - records what's stated there and you've seen that the
  - other day obviously. But did you recall receiving that

- 1 information that day --
- 2 A. No. No.
- 3 364 Q. -- or having it discussed at the meeting in any way?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 365 Q. And obviously this information isn't the criminal
- 6 investigation file about which you've been previously

12:38

12:39

- 7 asked, but is it not likely that this is the source of
- 8 the information that you had when you were dealing with
- 9 Ms. McCann, Ms. Murray and Mr. Williams at later
- 10 periods of the year?
- 11 A. I've never seen this document. It was never circulated
- 12 to me.
- 13 366 Q. Were the contents discussed, as they appear to have
- been discussed, perhaps in your presence?
- A. As I said, Mr. McGuinness, I wasn't at every one of the 12:38
- pre-meetings, the ones that I was at I never recall
- 17 this being discussed.
- 18 367 Q. But you must have been at the ones in the run up to the
- hearing, which was on the 23rd?
- 20 A. There would be a number of meetings not just --
- 21 368 Q. Yes?
- 22 A. But the meetings I was at, Mr. McGuinness, I have no
- recollection of this ever being circulated, I never saw
- 24 it.
- 25 369 Q. Were you at the meeting on the 21st January 2014?
- 26 A. I can't recall to be honest with you.
- 27 370 Q. You can't recall. Now moving to another topic.
- Yesterday in answer to Mr. O'Higgins, day 76, on page
- 46, you were asked by Mr. O'Higgins whether the first

1 person you phoned after your phones were taken, your 2 phone was taken from you on the 18th, was a journalist. 3 And you seem to be saying that in fact you phoned the president of the Superintendents Association and your 4 5 solicitor first? 12:39 6 Yes. Α. 7 371 Well, is that right? Q. 8 I rang them on the landline. Α. 9 372 Well, because your phone records were obtained Q. 10 obviously in the context of the Clerkin report. 12:40 11 Yeah. Α. 12 And perhaps we'd look at page 2290. This is headed, 373 Ο. 67, "First calls made after volunteering phone to 13 14 Superintendent Clerkin". And if we just go down to 15 look at the table, the first phone call there, from 12:40 16 your mobile, after the seizure, is to the journalist 17 who published the story, isn't that right, the Roma 18 story? 19 Yeah. Α. 20 Then you phone another journalist? 374 0. 12:40 21 Yeah. Α. 22 You phone the other journalist, the first journalist 375 0. 23 back, and then there's two phone calls to Ms. Murray as 24 well, isn't that correct? 25 Yes. Α. 12.41 26 Am I right in thinking that in fact all of the 376 Yes. Ο. 27 texts to Ms. Murray had been or most of them had been 28 deleted, isn't that right, from the phone? 29 If you tell me, yeah. Α.

- 1 377 Q. So is it correct to say that the first call you made
- was to your superintendent and your solicitor?
- 3 A. My very first call was to my wife and then to the
- 4 president, general secretary and my solicitor.
- 5 378 Q. Now you were asked yesterday about the issue concerning 12:41
- 6 the Roma investigation, isn't that correct?
- 7 A. That's right, yeah.
- 8 379 Q. Would you just look at a couple of pages in relation to
- 9 that? You denied yesterday, I think, passing any
- 10 information? 12:42

12:42

- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 380 Q. And I'm just wondering are you being very specific
- about that, because you seem to have been referring to
- the patrol officer's report received by email?
- 15 A. I never received it on the day.
- 1) A. I lievel received it on the day
- 16 381 Q. Pardon?
- 17 A. I never received it on that night.
- 18 382 Q. Well, if we look at page 2217, this shows that you were
- in touch with Superintendent Duff --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 383 Q. -- on a number of occasions --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 384 Q. -- on the night?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 385 Q. You received a text from the journalist?
- 26 A. Yes.
- 27 386 Q. You phoned the journalist back and spoke with him for
- 28 five minutes?
- 29 A. Yeah.

- 1 387 Q. You spoke or you sent texts again to Superintendent
- 2 Duff?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 388 Q. Superintendent Duff sent you a text back?
- 5 A. Yes.

12 · 43

12:43

- 6 389 Q. You phoned the journalist?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 390 Q. And the journalist then phoned you --
- 9 A. Mm-hmm.
- 10 391 Q. -- in the morning. But Superintendent Duff, as you
- know, made a statement in which he said that he had
- sent you the patrol officer's report on the night of
- 13 the 21st?
- 14 A. He didn't. Because there was an examination done of
- his email and my email and there's no confirmation of
- that.
- 17 392 Q. Well, I'm not talking about the email. Because you
- were separately sent, were you not, the email of the
- report on the morning of the 22nd?
- 20 A. On the 22nd, yes.
- 21 393 Q. Yes. And that happened at 10:09, isn't that correct?
- 22 A. That's right, yes.
- 23 394 Q. So according to the records, the email of the patrol
- officer's report was sent to you in the normal way on
- 25 the 22nd?
- 26 A. Yes.
- 27 395 Q. But Superintendent Duff in his second statement
- confirmed he had sent you by the phone on the previous
- evening a copy of the patrol officer's report?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 396 Q. In any event, this chart appears to show that on the
- 3 22nd, if Superintendent Duff is correct and if the
- 4 chart is correct, having received the report the
- 5 previous night and receiving it by email, you spoke -- 12:44
- 6 the journalist spoke to you again on the morning of the
- 7 22nd, isn't that correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 397 Q. And I have to suggest to you that you must have passed
- information to the journalist at some stage which led

12 · 45

12:45

12:46

12:46

- 11 to him writing the article?
- 12 A. No, not in relation to that matter.
- 13 398 Q. Well, this seems to call into question what you told me
- on day 74 because I'd be anxious for your evidence
- about what some of your answers mean.
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 399 Q. I asked you this question on day 74 at page 22, it's
- question 93 -- now, the Roma investigation was the one
- 19 that you highlighted in your protected disclosure, it's
- one of the first things mentioned?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 400 Q. That you were suspended in relation to it?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 401 Q. And you've complained about oppressive questioning and
- oppressive custody in the course of the investigation?
- 26 A. Mm-hmm.

28

27 402 Q. But I asked you this question at question 93:

"And just to, I suppose, deal with it at this stage. I

1			think you had in fact communicated all the information	
2			that you had been questioned about to a number of	
3			different journalists, as outlined in the Clerkin	
4			report."	
5				12:46
6			And you said:	
7				
8			"That's correct, yes."	
9				
10			Now, is that answer incorrect?	12:46
11		Α.	Not in relation to not in relation to the Roma	
12			situation.	
13	403	Q.	Okay. So that answer is not the whole truth?	
14		Α.	Well, as I said, I never accepted the Roma, that I	
15			passed any information in relation to the Roma.	12:46
16	404	Q.	Well, did you think this question was unclear? It's at	
17			the bottom of the page there. Again just to look at	
18			that.	
19		Α.	Well	
20	405	Q.	Do you see that?	12:47
21		Α.	Yeah.	
22	406	Q.	Did you hear the question properly at the time?	
23		Α.	I did, yes.	
24	407	Q.	Yeah. Now are you saying that your answer is	
25			inaccurate and it's not the correct position?	12:47
26		Α.	Well just, in relation to the Roma, the Tallaght Roma.	
27	408	Q.	Given that you had such a grievance about being	
28			arrested for the Roma and referring to it in your	
29			nrotected disclosure how is it that you came to give	

Τ			that answer saying that, that's correct, yes?	
2		Α.	As I said, it was in relation to information I said	
3			I always maintained and I still maintain I had nothing	
4			to do with the Roma passing of information.	
5	409	Q.	Okay. Well, we will go down to another answer in	12:
6			relation to this. Perhaps I should be disappointed in	
7			my questions, I thought they were clear, I'm sorry if	
8			they weren't.	
9		Α.	No, no.	
10	410	Q.	But at question 98, there's the following question,	12:
11			it's preceded by question 96:	
12				
13			"Yes. And made reference to the Clerkin report,	
14			investigation report, and you've seen the report, isn't	
15			that correct?	12:
16		Α.	Yeah.	
17	411	Q.	And you say "I have". I go on and say:	
18				
19			"Q. And I'm not criticising you in any way for	
20			exercising your right to silence, you were questioned	
21			about that and you didn't give any answers and you were	
22			obviously advised by your solicitor in that respect.	
23			A. I took certain advices at the time and I exercised	
24			those advices.	
25			Q. Yes. But as I understand your position, you're not	
26			contesting that you did make all of those	
27			communications to journalists as outlined in the	
28			report?"	
29				

- 1 And you say "yes".
- 2 A. Yes. Oh yes. Communications. But in relation to the
- Roma thing, I did not pass information. I accept the
- 4 Clerkin report outlined my communications with the
- 5 media, fully accept it, no issue. But in relation to
- 6 passing information in relation to Roma I contend I did

12:49

12:49

12:49

- 7 not.
- 8 412 Q. Okay. So is that answer "yes", is that incomplete also
- 9 and inaccurate?
- 10 A. Well, I'm happy to clarify it, Mr. McGuinness.
- 11 413 Q. No, no, I want your clear answer on it.
- 12 A. The clear answer: In relation to the Clerkin report,
- my connection with the media, I accept that and I fully
- 14 accept that. But in relation to the Roma, I did not
- pass any information in relation to the Roma.
- 16 414 Q. Okay. Now if you knew that to be the position and if
- 17 you are asserting that that is the position today, why
- did you give this answer "yes" that you actually did
- 19 give?
- 20 A. Well, my understanding to that question was did I
- 21 accept the Clerkin report and I did, as regards the
- investigation, but I'm just making the point in
- 23 relation to that matter.
- 24 415 Q. Now I haven't asked you in this series of questions
- 25 whether you accept the Clerkin report, because clearly
- 26 you don't accept the Clerkin report?
- 27 A. But --
- 28 416 Q. What I asked you was --
- 29 A. Yeah.

- 1 417 Q. -- is this answer inaccurate, incomplete and incorrect?
- 2 A. I'm just trying to give clarification.
- 3 418 Q. Is it or is it not? Is this a correct answer, "yes",
- 4 or not?
- 5 A. Well, I accept the Clerkin report.
- 6 419 Q. Don't say that to me again, please, because I'm not
- 7 asking you that. I'm asking you: Is this answer
- 8 recorded on the transcript, on your sworn evidence, is

12:50

12:50

12:50

- 9 that correct or not?
- 10 A. All I can say is I accepted the Clerkin report, I have
- an issue with the Roma thing.
- 12 420 Q. Have you ever said to anyone that you accept the
- 13 Clerkin report before?
- 14 A. I've said it here, when I was asked Monday or Tuesday
- here.
- 16 421 Q. Now if I start going through every other incident --
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 422 Q. -- are you going to quibble --
- 19 A. No.
- 20 423 Q. -- with any portion of them --
- 21 A. No, I'm not.
- 22 424 Q. -- of any section of the Clerkin report --
- 23 A. No.
- 24 425 Q. -- about your disclosures?
- 25 A. No, I'm not.
- 26 426 Q. Okay. So do you accept that on many occasions you
- 27 engaged in systematic and continuous seeking out of
- information from officers, documents and you circulated
- the information and documents to many, many

- 1 journalists --2 Yeah, I accept that. Α. -- at a time when you're not entitled to do it? 3 427 Ο. 4 Yeah, I accept that, yeah. Α. 5 428 Now it seems to be looking, at the totality of it, Q. 12:51 6 therefore, acting as a Press Officer in an unauthorised 7 way, would you agree with that, at the very least? 8 Yes, I regret, I regret that matter. Α. I mean, superintendent, I mean is that good 9 CHAI RMAN: I mean, if you take even the simplest example: 12:51 10 11 A lady in Dublin was burgled and details of that 12 appeared in the newspaper, and according to the 13 regulations that should never have appeared in any 14 newspaper, but why should she suddenly be splashed all 15 over the papers in relation to, you know, an extremely 12:52 16 annoying and discommoding domestic event? And that's 17 the very least example --18 Yeah. Α. 19 -- from the Clerkin report. Never mind 20 about the Roma children being named and all the rest of 12:52
- 22 A. It's extremely regrettable. It's a matter that I will regret forever and ever, amen.
- 24 CHAIRMAN: well, that's fine, but the case you've 25 constantly been making is I was targeted in the wrong. 12:52
- 26 A. No.

21

27 CHAIRMAN: You weren't.

it.

- 28 A. No, I accept that, Mr. Chairman.
- 29 CHAIRMAN: That's fine. It's clear.

- 1 A. I'm not trying to weasel my way out of it. I accept
- 2 it.
- 3 429 Q. MR. McGUINNESS: But it did include murder cases,
- 4 rapes, burglaries of Ministers' houses, extradition
- 5 emails, critical incident reports of huge numbers,

12:53

12:53

12:53

- 6 isn't that correct?
- 7 A. That's correct, yeah.
- 8 430 Q. And any portrayal by you in the past to anyone as
- 9 having been unjustly targeted is a false portrayal,
- 10 isn't that correct?
- 11 A. I accept it. I accept it, Mr. McGuinness, yeah.
- 12 431 Q. Okay. Now you had some discussion with Mr. O'Higgins
- 13 yesterday about who not to brief --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 432 Q. -- and who to brief?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 433 Q. And you referred on a number of occasions to
- 18 journalists in the Garda circle?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 434 Q. And is that something that you say was discussed with
- 21 Commissioner Callinan?
- 22 A. I'm not saying that it would be discussed, but it would
- have been known that the journalists who would attend
- regular Garda events were the same cohort all the time.
- 25 435 Q. So again, I am just trying to achieve a degree of
- 26 certainty here.
- 27 A. Yeah.
- 28 436 Q. Are you saying it wasn't discussed with Commissioner
- 29 Callinan?

- 1 A. No, it wasn't discussed.
- 2 437 Q. No. Okay.
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 438 Q. And therefore it wasn't discussed with Commissioner
- 5 O'Sullivan as well?

- 6 A. No.
- 7 439 Q. Okay. But was it up to you then to decide who were the

12:54

12:54

12:54

- 9 A. Well, yes. As I said, I executed the direction.
- 10 440 Q. Yes. And whatever direction you say you received it
- 11 wasn't connected to any identified group of
- journalists, either by name or number?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 441 Q. Okay. So, who do you identify as having been in your
- view of being journalists in the Garda circle?
- 16 A. The 11 that I have named.
- 17 442 Q. The 11 that you've named?
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 443 Q. And no more?
- 20 A. No more.
- 21 444 Q. Yeah. But you see, you've said on a number of
- occasions, both through your solicitor in his letters
- and in your statements to the Tribunal, that you can't
- be definitive about who you briefed, so your latter
- 25 there now, is that accurate; that it's the 11 and no
- 26 more?
- 27 A. Well, it's the 11 that I can personally recall.
- 28 445 Q. Okay. So there still could be more whom you regarded
- as being in the Garda circle of journalists?

- A. Well, the Garda circle of journalists isn't that big.
- 2 Like, it's incorporated in that list.
- 3 446 Q. Well, it may be part of it but what I'm asking you to

12:55

12:55

- 4 help me in this regard, because we want to make the
- fullest inquiry possible into your protected
- 6 disclosure --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 447 Q. -- is there anyone else that you would like to add in
- 9 at this stage as being --
- 10 A. NO.
- 11 448 Q. -- within the Garda circle of journalists not on the
- 12 list and whom you briefed?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 449 Q. No.
- 15 CHAIRMAN: The evidence I have had from the Garda Press 12:55
- office is there's 700 actual individuals on the list.
- 17 A. Yeah, but they are on a mailing list, Chairman. That
- 18 would receive all the --
- 19 CHAIRMAN: Even if you cut it down there's certainly
- 20 more than 11. So there's dozens and dozens I would
- suppose. You're clear in your answer anyway?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN: That is grand.
- 24 450 Q. MR. McGUINNESS: And there has been some focus
- obviously on Commissioner O'Sullivan's position
- vis-à-vis the investigation and vis-à-vis her husband,
- isn't that correct?
- 28 A. Yes.
- 29 451 Q. And it does seem to be, and have been, a bit of a

1			concern of yourself and your wife that the	
2			Commissioner's husband ended up investigating you?	
3		Α.	Yes.	
4	452	Q.	Is that a concern to you?	
5		Α.	Yes.	12:56
6	453	Q.	Does that in any way relate to any bit of your	
7			protected disclosure?	
8		Α.	No.	
9	454	Q.	No. And the evidence from Chief Superintendent Clerkin	
10			was that he was appointed by the assistant	12:56
11			commissioner, do you accept that evidence?	
12		Α.	I accept that, yes.	
13	455	Q.	I think you've accepted in evidence that you knew that	
14			he commenced his investigation in August 2014?	
15		Α.	Yes.	12:56
16	456	Q.	Two years before you made your protected disclosure?	
17		Α.	That's right, yes.	
18	457	Q.	And that he, as he was entitled to do, chose the	
19			detective superintendent who was serving with him in	
20			Ballymun, who was Detective Superintendent McGowan,	12:57
21			isn't that right?	
22		Α.	That's right, yes.	
23	458	Q.	And have you any evidence, at all, to suggest that	
24			Commissioner O'Sullivan appointed her husband to	
25			investigate you for any reason?	12:57
26		Α.	No. I said the point I was always making was that	
27			Commissioner O'Sullivan had removed me from the Press	
28			Office and that her husband was investigating,	
29			conducting my activities during and after the Press	

1			Office. And I consider it a conflict in that matter.	
2	459	Q.	Now do you accept that from the timing of the	
3			investigation commencing in August 2014, there had been	
4			no suspicion related to you and your conduct in leaking	
5			material to journalists?	12:58
6		Α.	Yeah. Yes.	
7	460	Q.	So you were interviewed by Chief Superintendent Clerkin	
8			on the 21st November 2014, isn't that correct?	
9		Α.	That's right.	
10	461	Q.	And suspicion only fell on you after the analysis of	12:58
11			your mobile phones had been conducted, after they had	
12			been seized in December	
13		Α.	Yeah.	
14	462	Q.	2014, isn't that right?	
15		Α.	That's right.	12:58
16	463	Q.	Okay. So nobody could have the foresight or the	
17			planning or the guile to appoint someone to an	
18			investigation in those circumstances with a view to	
19			doing you down, isn't that right?	
20		Α.	That's correct.	12:58
21	464	Q.	Now, you've referred to Commissioner Callinan there,	
22			just in the context of removing him from the Press	
23			Office. I think you told Deputy Daly that when you met	
24			her and Deputy Wallace that, she took notes and she	
25			noted that:	12:59
26				
27			"Superintendent Taylor talked about how he got the job	
28			at the Press Office, how former Commissioner Callinan	
29			picked him. He was flattered that he'd been	

1			hand-picked for this role."	
2				
3			Is that right?	
4		Α.	As I said, I hadn't applied for the role,	
5			Mr. McGuinness.	12:59
6	465	Q.	Well, did you either say to her or imply to her that	
7			Commissioner Callinan had picked you for the role?	
8		Α.	I didn't as I say, I didn't say those words, but as	
9			I said I would have been picked by him for that	
10			position.	12:59
11	466	Q.	But did you tell her that you were flattered that you	
12			had been hand picked for it?	
13		Α.	I didn't say the word flattered, no.	
14	467	Q.	Pardon?	
15		Α.	I never said the word flattered.	12:59
16	468	Q.	You disagree with that. Were you flattered?	
17		Α.	Are you saying did I enjoy the job? Yes, I did.	
18	469	Q.	I mean, there's obviously a great deal of evidence and	
19			this isn't a criticism obviously of you, a great deal	
20			of evidence that you appeared to put a lot of energy	13:00
21			into your job, you enjoyed the job as Press Officer?	
22		Α.	Yes.	
23	470	Q.	And it seems clear from your evidence in many respects	
24			that you became attached to Commissioner Callinan as	
25			well, is that correct?	13:00
26		Α.	I don't know, do you mean "attached"?	
27	471	Q.	I mean, you seem to have regarded it as a great	
28			traumatic event for him and for you when he retired in	
29			March 2014?	

- 1 A. It was a very -- yeah.
- 2 472 Q. Pardon?
- 3 A. It was a very big event, yes.
- 4 473 Q. Yes. And it seemed to have affected you greatly, on a
- 5 sort of personal level and professionally at the time?

13:01

13:01

13:01

- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 474 Q. Okay. And you seem in your own mind to have linked
- 8 your move from the Press Office with this issue over
- 9 the Bandon letter being briefed to Mr. Reynolds?
- 10 A. Definitely a factor.
- 11 475 Q. Yeah. Okay. So if that's right, on your own account,
- 12 your moving from the Press Office had nothing to do
- with the smear campaign or knowing too much about the
- smear campaign, isn't that right?
- 15 A. Well, I'm saying the Bandon letter was a factor. As I
- said, the decision of Commissioner O'Sullivan to move
- me is a matter that she can state why.
- 18 476 Q. But it disappointed you?
- 19 A. It did, yes.
- 20 477 Q. That you were moved?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 478 Q. And it disappointed you that you weren't promoted?
- 23 A. No, no.
- 24 479 Q. Did you not have a grievance about not being promoted?
- 25 A. No.
- 26 480 Q. Like a lot of the other superintendents --
- 27 A. No.
- 28 481 Q. -- who when they left they left on promotion?
- 29 A. Yeah. But, as I said, I didn't have a grievance about

1			promotion.	
2	482	Q.	Well, were you expecting to be promoted? Had you	
3			applied for a promotion at any stage?	
4		Α.	No.	
5	483	Q.	Have you ever applied for promotion from your position	13:01
6			as superintendent?	
7		Α.	Yes.	
8	484	Q.	When did you do that?	
9		Α.	Last year.	
10	485	Q.	Last year?	13:02
11		Α.	Yes. During my time in the Press Office I wouldn't be	
12			qualified to, I hadn't obtained the requisite number of	
13			years in the rank to apply for a promotion during my	
14			time in the Press Office.	
15	486	Q.	Okay. And did you think that in the light of what you	13:02
16			knew you were doing when you were out of the Press	
17			Office that you were a person who was suitable for	
18			promotion then?	
19		Α.	Well, I put myself forward and by that time I had been,	
20			I had returned to work and all other matters had been	13:02
21			dealt with.	
22	487	Q.	You think you had a clean enough slate to feel that you	
23			could go for promotion?	
24		Α.	I put myself forward to the policing authority and it	

to the Commissioner then?

was a matter for them to make a decision.

But I'm just concerned about the issue of

promotion and Commissioner O'Sullivan. I mean, I don't

understand the system of promotion, but you don't apply

13:02

25

26

27

28

29

488 Q.

Okay.

- 1 A. No.
- 2 489 Q. And now there's a new system in any event, isn't that
- 3 right?
- 4 A. Yes, yeah.
- 5 490 Q. And in terms of being moved out of the Press Office,

13:03

13:03

13:03

- 6 there are perhaps many reasons why you did what you
- 7 did, but I don't want to, I don't want to apply any
- 8 particular adjective to what you did thereafter, but
- one way of putting it, as Mr. O'Higgins used the
- phrase, was that you were running an alternative Press
- 11 Office afterwards, but you were doing it in a very
- different manner, obviously, isn't that right?
- 13 A. I remained in contact with the media afterwards.
- 14 491 Q. But I mean, you obviously enjoyed your time in the
- media -- with the media when you were Press Officer?
- 16 A. Yes, I enjoyed it.
- 17 492 Q. And you made a lot of connections and attachments there
- 18 also, isn't that right?
- 19 A. That's correct, yes.
- 20 493 Q. And you wanted to continue those?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 494 Q. And you were happy to do so in this, what must be
- admitted to be a grossly improper way?
- 24 A. I accept that.
- 25 495 Q. Okay. And the criminal investigation then and the
- 26 Commissioner's part in it, in having her husband on the
- investigating team, you thought that was improper?
- 28 A. Yes, I did.
- 29 496 Q. Yeah. So this was, as it were, a second issue relating

Т			to commissioner o surrivan, which red you to, I	
2			suppose, a degree of negativity, to put it mildly n	
3			relation to her and her husband, isn't that right?	
4		Α.	Well, I thought it was as I said, her husband being	
5			placed on my investigation was a conflict.	13:04
6	497	Q.	And in the context of the protected disclosure that you	
7			came to make you did go to the media	
8			CHAIRMAN: I wonder would people please calm down.	
9			Would you, please.	
10	498	Q.	MR. McGUINNESS: You did go to the media in October	13:05
11			well, you went to the media, you went to Mr. Clifford	
12			in the summer in fact, isn't that correct?	
13		Α.	That's right, yes.	
14	499	Q.	And you went to Deputy Daly and Deputy Wallace?	
15		Α.	They came to me.	13:05
16	500	Q.	They came to your house, you let them into your house,	
17			we won't go over that again.	
18		Α.	Yeah.	
19	501	Q.	And you were happy to propagate your version of what	
20			had happened and what was occurring to you as a result	13:05
21			of what Commissioner O'Sullivan was doing, isn't that	
22			right?	
23		Α.	I was just pointing out that her husband was part of	
24			the investigation.	
25	502	Q.	Yeah. And at the time you made the protected	13:05
26			disclosure, which you obviously could have made years	
27			ago, perhaps, you were making it in the context of	
28			expecting a knock at the door from some of your	
29			colleagues to perhaps charge you?	

1		Α.	That's a possibility, yeah.	
2	503	Q.	Okay. Thank you.	
3		Α.	Thank you.	
4				
5			WITNESS WAS THEN QUESTIONED BY THE CHAIRMAN,	13:05
6			AS FOLLOWS:	
7	504	Q.	CHAIRMAN: I just have very few questions,	
8			superintendent, before we get away for lunchtime, if	
9			that is all right. The first thing I wanted to ask you	
10			about was this: The first time that there was any	13:06
11			question put to anybody as to what allegedly the smear	
12			was against Martin Callinan was to Andrew McLindon, the	
13			Head of Communications, and it was to the effect of	
14			what you have said today?	
15		Α.	Yeah.	13:06
16	505	Q.	CHAIRMAN: That you were being asked by Commissioner	
17			Callinan to point out that there had been an	
18			investigation, that a file had been sent to the DPP in	
19			relation to Maurice McCabe, and that in consequence of	
20			that he had a sense of grievance or bitterness against	13:06
21			the Gardaí	
22		Α.	Yes.	
23			CHAIRMAN: and would have been motivated by improper	
24			motives, like revenge or whatever.	
25		Α.	Yeah.	13:06
26	506	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Is that the full extent of it?	
27		Α.	Yes.	
28	507	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Because the reference to our investigators	
29			to making reference to the alleged sexual offence and	

Т			that there's no smoke without like would seem to	
2			indicate that it was much more than that?	
3		Α.	No. That's all, that was the parameters of my	
4			instruction.	
5	508	Q.	CHAIRMAN: And were you supposed to mention that it was	13:07
6			an alleged sexual assault?	
7		Α.	Well, I always said it was in relation to a sexual	
8			offence that he had been investigated in 2006.	
9	509	Q.	CHAIRMAN: where does the thing "there's no smoke	
10			without fire" come into it?	13:07
11		Α.	I can't say how that terminology came in. But it	
12			wasn't related that would relate back to his	
13			motivation in bringing these matters to the public	
14			arena.	
15	510	Q.	CHAIRMAN: This is a question that no one has asked	13:07
16			you, certainly in a direct fashion, but: We've looked	
17			at all the newspapers	
18		Α.	Yeah.	
19	511	Q.	CHAIRMAN: and apart from Paul Williams, there's	
20			nothing	13:07
21		Α.	Yeah.	
22	512	Q.	CHAIRMAN: not a sniff to indicate that Maurice	
23			McCabe was embittered in consequence of an	
24			investigation that he had to face. So whatever the	
25			plan was, if there was a plan, it wasn't working. So	13:07
26			did Commissioner Callinan ever come back to you and say	
27			look the plan isn't working, here plan B we've got to	
28			do the following?	
29		Α.	He was just very concerned at. as I say, the media were	

1 still writing positively in relation to Sergeant McCabe and how is this happening, like I mean. 2 But I said we 3 were briefing the media in relation to his motivation. But did he ever say look, I'm going to have 4 513 0. 5 a go myself or --13:08 6 No. he never. Α. 7 -- you're clearly not doing the job you were 514 CHAI RMAN: Q. 8 tasked to do? You know the way if a jobs book comes out and you're asked to do the following job and 9 they're not marked off as being done correctly your 10 13:08 11 sergeant or whatever when you were a garda would be 12 annoyed, anything like that? 13 Nothing like that. They were just concerned all the Α. 14 time as the story wasn't going away and he was 15 expressing that to me. 13:08 16 CHAI RMAN: Just that? 515 Q. 17 Yeah. Α. 18 CHAI RMAN: There was no plan B? 516 Q. 19 There was no plan B. Α. Make it worse? 20 517 CHAI RMAN: 0. 13:09 21 NO. Α. 22 CHAI RMAN: Like no smoke without fire? 518 Q. 23 No. Α. 24 That he must have done it kind of stuff? 519 CHAI RMAN: Q. 25 Α. Yes. 13:09 CHAI RMAN: 26 No? 520 Ο. 27 There was no. Α. No. No. 28 521 CHAI RMAN: All right. You indicated you were collating Q. 29 your work diaries, I know Mr. McGuinness has referred

Т			to page 158, are you certain there's nothing in them	
2			that can assist us any further?	
3		Α.	I'm almost certain, yeah.	
4	522	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Would you mind if we had a look at them?	
5		Α.	Yes. They're with my solicitor at the moment.	13:09
6	523	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Okay. The other thing I wanted to ask you	
7			about was this: You had a problem with Nóirín	
8			O'Sullivan and what was the problem with Nóirín	
9			O'Sullivan?	
10		Α.	Well, I was removed from the Press Office	13:09
11	524	Q.	CHAIRMAN: I know, but people are removed.	
12		Α.	Yes.	
13	525	Q.	CHAIRMAN: I mean, you could have been sent to	
14			Donegal	
15		Α.	Yes.	13:09
16	526	Q.	CHAIRMAN: to Westmeath, I'm not saying any of these	
17			places are anything other than wonderful places, but	
18			you could have been put in a situation, you're there to	
19			serve	
20		Α.	Yeah.	13:09
21	527	Q.	CHAIRMAN: you're moved, you could be moved at a	
22			moment's notice. What's your problem with Nóirín	
23			O'Sullivan?	
24		Α.	I was removed from a job that I felt I was doing a good	
25			job at.	13:10
26	528	Q.	CHAIRMAN: well, I mean, that happens to lots of	
27			people.	
28		Α.	Yeah.	
29	529	0	CHAIRMAN: Why do you particularly have to become	

1 bitter about it? 2 I'm not saying I'm bitter, Mr. Chairman. But as I say Α. 3 it was, it was a public move from a high profile position to a less profile position. 4 5 530 CHAI RMAN: What does high profile matter to you? Q. Why 13:10 6 does that matter to you? 7 Well, as I said, within the Garda family it was clearly Α. 8 seen as a move sideways. Do you think there actually was anything 9 531 CHAI RMAN: Q. unfair about the Clerkin investigation into your 10 13:10 11 activities which revealed matters which, according to 12 the investigators of these rapes, these murders --Yeah. 13 Α. 14 532 Q. CHAI RMAN: -- everything that else, that you revealed 15 to journalists privately not being the Press Officer, 13:10 16 were the kind of things that shouldn't have been 17 revealed to the press because they were investigating 18 investigations ongoing? Do you think there was 19 anything wrong with the Clerkin investigation? No, I fully accept it. I fully accept it. 20 Α. 13:11 Do you think that Clerkin did a good job? 21 533 CHAI RMAN: Q. 22 Do you think he was fair? 23 I think he did a professional job, yes. I have no Α. 24 difficulty with it. 25 You've read the file, I'm sure? 534 Q. CHAI RMAN: 13:11 26 Yes, I fully accept that, Mr. Chairman. Α. 27 535 CHAI RMAN: As regards any of the people from whom you Q. 28 were seeking assistance or even sympathy did you say 29 to -- at the time when you were under investigation,

Т			ara you say to any or them, on by the way, I have to	
2			tell you, because it's only fair that you should know	
3			before you do anything on my behalf, I actually did	
4			everything except, as you now say, the Roma children	
5		Α.	Yes.	13:11
6	536	Q.	CHAIRMAN: that Chief Superintendent Clerkin was	
7			investigating me for?	
8		Α.	As I said, I never asked anybody to do anything for me,	
9			but I mean I fully accept, as I said, the matters. Do	
10			you know, like, I mean I fully accept my own	13:11
11			responsibilities, Mr. Chairman.	
12	537	Q.	CHAIRMAN: I know. But you were breaking the Garda	
13			Code left, right and centre	
14		Α.	Yeah.	
15	538	Q.	CHAIRMAN: I mean, every single day almost	13:12
16		Α.	Yeah.	
17	539	Q.	CHAIRMAN: for a period of over a year?	
18		Α.	Well, that's extreme regret to me. And as I said, I	
19			have to live with that long after this Tribunal is	
20			over.	13:12
21	540	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Well, what about the people who are living	
22			with the press accounts or the investigations that were	
23			potentially compromised by you going to the newspapers	
24			and revealing details that were outside the Code?	
25		Α.	Well, as I said, it's regrettable to me. I've let down	13:12
26			my standards and I have to live with that.	
27	541	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Yes. But again, the reason I'm asking you	
28			this is not to put you on the spot, superintendent,	
29			please don't misunderstand.	

- 1 A. No.
- 2 542 Q. CHAIRMAN: What I am worried about is this: A number
- of people have described you as ringing the Press
- 4 Office and of you being bitter. Now I suppose bitter

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- is a word that is perhaps --
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 543 Q. CHAIRMAN: -- you know, there's degrees of bitterness,
- 8 just as there are degrees of saltiness, but they
- 9 described you as being bitter, and what I am failing to
- 10 understand is why were you bitter if you had a
- realisation that what you were doing was wrong and were
- being investigated in fact correctly?
- 13 A. It's just a manner of, I was removed and the manner in
- 14 which it was portrayed. Like, I mean, it was
- definitely a reflection on my standing.
- 16 544 Q. CHAIRMAN: I know, but it was right, wasn't it? Do you
- 17 not realise that?
- 18 A. Well, as I said, I respect the right of the
- 19 Commissioner to move anybody.
- 20 545 Q. CHAIRMAN: No, but it was correct.
- 21 A. I accept that the investigation, yes.
- 22 546 Q. CHAIRMAN: I mean, this thing with the press would have
- gone on. I mean, you might thank them for it, perhaps,
- until now; investigations could have been compromised,
- cases not have been brought. I mean, are you not
- 26 grateful to Chief Superintendent Clerkin for stopping
- 27 you in your tracks?
- A. Well, as I said, I fully accept that I accept my
- culpability and I regret that immensely.

- 1 547 Q. CHAIRMAN: There was just two other matters then,
- 2 superintendent. The first is in relation to Andrew
- McLindon. Now I have been told that the two of you
- 4 didn't get on and look --
- 5 A. That's not true.
- 6 548 Q. CHAIRMAN: I know, but if it be the case I think in any

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- 7 close relationship people sometimes don't get on,
- 8 people get on well, and then there are people who are
- 9 particular friends of yours.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 549 Q. CHAIRMAN: Now let's suppose you weren't a particular
- 12 friend. But in fact did you -- he thinks you were
- bypassing him and going direct to the Commissioner and
- leaving him in the loop and he said to me that he was
- playing the long game, which was that eventually there
- 16 was going to be change and he would be able to get in,
- maybe his ideas might be accepted in Headquarters?
- Nothing illegitimate about that, by the way.
- 19 A. When Andrew came in I fully respected Andrew's
- position, I fully kept him briefed, and I actually
- 21 brought him down to court on the first day to show him
- 22 how the court systems work, because he'd never worked
- in the criminal justice system before. So I was always
- 24 -- you know, it was the first time I ever worked with a
- civilian boss. So, as I said, I welcomed Andrew with
- open arms.
- 27 550 Q. CHAIRMAN: Did you find him likeable enough?
- 28 A. He's a very likeable individual, yeah.
- 29 551 Q. CHAIRMAN: I was just wondering then why you described

1			him in a text as a rodent?	
2		Α.	You send texts and regret them pretty quickly	
3			afterwards. I suppose in the sense I was moved and he	
4			had gone on holidays and I thought he would have told	
5			me you're going to be moved. He would have known that	13:15
6			before I was because he was my direct boss.	
7	552	Q.	CHAIRMAN: Okay. Then the last matter is this: The	
8			premise that a number of people understood, you say	
9			incorrectly and I appreciate I've heard your evidence	
10			and I will consider it very carefully, superintendent,	13:15
11			the premise that a number of people understood in	
12			relation to why you were moved and why you were under	
13			investigation was because allegedly there were texts	
14			which needed to be destroyed, which could be destroyed	
15			when your phones were seized	13:15
16		Α.	Yeah.	
17	553	Q.	CHAIRMAN: and brought to Garda Headquarters, and	
18			wiped or improperly dealt with, and that in consequence	
19			of that, any, I suppose, evidence on the ground,	
20			physical evidence, such as we have used, such as my	13:16
21			reference to the rodent example	
22		Α.	Yeah.	
23	554	Q.	CHAIRMAN: and the text and Andrew McLindon would	
24			thereby be erased. I want to ask you the	
25			straightforward question, is this: Were there in fact	13:16
26			any texts that were worth destroying in the sense of	
27			implicating Martin Callinan and Nóirín O'Sullivan in	
28			any kind of plot against Maurice McCabe?	

29 A.

No.

1			CHAIRMAN: All right. That is fine. I am very	
2			grateful for your help. Thank you. So it is an hour's	
3			time then.	
4				
5			THE HEARING THEN ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH	13:16
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8			THE HEARING RESUMED, AS FOLLOWS, AFTER THE LUNCH	
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10			MS. LEADER: The next witness, sir, is Alan Shatter.	14:21
11			MS. BARRINGTON: Thank you, Chairman. My name is	
12			Eileen Barrington. I appear with Mr. Cathal Murphy on	
13			behalf of Mr. Shatter. I am instructed by Gallagher	
14			Shatter Solicitors.	
15			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.	14:22
16				
17				
18			MR. ALAN SHATTER, HAVING BEEN SWORN, WAS DIRECTLY	
19			EXAMINED BY MS. LEADER AS FOLLOWS	
20			MS. LEADER: Mr. Shatter's statement to the Tribunal is	14:22
21			in Volume 6, page 1676 of the materials and there's	
22			also relevant material in Volume 26 from page 7219	
23			onwards.	
24	555	Q.	Now, Mr. Shatter, if you would confirm to the Tribunal	
25			that you were Minister for Justice from 9th March 2011	14:23
26			to May 2014?	
27		Α.	Yes, that's correct.	
28	556	Q.	And I think during your time as Minister you were	
29			dealing with two strands of issues which were raised by	

			Ser gearre mecabe:	
2		Α.	Yes, that's right.	
3	557	Q.	And just broadly speaking, those issues were policing	
4			in Cavan-Monaghan, as I understand it	
5		Α.	Yeah.	14:23
6	558	Q.	and the second lot of issues were the penalty points	
7			issues?	
8		Α.	Yes, that's right.	
9	559	Q.	Now during your time as Minister you actively tried to	
10			advance and deal with these issues in a number of ways?	14:23
11		Α.	Yes, that's correct.	
12	560	Q.	And just putting those ways into categories, I suppose	
13			you engaged in correspondence with Ms. Murray from time	
14			to time, is that correct?	
15		Α.	In relation to the penalty points, the ticket charge	14:23
16			issue, there was direct correspondence throughout from	
17			Sergeant McCabe is my recollection. In relation to the	
18			issues in relation to Bailieboro, there was	
19			correspondence from Sergeant McCabe or through his	
20			solicitors and through what was known as the	14:24
21			confidential recipient, Mr. Oliver Connolly, at the	
22			time.	
23	561	Q.	All right. And you in turn corresponded with those	
24			people?	
25		Α.	And we would have corresponded with Mr. Connolly in	14:24
26			response to an issue that first came to us through him,	
27			we corresponded directly to Sergeant McCabe's	
28			solicitors subsequently and unfortunately over a period	
29			of many months they failed to respond to a series of	

Τ			letters we sent them. And because of my concerns about	
2			issues around the ticket charge issue and as a result	
3			of correspondence we received from Sergeant McCabe, I	
4			arranged that an official of the Department of Justice,	
5			Mr. Michael Flahive, engage in correspondence with	14:25
6			Sergeant McCabe and that correspondence, to my	
7			recollection, went on from in or about December of	
8			2012, I think through to December of 2013, I think that	
9			was the date profile.	
10	562	Q.	Okay. And I suppose you were also dealing directly	14:25
11			with other government departments in relation to	
12			Sergeant McCabe?	
13		Α.	Yes. Sergeant McCabe on the ticket charge issue first	
14			communicated his concerns to the Taoiseach's department	
15			and the Department of Transport and that would have	14:25
16			been in the summer of 2012. And that correspondence	
17			then was furnished to the Department of Justice in	
18			September of 2012.	
19	563	Q.	All right. Now I think naturally, because the issues	
20			concerned policing, you would have spoken and engaged	14:25
21			in correspondence to the Commissioner of An Garda	
22			Síochána, who at that time was Commissioner Callinan?	
23		Α.	Yes, that's right.	
24	564	Q.	All right. Now, the Tribunal doesn't want to examine	
25			those issues, but in relation to the Cavan Monaghan	14:26
26			issues, they were matters that were dealt with by	
27			Mr. Justice Kevin O'Higgins, isn't that correct?	
28		Α.	Yes, that's correct.	
29	565	Q.	And he found in his report that you had dealt with the	

1			matters appropriately and proportionately and	
2			correctly, isn't that right?	
3		Α.	Yes. He said I dealt with them variously	
4			appropriately, promptly, proportionately, reasonably.	
5			Unfortunately, prior to Mr. Justice Kevin O'Higgins	14:26
6			conducting a very careful and detailed commission of	
7			investigation, the exact opposite conclusions were	
8			reached by Mr. Guerin	
9	566	Q.	All right.	
10		Α.	without, of course, consulting with me or talking to	14:26
11			me.	
12	567	Q.	We will leave that.	
13			CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shatter, that actually has nothing to do	
14			with the case. So I hear what you say, but I am	
15			ignoring it. Thanks.	14:26
16	568	Q.	MS. LEADER: Now, not to get too involved in how the	
17			penalty points issue was dealt with, I think you were	
18			instrumental in having the matter examined by Assistant	
19			Commissioner John O'Mahoney, is that correct?	
20		Α.	Well, what happened was in October 2012 correspondence	14:27
21			with the various allegations made by Sergeant McCabe	
22			were sent to the Garda Commissioner.	
23	569	Q.	Yes.	
24		Α.	Sergeant McCabe, in his correspondence was very anxious	
25			to protect his anonymity and said very much made the	14:27
26			case that in the matter being addressed he wished his	
27			anonymity to be preserved. So in writing to the Garda	
28			Commissioner the information and the allegations as	
29			received were all passed on, but my officials were	

1			instructed at all times to respect Sergeant McCabe's	
2			request for anonymity and I continued to do so.	
3	570	Q.	All right. And I think later on in 2013 you referred	
4			the matter to the Inspectorate, once you had	
5			Commissioner O'Mahony's final report, isn't that	14:28
6			correct?	
7		Α.	Well, we had the report from Commissioner O'Mahony in	
8			March, the professional, the PSU section of the Gardaí,	
9			the standards section also produced a report in April	
10			and both reports would have been published on 15th May	14:28
11			2013. And at the same time, because I had some	
12			particular concerns arising out of the nature of the	
13			decision-making by An Garda Síochána in the context of	
14			some of the substantive decisions made and because I	
15			was anxious to ensure there was an independent review	14:28
16			of the recommendations of Chief Superintendent	
17			O'Mahony, we passed on the report to the Garda	
18			Inspectorate and requested that it report.	
19	571	Q.	All right. Now, I first of all want to examine a	
20			little bit the alleged non-cooperation with the	14:28
21			O'Mahony inquiry	
22		Α.	Yes.	
23	572	Q.	and Sergeant McCabe. Now, first of all, there was a	
24			letter circulated this morning which is in redacted	
25			format which you supplied to the Tribunal and I think	14:29
26			it's at page, it should be around 7266 of the materials	
27			7283, sorry, of the materials, if it could be	
28			brought up.	

A. Yes, I have a copy of it here.

- 1 573 Q. Yes. So we're going back to December 2012 at this 2 stage and the O'Mahony investigation had started, isn't 3 that right?
- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 574 Q. All right. And I think there had been some sort of
  naming of individuals in the Dáil in the end of
  November and the beginning of December 2012 with regard
  to the fixing of penalty notices?
- Well, a number of events occurred in and around that 9 Α. Towards the end of November 2012 I'd have 10 14 · 29 11 received an interim report from Chief Superintendent 12 O'Mahony which was essentially to fill me in on what 13 was happening in the context of addressing the 14 allegations made and indicated to me some initial 15 observations on issues that had arisen. There was, in, 14:30 16 I think in November, and then repeated in December of 17 2012, some individuals were named in the Dáil by 18 members of the Houses of the Oireachtas as being the 19 beneficiaries of the termination of penalty points and 20 ticket charges, and the individuals' names coincided 14:30 with names in the documentation that I'd received 21 22 through Sergeant McCabe. I had very particular 23 concerns that individuals who had done no wrong were 24 being publicly pilloried in the Dáil and they were 25 being mentioned in the media and I also had concerns 14:30 26 because the TDs who were raising this issue seemed to 27 be, firstly, some of them of the belief that in no circumstances could penalty points or ticket charges be 28 29 terminated and there was very specific provisions in

that regard, and it was also clear from the initial report I'd received that some of the allegations made were mistaken.

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So arising out of that, arising out of, I think, the exchanges that took place in the Dáil on 11th December and the report of those exchanges, a letter would have been received from, a very short letter from Sergeant McCabe more or less asserting that all of the allegations he's made were accurate.

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Now, I was concerned at the way in which this matter was developing and Michael Flahive, who is an assistant, who then was an assistant secretary general in the department and who headed up the Garda or 14:32 policing section of the department, corresponded directly with Sergeant McCabe. And I asked him to reply to the letter we had received to explain in as detailed a fashion as we could some of the issues that had arisen arising out of the interim report, to urge 14:32 Sergeant McCabe to await the conclusions of the full investigation being conducted by Chief Superintendent O'Mahony and his team - and he had a very substantial team - and also to raise a particular issue that I was concerned about. I was conscious that Chief 14:32 Superintendent O'Mahony did not know the name of the person who was making the allegations, we had protected his anonymity and I specifically, arising out of Sergeant McCabe's letter, asked Michael Flahive to

1			recommend to Sergeant McCabe that if he had concerns,	
2			that he would engage directly with the Garda	
3			authorities and try to give him some assurance that he	
4			could still engage, if he wished to, through the	
5			confidential recipient. But we felt that if there was	14:3
6			additional information that Sergeant McCabe had that	
7			would facilitate the investigation, he should be	
8			encouraged to engage, but not in any way compelled to.	
9			He was entitled to maintain his confidentiality if he	
LO			wished. And that was referenced at the end of that	14:3
L1			letter.	
12	575	0	Ves And if the first name of the letter maybe could	

- 12 575 Q. Yes. And if the first page of the letter maybe could
  13 be brought up on screen, it's at page 7283 of the
  14 materials. And I think even though the name is
  15 redacted on top of it, it's to Sergeant McCabe, you can 14:33
  16 confirm you've seen it?
- I can, yes. A copy of the letter, the only copy of the 17 Α. 18 letter I could find was one that for some reason has 19 names redacted. It was directed to Sergeant McCabe and 20 it's signed by Michael Flahive and for some reason his 21 name is redacted from it. The first page of the letter 22 in fact reminds me that in his correspondence Sergeant 23 McCabe was also referencing the allegations that he had 24 made that ultimately were addressed by Judge O'Higgins 25 in the O'Higgins commission, and he was actually 14:34 referencing them at a time when we were in 26 27 correspondence with his solicitors trying to progress matters. And they unfortunately weren't responding. 28
- 29 576 Q. All right. So I just want to maybe open the first

_			paragraph. It's to sergeant mecabe, but appears	
2			redacted and Mr. Flahive is directed by the Minister	
3			for Justice and Equality, which was yourself at that	
4			time, "to respond to your email of 12th December 2012	
5			regarding allegations of improper cancellation of fixed	14:34
6			charge notices". And the letter continues, dealing	
7			with the fixed charge penalty notices, and if I could	
8			just turn to the very last page of the letter, at page	
9			7287 of the materials, what is said there is:	
10				14:35
11			"What is important now is that the current	
12			investigation directed by the Garda Commissioner, who	
13			has responsibility for the direction and control of the	
14			force, be allowed to proceed unhindered, that nothing	
15			is done which could impair or prejudice that	14:35
16			investigation and that the rights of third parties are	
17			respected. If you have further information in your	
18			possession which would be helpful to the investigation,	
19			the proper approach would be to provide this to your	
20			authorities within the force. You also, of course,	14:35
21			continue to have access to the Garda confidential	
22			reci pi ent. "	
23				
24			And Mr. Flahive, even though his name is redacted, you	
25			can confirm it was Mr. Flahive?	14:36
26		Α.	I can confirm Mr. Flahive wrote that letter, yes.	
27	577	Q.	And that letter is dated 17th December 20	
28		Α.	Yes.	
29	578	Q.	And indeed that letter was opened in front of	

1			Mr. Justice O'Higgins at the O'Higgins Commission as	
2			well, isn't that right	
3		Α.	Yes.	
4	579	Q.	in relation to the matter. So those matters were in	
5			December 2012. And the Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony	14:36
6			reported in May 2013?	
7		Α.	Yes, that's right.	
8	580	Q.	The report was published in	
9		Α.	Well, he published it in March, he reported at the end	
10			of March and it was published in May.	14:36
11	581	Q.	In May of 2013. And thereafter, just sticking on the	
12			non-cooperation issue, I think Mr. Brett, in his	
13			evidence, referred to a meeting in the department with	
14			Mr. Varadkar, who at that time was Minister for	
15			Transport, in July 2013.	14:36
16		Α.	Yes, that's right.	
17	582	Q.	And the issue of non-cooperation, according to	
18			Mr. Brett, was raised at that meeting, isn't that	
19			right?	
20		Α.	Well, I genuinely don't specifically mention it being	14:37
21			raised, but it may well have been done, it may well	
22			have been raised and I'm certainly not going to	
23			contradict Mr. Brett. That meeting was primarily	
24			arranged following my asking colleagues in government	
25			to make submissions on their perspective on the	14:37
26			O'Mahony report. I would have received a very detailed	
27			letter from Leo Varadkar, who was Minister for	
28			Transport, in June and we then arranged to have a	
29			meeting with our departmental officials to look what	

1 needed to be done to ensure the momentum was maintained 2 in implementing the recommendations made by O'Mahony. But it's quite possible the issue of whether Sergeant 3 McCabe did or did not cooperation with the 4 5 investigation arose on that occasion, I just don't 14:37 6 specifically remember that conversation. 7 583 All right. Mr. Brett seems to be under the impression Q. 8 that he explained to you at that meeting that Sergeant McCabe was adamant that that in fact wasn't the case. 9 You don't remember any --10 14:38 11 No, I genuinely don't remember having a conversation Α. 12 with Mr. Brett about that issue. 13 584 Yes. Q. 14 Α. It may well be it occurred, but I genuinely don't 15 remember it. 14:38 16 All right. 585 Q. 17 But it did of course arise in other contexts. Α. 18 All right. And then it would appear that in October 586 Q. 19 2013 the issue was being debated in the Dáil --20 Α. Yes. 14:38 -- in relation to the fixed charge penalty notices. 21 587 Q. 22 And the text of that debate appears at page 7242 of the 23 materials in its entirety. It will hopefully come up 24 on the screen in front of you. It's the first page of 25 So page 7243 of the materials, the penalty points 14:38 26 system was debated, and that's the beginning of the 27 debate. 28 Mm-hmm. Α. 29 And you spoke from page 7245 on the matter in relation 588 Ο.

Т			to various changes that had been made to the system and	
2			were going to be made to the system. And at a later	
3			stage, at page 7247 of the materials, Deputy Higgins	
4			raised the issue of the whistleblowers and an	
5			allegation that they had been victimised as a result of	14:39
6			being whistleblowers in relation to the penalty points,	
7			and it was in that context that the issue of	
8			non-cooperation seemed to have arisen. You agree with	
9			that generally?	
10		Α.	Well, it arose in the context of, I think, the general	14:39
11			debate that took place	
12	589	Q.	The general debate?	
13		Α.	in the House that day in relation to the penalty	
14			points and ticket charge issue.	
15	590	Q.	All right. Okay. And it took a course in relation to	14:40
16			whistleblowers being then debated?	
17		Α.	It did. And in the, in my summing up of that debate,	
18			as you see in the first paragraph, I said there was no	
19			basis for alleging that anyone had been victimised.	
20	591	Q.	Yes?	14:40
21		Α.	And went on to say that the allegations that were made	
22			were taken very seriously. But I also went on to say	
23			that allegations made included claims the number of	
24			road accidents in which people lost their lives were a	
25			consequence of fixed notice charges being cancelled,	14:40
26			and that was established in a very detailed basis to be	
27			untrue. And I had concerns not just about allegations	
28			made that fatal accidents had resulted from the	
29			nonpayment of ticket charges, but that there were a	

series of other allegations that had been made by Sergeant McCabe for which there was also no basis.

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Now, I'm saying that in the context of acknowledging, as I did in this debate, and acknowledging here, that 14:40 there's absolutely no doubt that had Sergeant McCabe not raised concerns about the ticket charge issue. about the disfunction in the context of administering what's called the fixed process system, I have absolutely no doubt that if he hadn't raised those 14 · 41 issues those issues would not have come to the fore and the changes that had been implemented would not have occurred.

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But unfortunately, in the context of making complaints 14:41 of a valid nature and making allegations that clearly were correct, a number of very serious allegations with regard to Garda corruption, with regard to deleting material from, and altering material on the Pulse Garda computer system, and some others, turned out to be unsubstantiated and incorrect. And this is why it would have been valuable had Sergeant McCabe engaged in the process. He chose not to. And I did say in that debate that unfortunately he -- I'm just trying to find the exact quote - yes, I say:

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"Insofar as individuals who raised issues are alleging that the Garda reports published are untrue, let them bring forward chapter and verse and proof of this.

am open to being convinced, but they have not done so. Having engaged with members of this House and published material, they did not cooperate with the Garda investigation that took place. I do not know why that was the case."

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Now, what I was particularly conscious of at that stage was the following. That subsequent, not only to the interim report, but subsequent to the publication of the O'Mahony report, Garda McCabe, both in his engagement with the department and also clearly from public comment made by TDs, who I believe were reflecting his view, was adamant and dogmatic that every single allegation he'd made was correct. there was a continuing correspondence with Michael Flahive asking him could he please provide the detail of, you know, where the O'Mahony report is incorrect, could he please provide the evidence to indicate where it's incorrect. And in circumstances in which he could have engaged, he could have decided to engage with O'Mahony, in circumstances in which, having claimed anonymity and he was then complaining he hadn't been interviewed, I expressed the view that I held at that time that he hadn't cooperated with the investigation. And that was a view that I personally held, it wasn't -- before someone asks me this, it wasn't a view handed down to me by the Garda Commissioner. we each reached independent views of this. My view derived from the nature of my department's engagement,

1			from the fact that in April 2013 Sergeant McCabe was in	
2			contact with the Taoiseach's office, the Taoiseach's	
3			office passed on emails I think it was to me and our	
4			department, he was complaining that he hadn't been	
5			interviewed and then he said he made contact with	14:44
6			assistant commissioner, as he became, I think he was	
7			chief superintendent then, but he made contact with	
8			Chief Superintendent O'Mahony, and when he made that	
9			contact I think the email recorded that he'd been asked	
LO			by O'Mahony would he meet one of his investigators or	14:44
L1			one of his team, and the message the Taoiseach	
L2			detailed, that he was very alarmed at that suggestion	
L3			and he terminated the phone conversation. Now, at that	
L4			stage I had received the O'Mahony report. The O'Mahony	
L5			report had not been published. Had Sergeant McCabe	14:45
L6			taken up the invitation to engage, if something had	
L7			arisen that required a delay in publishing the report,	
L8			if there was some issue O'Mahony wished to re-visit,	
L9			there'd have been no difficulty of any description. So	
20			that was what led me to conclude and to make that	14:45
21			comment that unfortunately, despite him continuing to	
22			protest the O'Mahony report was inaccurate in its	
23			conclusions, that he hadn't cooperated with the	
24			investigation and he had, in my view, an opportunity to	
25			do so if he wished.	14:45
26	592	Q.	All right. Had you confirmed that with the	
27			Commissioner before making this statement in October	
28			2013?	

A. No, I didn't. I mean, I expect the first the

1 Commissioner knew of the statement was when it appeared 2 in newspapers. No, I hadn't engaged with the 3 Commissioner in that context. I had a huge concern about the ticket charge allegations, I was extremely 4 5 serious about trying to ensure they were properly 14:46 I thought Chief Superintendent O'Mahony did 6 7 a very good job in dealing with the process issues in 8 his report and highlighting a whole range of disfunction within the Gardaí - a lack of adequate 9 oversight; failure to comply with prescribed rules; 10 14 · 46 11 three senior Gardaí were subject to a disciplinary 12 inquiry as a consequence; letters remonstrating with 50 13 senior officers went out - but not such a good job had been done with what I describe as the substantive 14 15 decisions made. In the statement I issued when the 14:46 report was published I referred to some decisions made 16 17 as lacking logic and common sense. I think in that 18 debate I referred to them as exotic. 19 593 Yes. Q. So that's why I referred it to the Garda Inspectorate. Α. I was very determined that we get the issue right. I fully respected that Sergeant McCabe had very valid

20 21 22 23 reasons initially for wanting anonymity, but it was my 24 view that we got past that point both when Michael Flahive wrote to him, indeed when he did have a phone 25 conversation, received an invitation from O'Mahony. 26 27 And at some stage later in the process, and I don't think I knew this until sometime subsequent to receipt 28 29 of the O'Mahony report and the issue arising with the

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Т			raorseach, i think at some stage i rearned or a	
2			direction that the Garda Commissioner had arranged for	
3			Sergeant McCabe to be given arising out of some access	
4			to Pulse documentation. Now the direction very	
5			specifically directed that further documents from Pulse	14:47
6			shouldn't be distributed outside the Garda force.	
7	594	Q.	Yes.	
8		Α.	But it did contain within it an invitation for him to	
9			engage with O'Mahony, and that invitation wasn't taken	
10			up. So I would have had all those issues in my head	14:48
11			when I made what was really an unplanned comment in	
12			response to a debate in the Dáil on 1st October 2013.	
13	595	Q.	All right, okay. If we could then go to January 2014,	
14			to your statement in relation to the Public Accounts	
15			Committee, which was then dealing with the penalty	14:48
16			points issue. And that's at page 7252 of the	
17			materials. You will see the first page of it:	
18				
19			"Statement by the Minister for Justice, Equality and	
20			Defence, Alan Shatter TD, on penalty points."	14:48
21		Α.	Yes.	
22	596	Q.	And it again summarises the Public Accounts Committee	
23			role and the situation that was then developing with	
24			regard to their hearings on the penalty points issue.	
25			And if I could just then turn to the top of page 7253	14:49
26			of the materials. The beginning of that sentence is:	
27				
28			"While I am aware that some are concerned that the	
29			investigation was not independent of An Garda Síochána.	

1			I am not aware of the persons making the allegations	
2			putting forward any substantive evidence which will	
3			call into question Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony's	
4			findings, despite requests to do so. Indeed, the	
5			original assertions are merely repeated and further	14:49
6			cases are brought to attention in circumstances where	
7			the persons making the allegations could not have full	
8			knowledge of the facts. I have also previously	
9			expressed concerns about how files containing	
10			confidential information about individual private	14:49
11			citizens appear to have been disseminated to others."	
12				
13			So again, there is a reference there to maybe not	
14			non-cooperation in those words, but requests being made	
15			for evidence and those	14:50
16		Α.	Yes.	
17	597	Q.	not being followed up?	
18		Α.	And they would have been primarily made by Michael	
19			Flahive in correspondence that continued into the	
20			autumn of 2013.	14:50
21	598	Q.	In relation to the penalty points?	
22		Α.	In relation to the penalty points ticket charge issue,	
23			yes.	
24	599	Q.	And is that what you were referring to?	
25		Α.	Yes, yes, that's what I'd have had in mind, yes.	14:50
26	600	Q.	Was there any element of information coming from the	
27			Commissioner being in your mind in relation to that	
28			sentence there?	
29		Δ	No no. The issue that I was referencing at that point	

was the continued assertions that were being made that,
effectively that all of the complaints made by Sergeant
McCabe were accurate. Some of them were of enormous
seriousness and of relevance not just to the good name
and reputation of people within the Garda force, but of $_{14:50}$
relevance to the general public. For example, in the
list of original issues raised by him, there were
allegations - and I'm saying this now from memory, but
I think it's referenced in one of my statements - there
were allegations that effectively nine individuals had 14:51
died in road traffic accidents as a consequence of the
nonenforcement of ticket charges and non-imposition of
penalty points. That issue had been dealt with in
enormous detail in the O'Mahony report and despite the
fact that it was quite clear from that report that that $_{14:51}$
allegation was mistaken and the impact that allegation
could have had on those who had lost loved ones in
fatal accidents, I was very conscious of. And despite
the fact that allegation was mistaken, it kept on
resurfacing after the O'Mahony report in newspaper 14:51
reports as if it was still valid. So I had real
concerns that allegations that were unsubstantiated
were continuing to be essentially stated to be
accurate, which were not.

14:52

There was also an issue that consistently arose about the deletion and alteration of the Garda Pulse system. Now, you can certainly make additions to the Garda Pulse system, but as I understood it, and Michael

1			Flahive in his letter of December 2013 would have	
2			referenced this, as I understood it, once material is	
3			on the Garda Pulse system, it can't be altered or	
4			deleted. Additions can be made to it. And that issue	
5			continued to be dealt with and raised all the way	14:52
6			through to the report published by GSOC in December	
7			2017 on the ticket charge issue when they definitively	
8			stated that you can't alter or delete material from	
9			Pulse. And that's exactly what the O'Mahony report had	
10			said four years earlier.	14:53
11	601	Q.	Okay. Well, so they were the issues that led to that	
12			inclusion in your statement	
13		Α.	Yes.	
14	602	Q.	in relation to that. We then have a statement made	
15			by Sergeant McCabe himself in relation to the issue of	14:53
16			non-cooperation, and that comes along in February 2014.	
17			You're aware of that statement?	
18		Α.	I am, yes.	
19	603	Q.	He issued a statement?	
20		Α.	He published an engagement between him and a senior	14:53
21			officer relating to the direction issued by the Garda	
22			Commissioner that I would have mentioned that was, goes	
23			back, I think, from memory to around December 14, 2012,	
24			I think.	
25	604	Q.	Yeah, 14th December 2012?	14:53
26		Α.	Yes.	
27	605	Q.	Yes, yes. And I think what Sergeant McCabe said is	
28			that he was never - it's page 7256 - he was never	
29			contacted by anybody conducting the O'Mahony	

1			investigation which completed its report without making	
2			any attempt to speak with me or to seek his input or	
3			cooperation into inquiries. He said he never withheld	
4			any information or cooperation from the O'Mahony	
5			investigation, as it was then suggested.	14:5
6		Α.	Yes. The problem and the difficulty with that	
7			statement is - and I'm not questioning that it's true,	
8			but - how he expected O'Mahony or a member of his team	
9			to make contact with him in circumstances in which he	
10			demanded anonymity and in circumstances in which that	14:5
11			anonymity was respected and in circumstances in which	
12			the material furnished to the O'Mahony team had his	
13			name, any reference to him redacted from it, is	
14			something of a puzzle.	
15	606	Q.	All right. Well, then I suppose I'll bring you to your	14:5
16			statement of 26th March 2014, where there would seem to	
17			be a very fulsome apology to Sergeant McCabe in	
18			relation to the issue of non-cooperation. And maybe if	
19			we just look at some paragraphs of that statement first	
20			of all. At page 7257 of the materials.	14:5
21		Α.	Yes.	
22	607	Q.	What you say is:	
23				
24			"I want to begin by addressing a matter of substantial	
25			importance. On October 1st, 2013 in a topic issue	14:5
26			debate on the penalty points issue I made a statement	
27			that the whistleblowers did not cooperate with the	
28			Garda investigation that took place in respect of their	

allegations. I appreciate that this statement has been

the source of some upset and distress to the	
whistleblowers. I have looked again at the information	
provided to me and considered the matter in detail. I	
previously stated on the Dáil record that I expected	
that Sergeant McCabe would be interviewed during the	14:56
course of the O'Mahony investigation and I note that he	
fully engaged with the Garda Inspectorate in the work	
undertaken by them to prepare the report which is the	
subject-matter of today's debate. I want to say very	
clearly that having re-examined the facts and further	14:56
considered the matter, I believe more should have been	
done during the course of the O'Mahony investigation to	
obtain information from and ascertain the views and	
experience of the whistleblowers. Further and better	
efforts could and should have been made to secure	14:56
productive engagement with them in the investigation of	
their claims. I, therefore, wish to correct the record	
of this House that the whistleblowers did not cooperate	
with the Garda investigations that took place. I	
acknowledge that this statement was incorrect. It was	14:57
never my intention to mislead the House and I believe	
it is appropriate that I apologise to both and withdraw	
the statements made. It was never my intention to	
cause any upset and if any upset was caused, I hope	
that my correcting the record of the Dáil today will	14:57
put this matter to rest. In doing so, I again	
acknowledge, as I have done many times previously, that	
the reports published and the findings and	
recommendations that have been made with regard to the	

1			fixed notice charge system and penalty points are in	
2			response to the allegations made by Sergeant McCabe and	
3			supported by former Garda Wilson."	
4				
5			And the statement goes on in relation to the penalty	14:57
6			points system and changes that were made to it and so	
7			forth. Now, in relation to that, I think it's a fairly	
8			fulsome apology in relation to what was said in the	
9			Dáil on 1st October.	
10		Α.	Yes. Well, there had been an ongoing controversy about	14:58
11			this issue and I had already previously addressed it, I	
12			think in the Dáil, on 26th February	
13	608	Q.	Yes?	
14		Α.	and detailed some of the background I've already	
15			detailed in answer to previous questions. I determined	14:58
16			it was important to bring the controversy to an end and	
17			I also appreciated the fact that, as I understood it,	
18			that Sergeant McCabe had constructively engaged with	
19			the Garda Inspectorate. What I had learned in the	
20			period immediately preceding making this statement was	14:58
21			the knowledge of Chief Superintendent or Assistant	
22			Commissioner O'Mahony in the context of Sergeant McCabe	
23			as a complainant. As I said earlier, we had preserved	
24			Sergeant McCabe's anonymity throughout and my	
25			understanding was that at no stage did Assistant	14:59
26			Commissioner O'Mahony know that Sergeant McCabe was the	
27			complainant.	
28				
29			I think towards the end of February or some time in	

March I got to read the transcript of the proceedings before the PAC committee the previous January - this was the hearing at which both the Garda Commissioner Martin Callinan attended and Superintendent O'Mahony. My knowledge of, initially of what took place at that meeting derived essentially from newspaper reports, not from the meeting -- not from the transcript of the meeting. It was clear during questioning, that in the transcript Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony acknowledged at some point that by either January or February 2013 he either knew or guessed - I'm not sure which it was - that Sergeant McCabe was the complainant.

13 609 Q. Yes.

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Α. I sat back in the context of all of the controversy that was taking place around this issue and asked myself the very simple question, and this is no criticism of Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony, because I can well understand why he dealt with matters as he did, but I asked myself the question: If I had known what he knew and I was conducting that investigation, would I have considered it wise and sensible to at least ascertain could I interview the complainant? Ι think if I was him I would have regarded it inappropriate in circumstances where the Minister had preserved anonymity and I either knew or simply suspected who the complainant was, that I'd go off and try and interview him. But I did consider that if I had been in his shoes I'd have probably got the Garda Commissioner to write to the Minister for Justice to

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1			find out and to specifically ask would the complainant	
2			engage with the O'Mahony investigation.	
3				
4			Now, that hadn't happened. And it is correct Sergeant	
5			McCabe said in his statement that no one had actually	15:01
6			asked him to engage. Now, as I say, in circumstances	
7			where his identity wasn't known, he couldn't have been	
8			asked, but it became clear to me then that by either	
9			January or February of 2013, at least there was a	
10			suspicion on the part of Assistant Commissioner	15:01
11			O'Mahony as to who the complainant was. I thought, I	
12			was very conscious that this was causing continuing	
13			upset and causing upset to Sergeant McCabe, I'd no wish	
14			for this to be an ongoing controversy and I thought it	
15			was right and correct to make that apology and that's	15:01
16			how the apology arose.	
17	610	Q.	Okay. So I was wondering about that, Mr. Shatter,	
18			because as I understand your evidence, you totally	
19			stand behind your statements in the Dáil in October	
20			2013 in relation to non-cooperation	15:01
21		Α.	Yes.	
22	611	Q.	and you justify those on the basis of your own	
23			dealings in the department, is that right?	
24		Α.	Yes. And my knowledge of matters at that point.	
25	612	Q.	Okay. And also in relation to your statement in	15:02
26			January 2014?	
27		Α.	Yes. And of course, the main purpose of that statement	
28			in January was to address the difficulties that had	
29			arisen before the Public Accounts Committee, at which	

1 the Chairman, towards the end of the meeting, alleged 2 that over 200 Gardaí were being accused of corruption. 3 I had enormous concerns about that and the manner in which the PAC were dealing with the issues. And that 4 5 statement was primarily about referring the totality of 15:02 the ticket charge and penalty point allegations to the 6 7 Garda Siochana Ombudsman Commission. 8 613 Okay. And your apology comes in the context of you Q. 9 then knowing that the guards probably now that Sergeant McCabe --10 15:02 11 Yes. Α. 12 -- was the complainant --614 Q. 13 Yes. Α. 14 615 0. -- and didn't make an effort --15 Α. Yes. 15:03 16 -- to interview him? 616 Q. 17 Α. Yes. 18 And that's how you justify the --617 Q. 19 Α. Yes. 20 -- the two stands together? 618 0. 15:03 21 Α. Yes. 22 And you stand behind your apology to Sergeant 619 Okay. Q. 23 McCabe --24 Yes, yes. Α. 25 -- is that correct? 620 Q. 15:03 Yes, I think there would have been a lot --26 Α. 27 621 And you don't go back on it in any way? Q. No, I think there would have been a lot of wisdom had 28 Α. 29 Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony at least asked the

Garda Commissioner to ascertain could we find out from
Sergeant McCabe or would he engage with them and that
that be an official request from the Garda
Commissioner. But again, it is also true and factual
and part of the truth of this, that we sought to bring
that about through our letter from Michael Flahive back
in December 2012.

The problem in the context of dealing with this issue, it's seen constantly in black and white terms. It's quite a complicated narrative and the background to it is quite complicated.

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- All right, okay. Could I go back to May 2013? At that stage the O'Mahony inquiry result had been published, you published that. And I think because of the ongoing 15:04 contacts with Sergeant McCabe and his legal advisors, you raised a query with Commissioner Callinan in relation to Sergeant McCabe?
- A. Yes. The background to the query was the difficulties being experienced in dealing with issues raised by Sergeant McCabe, what I perceived to be the erratic nature of his engagement. I'm very conscious that this Tribunal doesn't want to re-visit issues from the O'Higgins Commission, but in the background, truthfully, were a number of issues. One was a series of letters sent to Sergeant McCabe's solicitors trying to seek agreement that documentation provided to the department in confidence, directed for my eyes only, for the addressee only, that we could release that to

the Garda Commissioner to get observations, to ascertain, having got them, whether there was a need for a public inquiry or commission of investigation.

That was one issue.

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There was, Sergeant McCabe adamantly insisting that every allegation made by him on the ticket charge issue stood up, even though some patently didn't. There was the complaint that he hadn't been interviewed in circumstances in which he'd sought anonymity. And 15:05 there was this very strange arrangement that he described the Taoiseach of being invited to meet a member of the O'Mahony team and regarding it as being alarming. There was continuing public controversy. was being publicly pilloried. The fact that I had 15:05 truthfully and genuinely wanted to resolve the issues and ensure we had the best possible and transparent system administering the fixed charge ticket issue was partially being ridiculed, and the Garda Commissioner was being demonised. And there was a particular 15:06

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problem.

So my recollection of this is that no, when I first wrote to the Commission I said I think it occurred after the O'Mahony report was published; I'm pretty certain that this was a conversation that did occur now after the O'Mahony report was published, because I think it was a consequence also of the reaction to the O'Mahony report. There was a phone conversation

1	between myself and the Commissioner on a number of
2	different issues, I think I was in the Department of
3	Justice and I simply said to him look, along the lines
4	that there's continuing difficulties dealing with
5	issues raised by Maurice McCabe. The Commissioner knew $_{15:0}$
6	nothing about the letters that weren't being responded
7	to, because that wasn't an issue we'd written to him
8	about because of the confidentiality issue. And I said
9	to him, is there something in the background here that
10	I should know? Is there some other issue of concern? 15:0
11	And his reaction was to say that the only issue that
12	occurred to him was that some years ago, and I can't
13	recall did he then or did I subsequently, in the
14	context of all the later publicity that has since
15	arisen, did he say it was 2006 or was it just some
16	years ago, I'm not 100% certain of that, that an
17	allegation was made of a sexual nature in relation to
18	Sergeant McCabe, that it had been fully investigated
19	and the DPP had directed there was no basis for a
20	prosecution. And I asked him were there any similar
21	further allegations made and he said no. And he then
22	speculated that perhaps Sergeant McCabe was upset at
23	the manner in which the matter was dealt with. Now, I
24	took that to mean that this impacted in some personal
25	way on Sergeant McCabe and that this was impacting just 15:0
26	on his perception of how he could or should engage with
27	the Gardaí.

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Looking back on it now, the conversation on that issue

1	was very brief. I took the view, and maybe it's my	
2	legal training, that it was I didn't ask what the	
3	charge of a sexual nature or the allegation of a sexual	
4	nature was, I didn't know that it related to	
5	allegedly to a child until I subsequently met the young $_{ ext{ iny 1}}$	15:0
6	woman, which I reference in my submission, or in my	
7	statement to the Commission, and I didn't query it any	
8	further. And my only perception of it was, contrary to	
9	the way Martin Callinan has been portrayed, was he	
10	didn't make a big deal out of it. My perception was	15:0
11	that whatever the allegation was wasn't a major issue.	
12		
13	Now, as someone practising in the area of family law	
14	who has dealt for over 30 years with family cases, I've	
15	had far too many instances of false allegations of	15:0
16	sexual abuse being made by one parent against another	
17	in the context of fights over the custody of children.	
18	And of course I have had allegations in cases I've	
19	dealt with that have been true. But in the vast	
20	majority of cases, they're part of unfortunately the	15:0
21	tool of battle that a parent seriously at war with the	
22	other parent often uses to try and curtail access.	
23		
24	So perhaps I didn't treat this as being something	
25	horrendous to be explored, I just took it that the DPP 1	15:0
26	had decided there was no basis for the allegation and	
27	that was the end of it.	

It was something that Martin Callinan and myself never

1 again discussed. And indeed I didn't even impart that 2 information to anyone working with me in the Department 3 of Justice, not even to my special advisor and I never -- or I'd two specialise advisors. And I never 4 5 discussed it with any member of the Oireachtas. 15:10 6 623 All right. Did you understand that there was some sort Q. of work connection with the complainant? 7 8 No. no. Α. The daughter of a colleague? 9 624 Q. No, nothing was said to me. I had no idea that the 10 Α. 15:10 11 allegation in any way related to a girl born to another 12 member of the force. 13 Yes? 625 Q. 14 Α. Or parented by another -- this was never part of the 15 conversation. It was an extraordinarily brief 15:10 16 conversation. And I was just trying to work out in my 17 head why everything you dealt with in relation to 18 Sergeant McCabe, taking that allegations he made -- a 19 number of them have been proved to be right and some of

his concerns have been proved to be correct, and it was 15:11

very important those issues were raised, but there were

others that were exaggerated and there are others based

on no evidence of any description. And there was this

feeling that when you were dealing with issues that he

raised that you were sort of sinking in quicksand and

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- there was -- I was trying to work out why he had what I perceived to be on occasions a somewhat distorted
- perception of events, and that was my own personal
- 29 perception.

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2			Did that conversation explain it to me? It just	
3			indicated to me that perhaps there was something in the	
4			background that he was upset about. And I think also	
5			it wasn't beyond that an issue that impacted in any	15:1
6			shape or form on how I dealt with any matter to do with	
7			Sergeant McCabe. I was always concerned as a lawyer	
8			and as a Minister to get to the truth of allegations	
9			that were made.	
10	626	Q.	All right. And it was never mentioned again, is that	15:1
11			right?	
12		Α.	Never mentioned between us again at any point in time.	
13			And yeah, I mean it just wasn't mentioned again,	
14			there's no	
15	627	Q.	And it's something though that you distinctly remember,	15:1
16			so it might stand out in your head?	
17		Α.	No, I remember the conversation, which is why I wrote	
18			to the Commissioner at a very early stage to record it.	
19	628	Q.	Yes.	
20		Α.	It never arose again. There were occasions when there	15:1
21			were press conferences that the Commissioner and myself	
22			held where Superintendent Taylor would have been	
23			present as Press Officer, we'd have a cup of coffee or	
24			a cup of tea often before those press conferences	
25			they usually surrounded an event that, you know, the	15:1
26			announcement of Garda statistics or some celebration in	

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Templemore College or something, young recruits

graduating, we frequently dealt, unfortunately, with

the ticket charge issues and other issues raised by

1	Sergeant McCabe, but this was never an issue that even
2	came up in conversation between us over the cup of tea
3	in private before we had a press conference or a press
4	engagement.

5 629 All right. Now, if we go forward to January 2014 at Q. the time the Public Accounts Committee was dealing with 6 7 the penalty points issue. The Tribunal has heard 8 evidence from a number of people to the effect that there were lots of rumours around Leinster House about 9 Sergeant McCabe and in view of your earlier 10 11 conversation with the Commissioner, I was going to ask 12 you did you hear those rumours? And if you did, did 13 vou tie them in with the earlier conversation?

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15.14

A. I'm genuinely puzzled about this. I mean, the Tribunal is aware of what submissions you've received from members of the Houses of the Oireachtas. As Minister for Justice, when you're going for a cup of coffee or you are having lunch or you are walking through the corridors, colleagues constantly come up to you about, with all sorts of issues. And of course the ticket charge issue and allegations made by Sergeant McCabe featured very substantially in the Dáil on and off in the periods between really December 2012 all the way through to the appointment of Mr. Guerin to carry out an inquiry.

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There wasn't a single member of Dáil Éireann that I have any recollection ever coming to me with any gossip about Sergeant McCabe and any allegations of

1			impropriety of any nature in relation to, you know, the	
2			sexual issue that's come up or the alleged the issue	
3			that gave rise to an investigation and the DPP saying	
4			there was no basis for prosecution. No one ever	
5			stopped me in a corridor. It was not something that I	15:15
6			was aware was subject of gossip.	
7				
8			Now I know when you are a Minister you are in a	
9			somewhat rarified place and you are coming out of the	
LO			Dáil chamber and going off into Ministerial buildings,	15:15
L1			but I was around about enough, having a drink with	
L2			colleagues or having lunch with colleagues and engaging	
L3			with colleagues and meeting colleagues, I would have	
L4			expected if there was rumours about this issue up to	
L5			the period of May 2014 when I was engaged as a	15:15
L6			Minister, and ceased to be a Minister, that someone	
L7			would have said something to me about that issue.	
L8				
L9			I certainly never engaged with anyone on that issue and	
20			certainly I am not aware that there was some widespread	15:15
21			gossip in Leinster House about that issue. Maybe it	
22			was taking place behind my back, I don't know. But	
23			certainly I was not aware of it.	
24	630	Q.	Okay. And	
25		Α.	And it was also, by the way, never raised by any	15:16
26			journalist with me either.	
27	631	Q.	Okay. In relation to what's referred to as the car	
28			park meeting between	

Α.

Yes.

- 1 632 Q. -- Commissioner Callinan and Deputy McGuinness, it
  2 would appear that Mr. Purcell knew about that meeting.
  3 Did you have any knowledge of it?
- I'd no knowledge of it, of any description. 4 Α. 5 the first I learned of that meeting having taken place 6 was when Deputy McGuinness announced it to the world in 2016, shortly after publication of the O'Higgins 7 8 Commission report. Mr. Purcell never mentioned it to Martin Callinan never mentioned it to me. 9 been asked by Mr. Purcell, if he had said to me the 10 15:16 11 Garda Commissioner is thinking of arranging to meet with the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee to 12 13 discuss this issue in private, I'd have counselled that 14 that was not a wise thing to do.

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But no, I knew nothing of it. And it was never -- I

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15:17

17 was never informed of it.

18 633 Q. Okay. Now, in May 2014 you resigned as Minister. And 19 I think in June you met with Ms. D, is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 634 Q. And if you could tell us how that came about, please?

A. I got a phone call from Paul Williams, an individual for whom I have a great deal of respect. He informed me that Ms. D, as she's now known as, wished to meet with me. He told me he was ringing me really in connection with the articles that had appeared in the

Independent. Now, this isn't an exact reciting of the conversation, it's my précis of the conversation.

29 635 Q. Had you read those articles at that stage?

1	Α.	I had read the articles, I was aware of them. I wasn't
2		aware of anything other than what was in the articles.
3		Arising out of what the Garda Commissioner had told me,
4		I suspected told me in our previous engagement that
5		I mentioned

15:18

15:19

6 636 Q. Yes?

7 -- in our phone conversation, I suspected it might have Α. 8 something to do with Sergeant McCabe. I didn't know for sure. And what Paul Williams had said to me was 9 that he had met with this woman and she wanted to meet 10 15:18 11 with me. Now, that is my recollection of what 12 occurred. And would I meet with her? And I was no 13 longer Minister for Justice and I wasn't quite sure why she wanted to meet with me and I think I asked that 14 question and he said that -- I was aware from his 15 15:18 16 reports and also in our conversation he referenced the 17 fact that she had already met with Micheál Martin. 18 he said she wanted to tell me her story.

19

I wasn't in a good place at that time I think is the simplest way of putting it.

22 637 Q. Fair enough.

I'd ceased to be Minister. I think I was traumatised 23 Α. 24 by the circumstances, unexpected as they were, that had 25 I was expecting to be vindicated, not occurred. 26 condemned by Mr. Guerin. My family was upset. And I 27 would confess I had limited enthusiasm for meeting with 28 And I did, out of respect for Paul, say yes, and 29 we arranged to meet. And we met in the Mount Merrion

1			not Mount Merrion, in the Merrion Hotel. I'm always	
2			anxious when I have meetings to have someone accompany	
3			me, so Jane Lehane, one of my personal advisors, came	
4			with me to the meeting. Paul Williams was there, she	
5			was there. And our meeting lasted some time, something	15:2
6			between an hour to an hour and a half, I think.	
7	638	Q.	Okay. And if you could just summarise what took place	
8			- we don't need the details - the topics that were	
9			discussed during that meeting.	
10		Α.	Yes. Well, firstly the young lady I met was very	15:2
11			stressed. And I found her stress at the time	
12			distressing.	
13	639	Q.	Yes.	
14		Α.	I suppose I was somewhat stressed myself. But she told	
15			her story and she made her story essentially	15:2
16			surrounded an event that had happened allegedly in	
17			2006. She named Sergeant McCabe. She said that she	
18			tried to put it behind her. She told me that I think	
19			when she was 12 or 13 it occurred to her, the enormity	
20			of what she alleged occurred came to her. She told me,	15:2
21			as she described it at the time, that as a young	
22			teenager she'd acted out and behaved badly and she	
23			attributed it to that. And essentially her complaint	
24			was that she believed that her allegation hadn't been	
25			properly investigated.	15:2
26				
27			She told me that she was attending college, that all of	
28			the as she put it, all of the stuff in the	

newspapers about Sergeant McCabe, painting him in

1 heroic terms, had caused her enormous stress, that she 2 had found it very difficult to study, I think my 3 recollection may be right that she postponed taking her exams that year because of her level of stress and she 4 5 wanted to know what I could do to have the manner in 15:22 which the investigation was conducted addressed. 6 640 Yes. Q.

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She was aware of the fact I'd ceased to be Minister and 8 Α. seemed to be aware of the fact that Mr. Guerin had 9 recommended a commission of investigation. 10

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11 641 All right. Q.

> And that's why she wanted to meet with me. Α. essentially that was the conversation. I took some time with her. I was very concerned, frankly, for her well-being and her state of mind. I was concerned that 15:22 if she further pursued the issue, as it seemed that she wished to do, that she could be reopening a hornet's nest and that she could be -- I think I made some comment to her that it could go on for a very long time with no certainty of the outcome, that if there was an 15:23 inquiry it wouldn't necessarily result in any outcome that would be of any help to her. And I did talk around the advisability of her further pursuing it. But she seemed very adamant she wanted it pursued.

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I had been at the receiving end of a never-ending stream of false allegations from January of that year across a whole range of issues, not just those being investigated or that were investigated by Mr. Guerin, and I was very conscious that if I wrote to the Taoiseach or if I wrote to the new Minister for Justice referencing the information she gave me and proposing that it be part of what was to be the commission of investigation that was ultimately to take place, that 15:24 it might be perceived as me trying to exact some sort of revenge or Sergeant McCabe or trying to have a go at him or trying to make some slanderous allegation. I did advise her in the presence of Paul Williams that the best person to be of help to her was Micheál 15:24 Martin, because Mícheál Martin had raised Sergeant McCabe's dossier in the Dáil, he was the one who had made, amongst others, false allegations against me and that no one would think that he was out to do down Sergeant McCabe. She discussed with me the fact that 15:24 she had met with Micheál Martin, that she understood that Mícheál Martin had written to the Taoiseach. but she had heard nothing more and she was frustrated. 15:24

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So I said, my recollection is that I said to her I would give some consideration as to how I would raise the issue. I knew there was a debate coming up on the Cooke report in the Dáil within two or three days of our meeting. I'd intended to use that debate as an opportunity to talk also about the Guerin Report. I genuinely don't remember whether I actually said to her whether I thought, or whether this was a thought to myself, did I consider could I raise the issue in some way during that debate, but ultimately I decided I

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1			would.	
2				
3			So having met her, I went back and re-read the Paul	
4			Williams articles, I think we had to get them out of	
5			the Oireachtas library or something.	15:25
6	642	Q.	Yes?	
7		Α.	I'm not sure, I hadn't actually been keeping them. I	
8			was conscious of them. Having re-read the Paul	
9			Williams articles I decided that I had a duty as a TD	
10			to at least raise her concerns and did so as best I	15:25
11			could in the Dáil.	
12	643	Q.	In the Dáil. She wasn't one of your constituents, is	
13			that correct?	
14		Α.	No, no, I had never met her before. And I've never met	
15			her since.	15:26
16	644	Q.	All right. And did Mr. Williams partake in that	
17			exchange?	
18		Α.	Yes, he was there. Paul Williams was there for the	
19			whole meeting. He introduced her to me. To some	
20			degree he participated in the conversation. Frankly, I	15:26
21			don't remember the detail of that.	
22	645	Q.	Yes.	
23		Α.	I just remember the detail of my engagement with her.	
24			I think it was her level of stress that particularly	
25			impacted on me.	15:26
26	646	Q.	All right. It's just, there is no suggestion of this,	
27			but did Mr. Williams in any way encourage the matter to	
28			be included in a commission of investigation, or can	
29			you remember anything?	

I am sure I was told that Micheal Martin was writing to 1 Α. 2 the Taoiseach to ask that it be included. 3 this to me --4 Yes? 647 Q. 5 -- during the course of that meeting. Α. 15:27 6 648 Q. 7 And because from her perspective nothing had really Α. 8 happened since --9 649 Yes. Q. -- I think she was skeptical that anything was going to 15:27 10 Α. 11 And that's why I decided to raise the issue in 12 as discreet a manner as I possibly could so that I 13 wouldn't ignite another media frenzy and bring the 14 hounds of hell down on myself and my wife all over 15 again. 15:27 16 MS. LEADER: Okay, if you would answer any questions 17 anybody else might have for you. 18 CHAI RMAN: Can I just make a brief comment? 19 question of what I want or don't want, but I have a 20 specific set of terms of reference. Now, I do believe 15:27 that part of the job of a judge is to listen and that 21 22 people are entitled to go into issues that may not 23 necessarily be absolutely and completely strictly 24 within the terms of what is at issue, but could I ask 25 in terms of any questions that are going to be asked 15:28 that they be short and bear in mind that I am not, as 26 27 far as I can see, actually reporting on how well or not so well Minister Shatter did in his job in relation to 28

Sergeant McCabe. It's not within my terms of reference

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1	and as far as I can see it has already been	
2	definitively dealt with by Mr. Justice O'Higgins. That	
3	is what I think. Now if anyone wants to persuade me to	
4	the contrary, I am open to hearing that. But I will	
5	allow a certain latitude certainly, but I'm asking that $_{ m 15:}$	28
6	matters be kept, let's say, relatively brief.	
7	MR. GORDON: Chairman, it is intended to ask the	
8	witness some questions on behalf of Sergeant McCabe.	
9	At this point could I ask you, Chairman, to change the	
10	running order, so to speak? Mr. Shatter has given 15:	29
11	evidence of a number of issues that we're not on notice	
12	of. He's referred in particular to a letter that he	
13	sent to the Commissioner of the day and in that	
14	correspondence he recorded, he says, something of	
15	significance. Now, we have not seen a copy of that 15:	29
16	letter. He's also referred to evidence in relation to	
17	the anonymity of Sergeant McCabe at the time of the	
18	O'Mahony investigation, which surprises Mr. McCabe's	
19	legal team and we're looking, as the evidence is	
20	unfolding, for some documents that might help question 15:	29
21	Mr. Shatter about his evidence.	
22	CHAIRMAN: well, let's just deal with that particular	
23	one first, Mr. Gordon. So, can you help me,	
24	Ms. Leader, in relation to any documentation? Because	
25	I am appreciating we have got about 8,000 pages here. 15:	29
26	MR. McGUINNESS: Chairman, in relation to the first	
27	issue, the transcript records Mr. Shatter as having	
28	said earlier that he wrote at a very early stage to the	
29	Commissioner to record it. Now, my understanding is	

1		that he's in fact referring to his statement to the	
2		Tribunal made in very early course	
3		CHAIRMAN: Yes.	
4		MR. McGUINNESS: to the Tribunal, not to the	
5		Commissioner.	15:30
6		CHAIRMAN: Yes. That is what I understood. I	
7		understood you used the word wrongly.	
8	Α.	I beg your pardon, yes. No, there is no letter I sent	
9		to the Commissioner. No.	
10		CHAIRMAN: I think, you were thinking of saying	15:30
11		commission, it turned into commissioner but you	
12		actually meant to say the Tribunal. And that is the	
13		letter that is that circulated?	
14	Α.	I am afraid, judge, I have been before too many	
15		commissions of investigation at this stage.	15:30
16		CHAIRMAN: well	
17	Α.	Yeah. No, there is no letter to the Garda Commissioner	
18		of any description.	
19		CHAIRMAN: All right. That's fine.	
20	Α.	It was a letter of March last	15:30
21		CHAIRMAN: I actually didn't think there was, and that	
22		is how I picked it up.	
23	Α.	2017 to the Tribunal.	
24		CHAIRMAN: Does that help you?	
25		MR. GORDON: That certainly helps, Judge.	15:30
26		CHAIRMAN: You carry on, Mr. Gordon. I'm sure you will	
27		bear in mind what I said.	
28		MR. GORDON: I will of course, Chairman.	

Τ			THE WITNESS WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. GORDON	
2	650	Q.	MR. GORDON: Good afternoon, Mr. Shatter. Breffni	
3			Gordon is my name, I am one of the barristers	
4			representing Sergeant McCabe in this Tribunal. Can I	
5			ask you first and foremost to refer to page 7243, which	15:31
6			might come up on screen now? This is the debate in	
7			Dáil Éireann when I think you attended there to deal	
8			with the penalty point controversy for the first time.	
9		Α.	Sorry, what date is that debate?	
10	651	Q.	It's coming up on the screen there now. It's 1st	15:31
11			October 2013. And the first page of the debate is	
12			7242. And the issue itself is actually addressed on	
13			page 7243.	
14		Α.	Mm hmm.	
15	652	Q.	And you'll see there that there's a heading "Topic	15:31
16			commission debate: Penalty points system". And can I	
17			just ask you before we look at that paragraph	
18		Α.	Sorry, which paragraph is it?	
19	653	Q.	This is the paragraph under the heading "Topical issue	
20			debate: Penalty points system" on page 7243. It's	15:32
21			halfway down the page?	
22		Α.	Yes, I presume	
23	654	Q.	In fact, it's coming onto the screen now.	
24		Α.	If I can just	
25	655	Q.	The first words under that heading	15:32
26		Α.	My screen seems to be very hazy for some reason.	
27	656	Q.	If you want to use the volume	
28		Α.	Unless it's my eyesight, I don't know, but I can't read	
29			this at all.	

- 1 657 Q. Volume 26.
- 2 A. What volume is it?
- 3 658 Q. Perhaps you could be given a hard copy. I think it's
- 4 Volume 26. In fact, you're going to be getting some
- 5 assistance now and you will be given that.
- 6 A. Right, thank you very much. Yes, this screen doesn't

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- 7 seem to be readable.
- 8 CHAIRMAN: Are you having any luck, Mr. Shatter?
- 9 A. Yes, we're getting there, judge.
- 10 659 Q. MR. GORDON: 7243 is the page.
- 11 A. Yes, I'm just finding it now. Yes. Now, 7243?
- 12 660 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 661 Q. And you'll see that the first speaker in relation to
- the issue is Deputy Padraig McLoughlin, do you see
- 16 that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 662 Q. And if you drift over to the next page, 7244, Deputy
- Joe Higgins has an input then. And on the next page
- then you answer the questions or the issues as they
- 21 were addressed by the two deputies.
- 22 A. Yes, I have that.
- 23 663 Q. And can I just ask you to confirm that on that
- particular day, which is 1st October 2013, that that
- was the first time that you addressed Dáil Éireann in
- relation to the penalty point issue?
- 27 A. The first time I addressed Dáil Éireann in relation to
- the penalty point issue?
- 29 664 Q. In relation to this particular issue here, this

- particular controversy. 1 2 I'm sorry, I don't understand the question, because I Α. addressed Dáil Éireann on a number of occasions on the 3 penalty point issue. 4 5 665 Okay. Can I ask you was this the first occasion when Q. 15:34 6 you did that? 7 No. Α. 8 666 Or do you know? Q. 9 I would have had multiple Dáil questions on the penalty Α. point issue going all the way back to 11th December 10 15:34 11 2012 when there was an exchange involving Deputies Daly and Wallace and another deputy is my recollection. 12 13 can't off the top of my head --14 667 Q. Well, it seems --15:34
- 15 A. I know there were various occasions when there were
  16 Dáil questions. I can't off the top of my head record
  17 whether we had any debates. I no longer -- I don't
  18 remember was there a debate after the O'Mahony
  19 report --
- 20 668 Q. It just seems from the transcript -21 A. -- was published.
- 22 669 Q. -- it's the first day that you addressed Dail
  23 Eireann --
- A. It's first day I addressed the issue following
  publication of the report of the Comptroller and
  Auditor General if that's what you're asking me.
- 27 670 Q. And you can see that when the issue was raised, it's 28 first raised Deputy Padraig McLoughlin, he puts on the 29 record, it seems, the fact that the Comptroller and

1			Attorney General has reported on the issue, he	
2			describes the outcome at absolutely shocking, he refers	
3			to widespread maladministration, poor procedures. Do	
4			you see that there in the first paragraph?	
5		Α.	Yes.	15:35
6	671	Q.	And he then in the next paragraph refers to "this as a	
7			crisis". And he makes this comment then in that second	
8			paragraph, he said:	
9				
10			"He and the Garda Commissioner, I believe, sought to	15:35
11			undermine their credibility and talk down the numbers	
12			that were involved."	
13				
14			Now, can I just ask you to focus on that particular	
15			sentence at the moment?	15:36
16		Α.	Hmm.	
17	672	Q.	I think that the word "he" is a reference to you, isn't	
18			that so?	
19		Α.	I think you should remember that this is political	
20			hyperbole	15:36
21	673	Q.	I am just asking	
22		Α.	from an Opposition deputy who is a member of Sinn	
23			Fein who is debating an issue in a politically	
24			opportunist manner in Dáil Éireann. I mean, are we	
25			going to	15:36
26			CHAIRMAN: Yes, I know, but I'm going to speak now, if	
27			you don't mind. If necessary I am going to act like	
28			Judge Judy. But look, there is a separation of powers	
29			doctrine. I stopped people when they started to tell	

_			me now great Leo variation was for mentioning sergeant	
2			McCabe and similarly, where this is going to get us, I	
3			actually don't know, but if there is a point to the	
4			question, I'm certainly willing to listen to it. But	
5			I'm not interested in either political questions or	15:36
6			political answers and that's it.	
7	674	Q.	MR. GORDON: What I was trying to bring Mr. Shatter to	
8			is the reference in the question to, or at least the	
9			suggestion that you were with Commissioner Callinan	
10			undermining the credibility of the whistleblowers.	15:37
11		Α.	Entirely untrue.	
12	675	Q.	All right. I think that on the next page then Deputy	
13			Joe Higgins contributed to the subject-matter and he	
14			makes the point there, this is on the 7244,	
15			Mr. Shatter, he says:	15:37
16				
17			"Is it not the case that the whistleblowers are	
18			exonerated and as truthful and honest in light of this	
19			revelation? One person has left and another member is	
20			subject to sanctions. Will the Minister see that	15:37
21			justice now prevails here?"	
22				
23			And again, that is probably a political statement as	
24			the Chairman has pointed out.	
25		Α.	I am having difficulty hearing you.	15:37
26	676	Q.	Again, that is probably a political statement, as the	
27			Chairman has pointed out. But he's making the point	
28			there that the whistleblowers were exonerated as having	
29			been persons who gave a truthful account.	

1 A. Hmm.

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2 677 And I think that you then, in response to these Q. 3 suggestions that the whistleblowers had brought to light these particular issues, then speak on the 4 5 subject-matter on page 7245, do you see that? And I 15:38 6 don't want to paraphrase to a significant extent what 7 you've said, but I think you were forced to acknowledge that the revelations, as they had been made, and the 8 findings of the Comptroller and Attorney General had 9 revealed an inadequate record keeping on the part of An 15:38 10 11 Garda Síochána, inconsistency, that there were a significant number of cases involved and that you in 12 13 fact welcomed the report?

Α. I wasn't forced to acknowledge anything. Because the reality and the truth was the O'Mahony report had 15:39 identified substantial disfunction within the fixed charge processing system; it had identified a failure of Gardaí to abide by proper practice and procedures; it had identified that senior Gardaí were making decisions that they should not have made outside their 15:39 areas; it identified a whole range of disfunction. And I welcomed the C&AG's report at the time, because it, in effect, confirmed and reiterated the difficulties which were identified by O'Mahony, which I again say without Sergeant McCabe's engagement would not have 15:40 been identified. But they didn't uphold, and it wasn't the C&AG's role to uphold allegations of criminality, of corruption, of deleting material from the Pulse system, of perverting the course of justice.

were allegations that had also been made.

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And the problem I faced as Minister for Justice was that when you're living in a political world, the truth often gets lost in the middle of hyperbole and there 15:40 was a lot of false allegations around and being made and everything was dealt with in black and white terms. But as you can see from the speech I made in the introduction to this particular matter, I set out very clearly my view of the report, I referenced the 15 · 41 O'Mahony report and in this particular contribution I also praised the two whistleblowers for raising the issues that they'd raised. But it was also important as Minister for Justice to tell the truth, not get carried along in the media frenzy that was taking place 15:41 and to ensure that ultimately allegations that had not been substantiated were also identified and addressed. It was as simple as that. No one, frankly, was forcing me to do anything. Had I been forced -- if I was being forced along the changes introduced after O'Mahony 15:41 would not have happened, seven principles I set out for the Gardaí, which I personally drafted, they had to adhere to for fairness in the ticket charge system would not have been published in May of 2014, and the matter wouldn't have been referred to the Garda 15 · 41 Inspectorate. So I wasn't being forced to do anything. I was determined to get to the truth of the issue and fix the system. Mr. Shatter, can you turn to page 7256 of the Q.

Т			bookiet? Again it's volume 26 in hard format. Sorry,	
2			I'm just being told my voice is difficult to can you	
3			hear me, Mr. Shatter?	
4		Α.	Yes. No, you're fine.	
5	679	Q.	You'll see there on 7256 that this is a statement that	15:42
6			was made by Sergeant Maurice McCabe on Monday, 24th may	
7			be 2014. And I just want to bring that statement to	
8			your attention in the context of the evidence that	
9			you've given this afternoon. Have you found that	
10			statement, Mr. Shatter?	15:42
11		Α.	I do. I don't know whether part of the papers you have	
12			included the actual direction that was given, I don't	
13			know was it part of these papers.	
14	680	Q.	Well, can I just perhaps supply the context and the	
15			reason why I'm putting this, Mr. Shatter?	15:43
16		Α.	Certainly, yes.	
17	681	Q.	This afternoon you gave evidence to the Chairman here	
18			that at the time of the penalty point controversy and	
19			in particular I think when you were speaking in the	
20			Dáil as we've just noted now, that the whistleblowers,	15:43
21			or at least Maurice McCabe was anonymous and that he	
22			wasn't identified as the person who had actually	
23			brought to light these particular matters of public	
24			interest, isn't that so?	
25		Α.	That was the position during 2012 through into 2013	15:43
26			until Maurice McCabe came out himself in public for the	
27			Public Accounts Committee as far as I can recollect.	
28			But you should have from Sergeant McCabe copies of the	
29			letters that he furnished to the Department of	

1			Transport and the Taoiseach's department in the summer	
2			of 2012 in which he insisted on his anonymity. There	
3			was a letter that he sent to Mr. Varadkar, who was then	
4			Minister for Transport, in early November of 2012,	
5			again asking for confidentiality or anonymity. And	15:44
6			that was something that I respected and adhered to.	
7			And had I not done so, I think my political life might	
8			have been a lot simpler. I didn't make a public issue	
9			out of it, because I had no wish to have any row about	
10			it. But this is why Michael Flahive sent a letter	15:44
11			urging Sergeant McCabe to engage with his authorities	
12			and this is why we were trying to encourage that he	
13			volunteer to engage effectively with Assistant	
14			Commissioner O'Mahony without I was very anxious	
15			also that he wasn't put under any pressure, because I	15:44
16			was conscious of his entitlement to an anonymity. I	
17			was also conscious that in the background there existed	
18			two sets of court proceedings that Sergeant McCabe had	
19			taken both against the Garda Commissioner and one	
20			against my predecessor as Minister for Justice. So I	15:45
21			was trying to deal with care and caution with issues	
22			raised by Sergeant McCabe and trying to get to the	
23			truth of those issues.	
24	682	Q.	Whilst he may have requested anonymity, Mr. Shatter,	
25			was that in fact the case to your knowledge?	15:45
26		Α.	Oh, to my	
27			CHAIRMAN: I'm just wondering, Mr. Gordon, are you	
28			making a different case that he hadn't sought	
29			anonymity?	

1			MR. GORDON: No, no. No, no. I mean, it's clearly the	
2			case that he did. There is no issue about that.	
3			CHAIRMAN: He did. Okay. All right. Well then, he	
4			did.	
5	683	Q.	MR. GORDON: But what I want to know in fact was: Was	15:45
6			Maurice McCabe, Sergeant McCabe in fact anonymous at	
7			the time	
8		Α.	In every	
9	684	Q.	to your knowledge?	
LO		Α.	In everything that I did, I sought to protect his	15:45
L1			anonymity. In everything I did. Now, quite clearly,	
L2			based on the evidence or the engagement that	
L3			superintendent, or I should say Assistant Commissioner	
L4			O'Mahony had with the PAC in 2014, quite clearly	
L5			sometime in January or February 2013 he at least	15:46
L6			suspected that Sergeant McCabe was the complainant.	
L7			And I think and I understand from what was said that	
L8			that was linked to the issues that arose with regard to	
L9			the running off of information from the Pulse system	
20			and the direction that was given to Sergeant McCabe in	15:46
21			relation to that.	
22				
23			But as far as I was concerned, as I went through 2012	
24			into 2013 and dealt with matters, Sergeant McCabe had	
25			maintained his anonymity up to in public he finally	15:46
26			came out, I should say, with the PAC committee; his	
27			anonymity went on the ticket charge issue in April of	
28			2014 no, April of 2013, when he himself phoned	
29			Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony to complain he hadn't	

- been interviewed. So up to that point, as far as I
  knew, he was anonymous within the Gardaí as the
  complainant. It emerged in the PAC that obviously
  O'Mahony earlier expected he was the Complainant.
- 5 685 Can I suggest to you that that might not have in fact Q. been the case - and I'll put the statement to you now. 6 7 But as I understand your evidence, you were aware that 8 Sergeant McCabe had sought anonymity, you say that you did everything in your power to see that that would be 9 the case and I'm suggesting to you that the Garda 10 11 Síochána authorities knew that it was Sergeant McCabe 12 who was making these allegations. In other words, he

wasn't anonymous?

15:47

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15:47

15:48

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- 14 Α. Well, I can only say what I know of the evidence given 15 by Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony to the PAC as given 16 in 2014 and when I subsequently learned of it when I 17 read the transcript. There was never a conversation 18 between the time when the O'Mahony -- between the time 19 when I wrote to the Garda Commissioner - to get this 20 right - in October of 2012 and the publication of the O'Mahony report in 2013, there wasn't a time of a 21 22 conversation with the Garda Commissioner about the identity of Sergeant McCabe until I learned of the 23 24 Taoiseach's e-mail and his exchange with Assistant 25 Commissioner O'Mahony.
- 26 686 Q. I see.

13

A. And that e-mail came from the Taoiseach's -- I think it was an e-mail - speaking from recollection now - I think it was an e-mail that Sergeant McCabe sent to the

Т			Taoiseach's Department in April of 2013 which the	
2			Taoiseach's Department passed on to the Department of	
3			Justice.	
4	687	Q.	All right. I think you now have in front of you 7256,	
5			Mr. Shatter. That's the statement I referred to a	15:48
6			moment ago, the statement of 24th February '14. Can I	
7			just go through some aspects of that statement with	
8			you? You'll see in the first paragraph there that	
9			Sergeant McCabe refers to the fact that his attention	
10			was drawn by members of the media to a statement or	15:49
11			press release that came out on that date. He refers to	
12			the statement as being unheaded. And he said that it	
13			suggested the Garda Commissioner wrote to him 14 months	
14			ago and told him to co-operate with the investigation	
15			into the allegation that penalty points had been	15:49
16			cancelled.	
17				
18			The next paragraph says it "claims that the	
19			Commissioner issued a direction to me to co-operate	
20			with the investigation being carried out by the	15:49
21			Assistant Commissioner and directing me to bring any	
22			information or concerns I had to the inquiry team."	
23				
24			Do you see all that?	
25		Α.	Mm hmm.	15:49
26	688	Q.	And then it goes on to say - this is Maurice McCabe now	
27			speaking about the statement that he's reading - it	
28			goes on to say that:	
29				

1	"The Garda Síochána is a disciplined force and members	
2	are required to comply with directions issued by the	
3	Commissioner, implying that I wrongfully failed to	
4	comply with the Commissioner's direction to cooperate.	
5	The statement further suggests that I did not comply 15	5:50
6	with the Commissioner's direction during the period	
7	when I was on sick leave and that I did not contact the	
8	Assistant Commissioner until April 2013" - which I	
9	assume is a reference to Assistant Commissioner	
10	${f O'Mahony}$ - "by the time at which the investigation had $_{15}$	5:50
11	been completed."	
12		
13	He says this then:	
14		
15	"I was never directed by the Commissioner to co-operate 15	5:50
16	with the O'Mahony investigation as alleged."	
17		
18	He says:	
19		
20	"On 14th December 2012 I was asked to remain back after $_{15}$	5:50
21	duty in Mullingar Garda Station to meet with Chief	
22	Superintendent Mark Curran. I did so. When he	
23	arrived, he read me out a document. I have,	
24	fortunately, a full record of what transpired and it is	
25	attached to this statement. As appears from the	5:50
26	record, the Chief Superintendent refused my request to	
27	furnish me with a copy of that document. I presume	

29

that this was in accordance with his superiors'

instructions. The fact that I was denied a copy of the

1			direction may have encouraged the author of this	
2			statement issued today about me to grossly misrepresent	
3			the terms of the Commissioner's directions as read out	
4			to me and recorded by me.	
5				15:51
6			I was never contacted by anyone conducting the O'Mahony	
7			investigation, which completed its report without	
8			making any attempt to speak to me or to seek my input	
9			or co-operation into its inquiries. I never withheld	
10			any information or co-operation from the O'Mahony	15:51
11			investigation, as is now suggested. When I learned	
12			that its report had been completed without making any	
13			attempt at all to contact me, I protested at what had	
14			happened, as the record shows".	
15			CHAIRMAN: All right. Well, Mr. Gordon I do understand	15:51
16			that. And I do understand that what is referred to	
17			there is 14th December 2012.	
18			MR. GORDON: Yes.	
19			CHAIRMAN: Pulse access was restricted to Maurice	
20			McCabe. And to another individual, yes. So there's a	15:51
21			question you have for Mr. Shatter?	
22	689	Q.	MR. GORDON: Yes. Now, just looking at that particular	
23			statement that was made by Maurice McCabe in 2014, it's	
24			clear that he's referring to the fact that the	
25			Commissioner maintained that he was to co-operate with	15:52
26			the O'Mahony Commission, but in fact Maurice McCabe	
27			vehemently denies that any such direction was given to	
28			him. Do you see that?	
29		Α.	Hmm.	

- 1 690 Q. And I think that at a later point in time you accepted, 2 did you not, that Maurice McCabe wasn't in fact 3 directed to do that?
- Well, I think probably the right person to comment on a 4 Α. 5 statement issued by the Garda Commissioner to which 15:52 6 Sergeant McCabe responded to is Sergeant McCabe. 7 there are two things I'd simply note about this 8 statement: He doesn't reference the fact that he sought anonymity when he made the complaints he made; and 9 secondly, I have a very careful, I think, memory - I 10 15:52 don't have it in front of me here - of the direction 11 12 issued by the Garda Commissioner and Sergeant McCabe,

of course, is partially right in what he said.

15:53

15:53

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- 15 The document, from my recollection, was headed 16 "Direction" I think. In the context of it, he was 17 directed - and I'm paraphrasing it now, I'm not using 18 probably the language of what was said to him - he was 19 directed to, I think, not distribute further Pulse, 20 further material from Pulse. My memory is towards of end of that particular document he wasn't directed to 21 22 engage - so Sergeant McCabe is right in this - he 23 wasn't directed to engage with Assistant Commissioner 24 O'Mahony, he was invited to engage.
- 25 691 Q. I think the point, Mr. Shatter --
- A. Well, let me finish please.
- 27 692 Q. I don't want to cut across you --
- 28 A. You asked me a question, let me finish.
- 29 693 Q. The point that, I want you to understand the point --

1		Α.	He was invited to engage with Assistant Commissioner	
2			O'Mahony. And so he wasn't told 'You must engage', he	
3			was effectively invited to engage. So the statement	
4			that he's issued, unfortunately in its content, doesn't	
5			tell the true story and the full story of the nature of	15:54
6			the engagement that occurred in and around that	
7			direction. But it is correct in saying he wasn't	
8			directed to engage with Assistant Commissioner	
9			O'Mahony, it was a direction not to distribute more	
10			material from the Pulse system outside the Garda	15:54
11			Síochána and an invitation that if he had issues that	
12			he wished addressed, to engage with Assistant	
13			Commissioner O'Mahony. It was as straightforward as	
14			that.	
15	694	Q.	The reason I put that statement to you, Mr. Shatter	15:54
16			MS. LEADER: Sorry, I don't want to interrupt anybody,	
17			but there is an actual copy of the direction contained	
18			in the documents at page 3033. It's on the Spotlight	
19			system, if it's of assistance.	
20			MR. GORDON: Thank you for that, Ms. Leader.	15:55
21			CHAIRMAN: Thanks for pointing that out Ms. Leader.	
22			MS. LEADER: volume 11.	
23			CHAIRMAN: Yes, I simply regard it as one of the	
24			historic events sorry, they're not historic, of	
25			course; "historical" meaning part of the narrative	15:55
26			leading up to it.	
27	695	Q.	MR. GORDON: Yes. The point that arises from this	
28			particular statement, Mr. Shatter, is the fact that	

Maurice McCabe, if this is correct, the statement, was

			not anonymous in	
2		Α.	Sorry, I beg your pardon, I missed what you said there.	
3	696	Q.	He was not anonymous. In fact his anonymity was gone	
4			by December 2012, if that statement is in fact correct.	
5		Α.	No.	15:55
6	697	Q.	But here you are in October	
7		Α.	The engagement	
8	698	Q.	Let me at least ask the question	
9		Α.	No, the engagement on December 2012, as I understand	
10			it, and it's clear from the statement, related to an	15:55
11			issue of accessing material on the Pulse Garda computer	
12			system that was confidential and a concern about it	
13			getting, being distributed outside the Garda	
14			organisation.	
15	699	Q.	Yes.	15:55
16		Α.	That's what that engagement wasn't, as I understand	
17			it, dealing with the issue of the complaints made by	
18			Maurice McCabe and it wasn't an engagement involving	
19			Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony. But I mean, these are	
20			questions to ask Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony and	15:56
21			Martin Callinan if and when they appear to give	
22			evidence. I'm only detailing what I know of these	
23			events. And what I know of these events, I can only	
24			derive from the wording of the document.	
25	700	Q.	The direction to refrain from using the pulse system	15:56
26			was inextricably, as you know, linked to the penalty	
27			points controversy. The point I'm putting to you,	
28			Mr. Shatter, is this: That in December 2012 the Garda	
29			Síochána authorities knew exactly who Maurice McCabe	

1 was, they knew that he was complaining, they knew that he was using Pulse system, according to this document. 2 and he was given certain directions in relation to it -3 as Ms. Leader has pointed out, there's documents here 4 5 that confirm all of that. But in October of the 6 following year you are in Dáil Éireann speaking about 7 these events, you're here this afternoon discussing 8 these events as if Maurice McCabe was in fact anonymous

at the time. But he clearly wasn't.

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15:56

At that point, as far as the public were concerned, he Α. was anonymous. As far as the broad range of members of the Garda force were concerned, I assumed he was In October 2013 he was -- the fact that he anonymous. was the complainant was clearly known to the Garda Commissioner, was clearly known to Assistant 15:57 Commissioner O'Mahony by virtue of his own engagement But the general public, as far as the general public was concerned, all of this information, all these allegations derived from an anonymous whistleblower. And I continued in my dealings with the 15:57 issue, in my reference to them, even if what I had to say didn't please Sergeant McCabe in full, I continued to protect his anonymity and did not reference him by Nor, indeed, as far as I know, during 2013 or 2012 did any other member of the Houses of the 15:58 Oireachtas mention him by name.

27 701 Q. Mr. Shatter, can I just ask you to deal now with the 28 visit to Ms. D's house at the request of -- or I think 29 it was in a hotel, the Merrion Hotel, at the request

- 1 of --
- 2 A. No, I didn't visit her house. I met her in the Merrion

15:58

15:58

15:59

15:59

- 3 Hotel, yes.
- 4 702 Q. Sorry, I was just about to correct myself there.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 703 Q. And we know that you have taken some notes you've
- 7 produced those to the Tribunal.
- 8 A. They were notes taken by Jane Lehane, my special
- 9 advisor. She took them during the course of the
- meeting that took place. So the notes, the written
- note is contemporaneous, the typed note was only typed
- recently so that the reading could be legible.
- 13 704 Q. They're on 7219.
- A. No, I'm not sure I have them in front of me.
- 15 705 Q. Well, can I just ask you to look at the hard copy that
- 16 you have?
- 17 A. No, I'm not even sure I have them in hard copy. I
- think my solicitor may have them. Are they on screen?
- 19 Sorry, which volume is it?
- 20 MS. LEADER: 26.
- 21 A. 26? So it's this volume I'm looking at at the moment,
- is it? Yes. What page on 26?
- 23 706 Q. MR. GORDON: 7219.
- 24 A. 7219. Yes.
- 25 707 Q. Now, this particular encounter, Mr. Shatter, as I
- understand it, took place at the request of Paul
- 27 williams in the first instance, is that right?
- 28 A. Well, Paul Williams contacted me and informed me that
- Ms. D she wasn't called Ms. D at the time but that

- 1 she wished to meet with me. 2 All right. And I think you knew that Ms. D at least 708 Q. 3 wasn't a constituent of yours? I did, yes. 4 Α. 5 709 And I think you knew that in advance of this particular 16:00 Q. 6 meeting? 7 Oh, he would've told me that she came from the Α. 8 Cavan/Monaghan area. I can't remember exactly what he said, but I knew she wasn't a constituent, yes. 9 10 710 And just when that request was being made of you, Q. 16:00 11 Mr. Shatter, to visit Ms. D, did you make any 12 connection in your mind between --I connected it with the article --13 Α. 14 711 Q. Just let me finish the question, Ms. Shatter --15 -- that Paul Williams had been writing, yes. Α. 16:00 16 712 Did you make any connection in your mind between this Ο. 17 particular person here and the information that had 18 been shared by the Commissioner with you? 19 Yes, I think I said that when I saw Paul Williams' Α. articles, I assumed that it was likely that that was 20 16:00 the person concerned, the one that the -- arising out 21 22 of the brief conversation that I'd had with the 23 Commissioner. I presumed this was all related, yes. 24 And this proposed visit was a number of weeks after 713 Q. 25 your resignation as Minister? 16:01
- 29 714 Q. It was very shortly after?

days --

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Α.

Oh, he contacted me in June of 2014. I can't give you

the exact date in June, but I think within a few

- 1 Well, it was within a few days of him contacting me I Α. 2 met with her. So certainly I'd resigned, it was only a short few weeks after my resigning, yes. 3
- 4 All right. And whilst you knew that there may have 715 0. 5 been some connection between this particular lady who 16:01 you were about to meet with and the information that 6 7 had been given to you by the Commissioner, it 8 automatically follows from all of that that you knew that the information was associated with Sergeant 9 McCabe? 10

16:01

- 11 Yes. Α.
- 12 And was it for that reason that you went to meet with 716 Ο. her? 13
- 14 Α. No, I went to meet with her because Paul Williams told me that he had met with her - I'd read these articles - 16:02 15 16 and there was an allegation that hr complaint hadn't 17 been properly investigated. Now, my recollection at 18 the time, I don't know whether this is right or wrong, 19 but there was, I think, a complaint also that whatever 20 investigation had occurred hadn't been referenced on 16:02 I don't know is that right or wrong, I'm not 21 22 making that allegation, just that was my recollection. 23 And he asked me would I meet with her and I said I 24 would. And that's how the meeting came about.
- 25 Is this something you would normally do or have done in 16:02 717 Q. 26 vour --
- 27 Α. Throughout my political life I've treated my -- or my former political life, which Mr. Guerin brought to an 28 29 end, I managed, I always dealt with issues from a

1			national perspective, not just from a constituency	
2			perspective. I met people in difficulties with all	
3			sorts of concerns and issues from all over the country	
4			in the context of the various briefs I had as Fine Gael	
5			Spokesperson for Health, the Environment, all sorts of	16:03
6			different areas, Labour, as well as Justice and Law	
7			Reform. I didn't regard being involved in politics as	
8			simply being engaged with the parish pump and not being	
9			a national legislator involved in national issues. So	
10			there was absolutely nothing unusual with me meeting	16:03
11			with someone from outside my constituency. I regularly	
12			met groups lobbying for all sorts of social law reform	
13			outside my constituency.	
14			CHAIRMAN: All right. Well, look, I can accept that, I	
15			don't see there's anything wrong. If one looks at	16:03
16			issues that I've raised in the last two to three weeks,	
17			it's clear that some things transcend, or may transcend	
18			the particular constituency. I would've thought Dáil	
19			Éireann representatives are there to represent the	
20			people, not just a parish. Anyway, Mr. Gordon, you're	16:03
21			along the way.	
22	718	Q.	MR. GORDON: Thank you, Chairman. What I'm interested	
23			in, Mr. Shatter, is why either Mr. Williams or Ms. D	
24			had selected you as the person to discuss these	
25			particular issues with?	16:04
26		Α.	I understood from Mr. Williams - and I think he may	
27			have mentioned this to me - that because of what	
28			happened to me, as it was put, at the hands of Sergeant	
29			McCabe, she wanted to meet with me.	

- 719 I see. And looking at the notes, it doesn't appear 1 Q. 2 that you ever questioned that when you arrived and in 3 fact met with her.
- Sorry. I never questioned what? 4 Α.
- 5 720 You don't appear to have recorded any notes about that Q. 6 particular issue when you in fact met with her.
- 7 No, I recorded no notes. I was meeting a very Α. 8 distressed individual who had a story to tell and who was clearly, clearly under a great deal of personal 9 difficulty and I took no notes at all. And as is my 10 16:04 habit on occasions and as frequently as happened when I 11 12 met with groups or individuals, Jane Lehane was there, 13 she took down little jotted heading notes of the I think afterwards she asked me was there 14 15 any -- did I want her to type up the notes and I said 16:05 16 'No, there's no need to'.

17

18 And these notes were only recently found in a box, the written notes. I asked her some time ago were there 19 any notes available of that meeting, any record of the 20 meeting and did it still exist - because when I ceased 21 22 to be a TD, a lot of the stuff we had, we just cleared 23 out - and these notes were found in an old box that 24 she'd kept of some of my former stuff from Leinster House.

16:05

16:05

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26 But why was she interested in meeting you, do you know? 721 Q. 27 Did you find that out at the meeting?

- Yeah, I just --28 Α.
- 29 722 why were you selected as the relevant --Q.

1 A. As the former Minister for Justice, as someone who over	
the years had been very much engaged in addressing	
issues of child abuse, as someone who's responsible for	or
a lot of legislation in that area, I think she felt	
5 that I was someone who could actively be of assistance	16:0
6 to her in having the nature of the investigation	
7 conducted based on her allegation examined and looked	

8 into. I mean, ask her that question.
9 723 Q. This had nothing do with your resignation then, had it,
10 this meeting?

16:06

16:06

16:07

16:07

- 11 A. No, it had nothing to do with my resignation. But
  12 certainly the comment was made that she wanted to meet
  13 with me because of what Maurice McCabe had done to me
  14 was the way it was put frankly.
- 15 724 Q. Well, you knew when you were about to meet with this
  16 particular person that she was going to say very
  17 unpleasant things about Sergeant McCabe; you knew that
  18 much?
- A. Oh, I've met people who have had very unpleasant things to say about all sorts of people and I'm very discrete in how ideal with that. Should I have refused to meet someone who is alleging their issues weren't properly investigated? Because, I mean, I don't know what the point of that is or what the purpose of that is.
- 25 725 Q. Well, the point is this then: If that is the reason,
  26 Mr. Shatter, why did you raise this particular matter
  27 then in Dáil Éireann in a debate in relation to the
  28 bugging of GSOC?
- 29 A. Because, because -- well, firstly, it was raised. I

1			used that format of that debate to address issues	
2			arising from both the Cooke and the Guerin Report.	
3			That when the Guerin Report was debated in the Dáil I	
4			was in no state of mind to be able to deal with it or	
5			address it. That debate was concerned, as I	16:07
6			contributed to it, with the terms of reference also of	
7			what investigation Mr. Guerin would conduct. I raised	
8			in that debate a whole range of difficulties and	
9			problems I had with the manner in which Mr. Guerin had	
10			gone about his business and I made some suggestions as	16:08
11			to what should happen with regard to the commission of	
12			investigation. And the commission of investigation was	
13			going to be into events that took place in Bailieboro.	
14			And her allegation related to an event that took place	
15			in Bailieboro and it related to an allegation that a	16:08
16			complaint she made had not been properly investigated.	
17			And I decided that I had some duty to this young	
18			distressed woman to raise the possibility of the issue	
19			being dealt with in whatever commission of	
20			investigation would take place in a manner that caused	16:08
21			no difficulty or embarrassment to anybody and, as I	
22			said, which didn't make me the object of net another	
23			media frenzy. And essentially that was my judgment and	
24			that is how I dealt with it. And sadly what I did was	
25			infective, because had I been listened to and if that	16:08
26			matter had been dealt with by the O'Higgins	
27			Commission	
28	726	Q.	Thank you for that.	
29		Α.	some of the issues that this Tribunal has had to	

Т			deal with perhaps would never have arisen or at least	
2			would have been dealt with a great deal earlier.	
3	727	Q.	Just one final matter, Mr. Shatter; in relation to the	
4			DPP's directions, you said twice this afternoon that	
5			the directions from the DPP were to the effect that	16:09
6			this was an allegation that had been made without any	
7			basis. There was no basis for a prosecution, I think	
8			were the words.	
9		Α.	No. Yes, sorry, what Martin Callinan and I would have	
10			said	16:09
11	728	Q.	Did you in fact know or had you ever seen the DPP's	
12			direction?	
13		Α.	No.	
14	729	Q.	Did you know in fact that the DPP had directed that the	
15			allegation didn't even disclose a crime?	16:09
16		Α.	No, no, I'd never seen it. What I was told was the DPP	
17			had said there was no basis for a prosecution. I took	
18			that, I'm as a lawyer, to mean what it said; no basis	
19			for a prosecution, no prosecution warranted. But the	
20			words used to me were no basis for prosecution.	16:09
21			MR. GORDON: Thank you, Mr. Shatter.	
22			CHAIRMAN: All right, thanks.	
23				
24			THE WITNESS WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY MS. BURNS	
25	730	Q.	MS. BURNS: Chairman, I have a few short questions.	16:10
26			Mr. Shatter, my name is Tara Burns and I am appearing	
27			on behalf of Superintendent David Taylor. Just in	
28			relation to the conversation which you had with former	
29			Commissioner Callinan in relation to you raising	

whether there was anything in the background of
Sergeant McCabe that you should have been made aware
of, I take it that you didn't think that that was an
inappropriate query for you to raise with Mr. Callinan?

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- Not in the context of what I would describe as the Α. 16:10 enormous difficulties that were being experienced -sorry, excuse me, I have a little bit after mixture of hay fever and asthma, so this is why my voice is sounding weird. Not in the context of the difficulties being experienced in dealing with issues raised by 16:10 Sergeant McCabe. I don't want to go back through it all over again. I was trying to get a handle on why things were so unnecessarily complex, why they were so erratic, why could it be his solicitors weren't responding to letters about an issue sometime earlier 16:11 he seemed to be very exercised about? So I asked the question simply was there anything in the background? I had no idea what answer I was going to be given. The the answer is as I describe and it was very brief, and I mean, that was the extent 16:11 our conversation moved on. of it.
- 22 731 Q. And I take it from your statement that you don't see it 23 as it being inappropriate what you heard from 24 Mr. Callinan either?
- A. Mr. Callinan put it in a manner that was, I would say, sympathetically disposed towards Sergeant McCabe. He put it in a manner to suggest basically look, this man is upset. There was nothing about him having an agenda, there was nothing about him being malicious,

- there was nothing -- to use the words that I've been hearing and reading in the last few days, revenge.
- 3 None of that was an issue.
- 4 732 Q. I see.
- 5 A. My understanding of our brief exchange was that there

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- 6 was a perception that Sergeant McCabe had his own
- 7 personal difficulties and that this may be why the
- 8 engagement is erratic and difficult. It wasn't in any
- 9 way to do him down and there was no suggestion of any
- description that the allegation made should have been
- prosecuted in any shape or form. It was very a simple
- 12 straightforward conversation.
- 13 733 Q. And then in terms of when you think that conversation
- took place, I see from your statement you put it as
- after the O'Mahony report was published?
- 16 A. Yeah. The O'Mahony report was published May '15. I
- 17 think -- I mean, the best of my recollection is that
- 18 this was a June conversation that I had with the
- 19 Commissioner on the phone. And that it wasn't the main
- purpose of the conversation; it was something raised by 16:12
- 21 me almost as an afterthought in the context of us
- 22 discussing other issues.
- 23 734 Q. Yes?
- 24 A. And I am pretty certain it was after publication of
- 25 O'Mahony and all the brouhaha that arose following on
- 26 from its publication.
- 27 CHAIRMAN: The O'Mahony report was published on 15th
- 28 May --
- 29 A. 15th May.

1			CHAIRMAN: 2013.	
2		Α.	Sorry, 2013. So it would be June 2013.	
3	735	Q.	MS. BURNS: June 2013?	
4		Α.	Yes, I am getting my years wrong. June, 2013.	
5			MS. BURNS: Thank you very much.	16:13
6			MR. GILLANE: I have no questions.	
7			CHAIRMAN: Any questions?	
8			MS. BARRINGTON: I have no further questions, thank	
9			you, Chairman.	
10			CHAIRMAN: well, if you would, you'll have them at the	16:13
11			end, but is there any from the Garda?	
12			MR. DIGNAM: Chairman, I have a few brief questions.	
13				
14			THE WITNESS WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. DIGNAM	
15	736	Q.	MR. DIGNAM: Mr. Shatter, I am Conor Dignam, I appear	16:13
16			on behalf of An Garda Síochána and I just want to cover	
17			a few areas quite briefly with you.	
18		Α.	Sure.	
19	737	Q.	And in particular in relation to the O'Mahony process	
20			and this question of cooperation or engagement, lest it	16:13
21			be relevant to the work of the Tribunal. You had an	
22			exchange with Mr. Gordon in relation to this, the	
23			question of when Sergeant McCabe's name became known	
24			and the point was put to you that he was no longer	
25			anonymous from a date in 2012. Do I understand your	16:14
26			case or your position to be that irrespective of	
27			whether his name was known by a small group of people	
28			or a large group of people, that didn't give you	
29			licence to disregard the anonymity to which he was	

1			entitled?	
2		Α.	No, absolutely. And he continued to be anonymous to	
3			the public until 2014.	
4	738	Q.	Yes. And you felt it your duty to continue to, in your	
5			interactions and in your statements to treat him with	16:1
6			anonymity?	
7		Α.	Yes. And I respected his wishes. And you will see in	
8			any statements that I issued, including comments I made	
9			subsequent to publication of O'Mahony, I always made	
10			reference to the whistleblower. And in the statement	16:1
11			issued when the O'Mahony report was published, I	
12			reference the importance of whistleblowers feeling free	
13			to raise issues of concern without feeling under threat	
14			in any shape or form. And I very specifically said	
15			that, because I was very conscious of the constant	16:1
16			insistence by Sergeant McCabe on anonymity.	
17	739	Q.	Now, you were also asked by Ms. Leader in relation to	
18			your apology, your public apology to Sergeant McCabe.	
19			And in the course of that exchange with Ms. Leader, you	
20			explained how you learned that in fact Assistant	16:1
21			Commissioner O'Mahony probably knew that it was	
22			Sergeant McCabe making these complaints at an earlier	
23			stage and that he could possibly have gone about his	
24			business	

25 A. Yes.

26 740 Q. -- a slightly different way. Could I ask you to look 27 at page 7170? It's in Volume 26. This is Assistant 28 Commissioner O'Mahony's statement to this Tribunal. 16:16

29 A. Yes.

- 741 It starts on page 7167 but if I could ask you to 7170. 1 Q.
- 2 Yes, I have that. Α.
- 3 742 0. In the middle paragraph on that page Assistant 4 Commissioner O'Mahony acknowledges that he, to all

5 intents and purposes, knew or had heightened suspicions 16:16

6 that it was Sergeant McCabe --

7 Yes. Α.

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8 743 -- and Garda Wilson making these allegations. And what 0. 9 he says is that:

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> "Therefore, and in light of what I had established during the course of my examination and from my knowledge of other events, such as the aforementioned occurrence at Cavan Garda station, I was aware of Garda Wilson and Sergeant McCabe and whereas I did suspect that in all probability that one or other, or indeed both of them were the authors of the material that L was examining, I did not have any formal or factual information connecting these member to the anonymous allegations I had been tasked by the Commissioner to At no stage during my examination did anyone

16:17

16:17

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identify themselves in public or otherwise as the

authors of the anonymous allegations. While I may have

had a suspicion that the persons making the allegations

25 were the same people who were in contact with the 26 confidential recipient, I had to remain mindful of due

process and the confidential requirements of that

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It would have been preferable had they come process. 29

forward and engaged with my expectation but in any

1		event they didn't. I was fully cognisant and mindful	
2		of my responsibilities under the Garda Síochána	
3		Confidential Reporting of Corruption and Malpractice	
4		Regulations 2007, established in accordance with the	
5		Garda Síochána Act 2005, as amended. I was acutely	16:17
6		aware of, and duty bound by, the provisions of these	
7		regulations governing the protection of the	
8		confidential reporters' identity. The provisions of	
9		Regulations allow for the identity of confidential	
10		reporters to be disclosed only in exceptional and	16:18
11		distinct circumstances and only then to the Minister or	
12		the Commissioner. Such a disclosure must meet the	
13		criteria of being necessarily essential for the proper	
14		he examination of the confidential report or the	
15		investigation of corruption or malpractice alleged."	16:18
16			
17		Now, does the attitude displayed in that paragraph of,	
18		whilst I knew who it was, I still had to treat them as	
19		confidential and anonymous, does that reflect your	
20		general attitude to the maintenance of anonymity and	16:18
21		confidentiality?	
22	Α.	Yes. And I respect what Assistant Commissioner	
23		O'Mahony has said and I don't want what I have said to	
24		be regarded as a criticism of him. Because I can well	
25		understand, I think, I hope I said this earlier, how in	16:18
26		his circumstances he may have felt that he couldn't	
27		take issue any further.	

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CHAIRMAN: Look, I think the reality is you are pushing

an open door. It happens, for instance, it used to

Τ			nappen certainly in rape cases that the indictment	
2			would be read out in front of 200 people. But that	
3			doesn't mean that the person's anonymity is gone. That	
4			would be a ludicrous proposition. So I understand.	
5			MR. DIGNAM: I may it please you.	16:19
6			CHAIRMAN: If you are asked for that, if you are	
7			entitled to it, you keep it, even though something else	
8			may happen. It may be different if the person appears	
9			outside the Four Courts and makes a statement.	
10			MR. DI GNAM: Thank you.	16:19
11	744	Q.	If I could move on then, Mr. Shatter. Just towards the	
12			end of that statement you referred in your examination	
13			by Ms. Leader to Sergeant McCabe having contacted the	
14			O'Mahony investigation team.	
15		Α.	Yes, that's in April 2013.	16:19
16	745	Q.	Yes. And lest it be relevant, that's dealt with by	
17			Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony on page 7172 of his	
18			statement. And in that, on the third full paragraph on	
19			the page he explains when he concluded his examination,	
20			which was March 2013, and when he finalised it, and	16:20
21			that it was sent to the Minister on 28th March and was	
22			in fact published on 15th May.	
23				
24			And he goes on to say that:	
25				16:20
26			"Sergeant McCabe contacted my office by phone on 23rd	
27			April 2013. I missed his call, but reverted to him	
28			approximately an hour and a half later. Detective	
29			Sergeant Ger Meeley, my personal assistant at that	

1	time, was present in the office during the call.
2	Sergeant McCabe introduced himself to me as the person
3	who had made the original complaints regarding fixed
4	charge penalties. This was in fact the first time that
5	I formally became aware of the identity of the
6	anonymous author. Sergeant McCabe wanted to know why
7	he had not been interviewed by my inquiry team. He
8	stated he was aware that I had his list of allegations.
9	I informed him that it was my understanding that the
10	Commissioner had informed him the previous December
11	that if he had any concerns he should contact me. He
12	stated that this was not true and that his Chief
13	Superintendent told him he had to contact me before
14	contacting anyone else. I informed him this was not my
15	understanding of what he had been told. The
16	Commissioner's direction does not make any reference to
17	contacting anyone else.
18	
19	I informed him that my report had been submitted to the
20	Minister and offered to arrange for him to speak to a $_{ m 16}$
21	member of my inquiry team if he had anything further to
22	offer. He stated 'You have my list of allegations, l
23	stand over them. Tens of house of SPS done away with
24	corruptly'. He further stated he would be concerned if
25	I didn't find the same as he had. He didn't want to
26	talk to the inquiry team otherwise.

Before completing the call, I informed Sergeant McCabe

that he could contact me at any time and I would

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1			arrange for a member of my inquiry team to speak with	
2			him and that I would give him a fair hearing. Sergeant	
3			McCabe has not made any contact with me since. Later	
4			that day I made a written note of this conversation. I	
5			am aware that Detective Sergeant Meeley also made notes	16:21
6			at this time."	
7				
8			And he goes on in the final paragraph to say that:	
9				
10			"In the course of my examination, no third party	16:21
11			approached me or any member of my team with any	
12			information of relevance to the examination. My	
13			examination would, naturally, have incorporated any	
14			such approach. Notwithstanding that my final report	
15			had already been submitted at the time, if Sergeant	16:22
16			Maurice McCabe had provided me with any further	
17			additional material or information, I would have	
18			forwarded such material or information to the	
19			Commissioner."	
20				16:22
21			Now, is that your does that accord with your	
22			knowledge of events?	
23		Α.	Yes, that reflects, I suppose, to some degree of rather	
24			odd communication that Sergeant - sorry, my voice is	
25			going - that rather odd communication that Sergeant	16:22
26			McCabe engaged in with the Taoiseach's office after his	
27			engagement with Assistant Commissioner O'Mahoney.	
28	746	Q.	Now, again perhaps in this, by the qualification that	
29			lest it be relevant to the work of the Tribunal but if	

1			you had received a communication from the Gardai, and	
2			particularly Assistant Commissioner O'Mahoney, to say	
3			'Hold off on publishing the report, I have some more	
4			information that I want to add into it' or 'I want to	
5			review it in light of further information', would that	16:23
6			have been something you would have agreed to?	
7		Α.	There'd have been no difficulty of any description.	
8			MR. DIGNAM: Thank you, Mr. Shatter.	
9			MS. LEADER: Just	
10			CHAIRMAN: well, Ms. Barrington, you've got no	16:23
11			questions you need to ask?	
12			MS. BARRINGTON: Thank you very much Chairman, I don't	
13			have any questions.	
14			CHAIRMAN: All right, thank you very much.	
15				16:23
16			THE WITNESS WAS RE-EXAMINED BY MS. LEADER AS FOLLOWS:	
17				
18	747	Q.	MS. LEADER: Just in relation to the matters which were	
19			put forward on behalf of Assistant Commissioner	
20			O'Mahoney, as I understand it, the foundation of your	16:23
21			apology to Sergeant McCabe was if Assistant	
22			Commissioner O'Mahoney could have had suspicions in	
23			relation to the identity of the confidential informant,	
24			he should have made all efforts to interview him, is	
25			that right?	16:23
26		Α.	Let me just refine that slightly.	
27	748	Q.	Yes, no yes, certainly.	
28		Α.	It was more based on - and it's very dangerous when	
29			you're Minister for Justice to just do this - but it	

- 1 was more based on that if I had been Assistant 2 Commissioner O'Mahoney. 3 749 Yes. Q.
- 4 with the knowledge I had at that point. Α.
- 6 Α. with the level of public controversy and difficulty 7 that existed, I'd have regarded it as wise to have 8 engaged with the Garda Commissioner and formally asked him to write to the Minister for Justice to ascertain 9 10 whether the complainant would be willing to formally 16:24 11 come forward and engage with the O'Mahoney 12 investigation. And that was the basis for me making

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16:25

14 understand that it was equally valid for Assistant 15 Commissioner O'Mahoney to take a different perspective 16 and deal with it as outlined to the Commission.

the statement I made in the Dáil. But I totally

- Just to complete Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony's 17 751 Q. 18 perspective on matters, I think he said at the bottom 19 of page 7170 if he thought it was necessary for his 20 investigation to contact the confidential informant, he 16:24 would have contacted either you or the Commissioner in 21 22 order to try and interview this person. But he didn't 23 think it was necessary and he thought his report was 24 satisfactory and very much didn't -- was thorough and 25 comprehensive without interviewing the confidential informant. 26
- 27 Α. His report was thorough and comprehensive in dealing with all of the process issues. 28
- 29 752 Q. Yes.

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Q.

Α.	Didn't necessarily adequately address the substance of	
	some of the rather exotic decisions that were made	
	that, in my view, were questionable at the time. But I	
	believe he dealt with his work in good faith, with	
	extraordinary speed considering the number of	16:25
	allegations made and the complexity involved. And I	
	added to the complexity of that, because in addition to	
	his investigating the complaints that Sergeant McCabe	
	made, due to my concern about the ticket charge issue,	
	I had required him, by letter, in December of 2012 to	16:26
	examine an additional random 1% across the country	
	during a particular timeframe of ticket charge	
	terminations to ascertain whether they suffered from	
	similar frailties to those identified by Sergeant	
	McCabe. So I actually added to his work.	16:26

And I think the nature of the report he produced and also the Professional Standards Unit of An Garda Síochána, within a very short space of time considering what was involved, was very valuable and I think what's 16:26 interesting about the report is, when it came to a further report into the issue in, I think published in January 2015, it was acknowledged that there'd been a sea change in the manner in which the ticket charge issue was being addressed, the way the processing system was working. And that was later acknowledged by GSOC in their report of December, published December 2017.

MS. LEADER: Thank you very much, Mr. Shatter.

1		CHAIRMAN: Thanks, Mr. Shatter.	
2	Α.	Thank you, Judge.	
3		CHAIRMAN: So tomorrow it's ten o'clock, isn't that	
4		right? Yes.	
5			16:27
6		THE HEARING WAS THEN ADJOURNED UNTIL FRIDAY, 18TH MAY	
7		2018 AT 10: 00AM	
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