

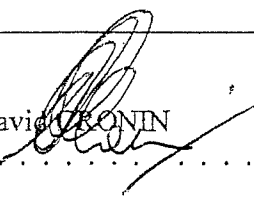
Bundaberg Hospital Commission of Inquiry

STATEMENT OF PETER DAVID CRONIN

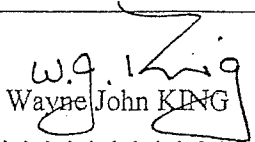
I Peter David CRONIN of Jetset Sunstate Bundaberg 167B Bourbong Street Bundaberg (4153.1285) in the State of Queensland SWORN:

1. I am a married man, aged 44 years and I am the manager of Jetset Sunstate Bundaberg which is a travel agency.
2. I know a person named Dr. Jayant PATEL. I know him only as a customer of our business and I do not know him in a private capacity.
3. Dr. Patel had been a customer of our business on a number of occasions over the period that he was working at the Bundaberg Base Hospital.
4. He would come to our business and purchase overseas and domestic travel tickets for himself and on occasions for other persons and I recall that he may have even purchased tickets for a holiday in New Zealand for extended members of his family.
5. I recall an occasion when Dr. Patel called at our business in late March and early April of this year and I conducted business with him.
6. He had called at the business on 26 March 2005 to arrange travel from Bundaberg to Portland USA. I had a general conversation with him on this occasion and while I do not now recall its exact content it was to the effect that he was travelling one way because he did not need the hassles that were going on with him at the time. It was at about this time that the publicity in relation to his employment at the Bundaberg Hospital was starting to get coverage.
7. He told me that he did not need the hassles and that he was going back to the USA but he also told me that he could very well return at some time in the future.
8. He booked his flight to depart Bundaberg on 02 April 2005 with an overnight stay in Brisbane and then he was to depart Brisbane on 03 April 2005 through to Portland USA.

Signed:
 Deponent



Taken by:
 Solicitor/Barrister/Justice of the Peace/
 Commissioner for Declarations



9. The arrangement made by me was that I would make the bookings for him and he was to call back and collect the tickets and pay for the booking on 01 April 2005.
10. On 31 March 2005 he returned to our business and paid the sum of \$3,500.00 in cash for part payment of the ticket and accommodation. The ticket was then ordered on that day and it arrived on 01 April 2005.
11. On that same day Dr. Patel returned to collect the ticket. However, there had been an issue with the Brisbane accommodation with regard to its payment so we refunded the Doctor an amount of \$100.00 in cash and he then had to pay for the accommodation direct when he arrived at the location in Brisbane. The reason for this was that the hotel in Brisbane (the Comfort Inn and Suites at Northgate) required that the payment be paid to them in advance and we were not able to do that owing to the shortness of time and the money was refunded to the Doctor to enable him to pay for the accommodation himself upon his arrival in Brisbane.
12. The reason that he called back on the 01 April 2005 was to pay the balance of the purchase price with the total having been \$3,547.00 and he had already paid \$3,500.00 and had been issued with his ticket. When he called on the 01 April 2005, because of the situation with the accommodation in Brisbane, we, in fact, paid him \$100.00 in cash in lieu of the accommodation booked in advance.
13. On 31 March 2005 he had been issued with a Tax Invoice from us for the total amount of \$3,547.00 for the air fare and accommodation.
14. When the issue of the accommodation arose and he was refunded the money as I have outlined we overlooked providing him with a fresh Tax Invoice and he remained in possession of the one we had provided to him which now, in effect, had the incorrect total amount paid on it.
15. At the time of the booking and the purchase of the ticket by Dr. Patel we had not had any contact with the Bundaberg Base Hospital in relation to it. However, on or about 20 May 2005 we received correspondence from the Queensland Health Director General, Dr. Steve BUCKLAND, requesting information about the travel arrangements we had made for Dr. Patel. I had previously received a telephone call from a Ms PFINGST of Queensland Health requesting similar information and I informed her that I required a request of this nature to be in writing and this is what the letter I have referred to related to.

Signed:

Deponent

Peter David CRONIN

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Commissioner for Declarations

Wayne John KING

16. Since that time the only contact made with me about this issue has come from the media in general.

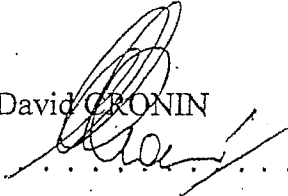
17. I have been shown a copy of a Tax Invoice in the name of Dr. Patel to-day dated 01 April 2005 and it is a copy of the Tax Invoice that I have discussed previously in this statement that relates to our sale of the ticket to Dr. Patel.

Affidavit Peter David CRONIN on 21 June 2005

at Bundaberg

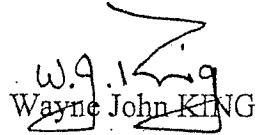
in the presence of:

Peter David CRONIN



Deponent

Wayne John KING

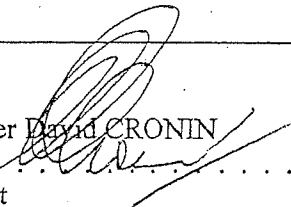


Solicitor/Barrister /Justice of the Peace/
Commissioner for Declarations

Signed:

Deponent

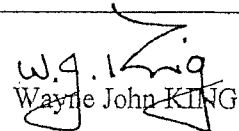
Peter David CRONIN



Taken by:

Solicitor/Barrister/Justice of the Peace/
Commissioner for Declarations

Wayne John KING





Queensland
Government

Queensland Health

Enquiries to: Ms Jill Pflingst, Executive
Manager
Telephone: 323 41177
Facsimile: 323 41482
File Ref:

The Manager
Jetset State Building
Jetset Sunstate Bundaberg
167 Bourbong St
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Dear Sir/Madam

It would be appreciated if you would advise the date that Dr Jayant Patel booked his airfare from Bundaberg to Brisbane one way; Brisbane to Los Angeles one way; Los Angeles to Portland one way.

Departure 2 April 2005-05-20.

Would you please advise this booking date with my Executive Manager Jill Pflingst on mobile 0410 678 211 on receipt of this letter as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Dr Steve Buckland
Director-General
20 /05 /2005

Office
19th Floor
Queensland Health Building
147 - 163 Charlotte Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Postal
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Phone
(07) 323 41170

Fax
(07) 323 41482



For people who are going places.

JETSET SUNSTATE BUNDABERG

167B Bourbong St, Bundaberg

Postal Address

P O Box 1717, Bundaberg

PH (07) 41 522 322

Fax (07) 41 531 285

E-Mail sunstatebundy@optusnet.com.au

ABN 14 374 141 156

RECEIPT

Receipt Number: 22076
Date: 31 March 2005

Consultant: Peter Cronin
Received From: Dr Jayant Patel
Client Account 6102 Patel
Method of Payment: Cash
Remarks: AIRFARES TO THE USA

The Amount of: \$3,500.00

RECEIPT TOTAL \$3,500.00