

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3)(a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1)

URN [] [] [] []

Statement of LORD HAMILTON OF ERSKINE

Age if under 18 over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation PEER OF THE REAM

This statement (consisting ofpage(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

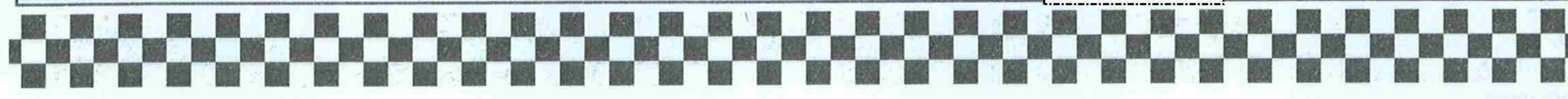
Signature DPA Date 01/02/16

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

This statement concerns an event during my tenure as then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS). I worked in this capacity for approximately 15 months between the period after the 1987 election and I was moved back to the Ministry of Defence in July 1988. My role as the Prime Minister's PPS was to act as a conduit between the Prime Minister and the Commons and to feed back to her what the members of Parliament were saying. It was common that people would approach me to moan about various topics in the hope it would filter back to the Prime Minister. I have been met by DC Tony Smith and DC Tina Dilworthy who have asked me specifically about a meeting between the

Signature DPA Signature witnessed by DPA

P.T.O.



Continuation of Statement of Lord Hamilton of Epsom

Prime Minister and her Close Protection Officer Barry Stevens, at which I was present. The meeting ~~was~~ ^{DPA} concerned Peter Morrison who I knew well and was a friend of mine. I think he was out of government at the time and I believe he was a backbencher. The meeting had not been planned and took place in the Prime Minister's office at the House of Commons. It is likely it happened in the late evening but I don't remember ~~when~~ ^{DPA} what date. Barry Stevens knocked on the door and asked ~~me~~ if he could speak to the Prime Minister, regarding Peter Morrison. Barry came in and told her that he had been spoken to by a senior officer in Cheshire Police. I thought it was the Chief Constable but I'm aware he may have remembered it to be the Assistant Chief Constable. Barry said he'd been told that Peter Morrison ~~was~~ ^{DPA} had ~~having a party~~ ^{was} at his home in Cheshire that ~~were~~ ^{was} exclusively male, ~~including~~ ^{DPA} I'm aware that Barry has since said at the time it had included young men as well as adults. I don't remember this being said but I wouldn't deny it had been said. The general

Signature

DPA

Signature witnessed by

DPA

Continuation of Statement of LORD HAMILTON OF EPPON

insinuation was that Peter Morrison was a homosexual. The Prime Minister said something like, "well that's that then," and Barry left the office. Nothing more was said about it between us. She would have been aware of my friendship with Peter Morrison and she herself had a long relationship with the family including Peter's father, who ~~was~~ ^{DPA} had also been a member of Parliament. At no time during that meeting, or subsequently as a result of that meeting did anything Barry had said lead me to believe Peter Morrison was a paedophile or having sexual relations with underage males. I didn't pass this information to the ~~the~~ Whips office and I don't know if the Prime Minister spoke to anyone about it. As the PPS I was not under any obligation to pass this information to anyone else in the party. I was aware over the years of rumours about Peter Morrisons being found in public toilets, but these were never corroborated. Parliament was a hot bed of gossip and it was very common for rumours to be spread by members of Parliament. It was a very competitive, macho atmosphere and

Signature.

DPA

Signature witnessed by

DPA