
AFFIDAVIT

I, **Jan Pierre Theron**, state on oath:

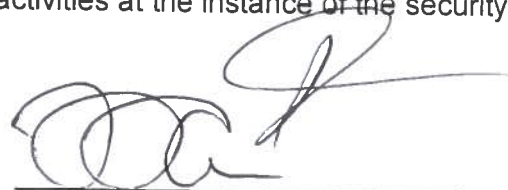
- 1 I am an adult male. I am retired, and reside at 53 Buitekring, Dalsig, Stellenbosch.
- 2 The facts contained herein, are to the best of my knowledge, true and correct and are, unless otherwise stated or indicated by the context, within my personal knowledge.
- 3 I was general secretary of the Food & Canning Workers Union and the African Food & Canning Workers, the trade union the late Dr Neil Hudson Aggett ('Neil') worked for until his death on 5 February 1982. The trade union was constituted as a registered and unregistered trade union due to the racial labour legislation of the time, but operated as one organisation.
- 4 Some time ago I was contacted by Advocate Torie Pretorius (Pretorius) of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) who wished to speak to me regarding the matter of Neil's death, and would travel especially to Stellenbosch to do so. I diarised the meeting as having taken place on 31 July 2018, although this may have been in error, as my recollection was the meeting took place in 2019.
- 5 At this meeting, Pretorius said to me was that in the course of reviewing the evidence relating to Neil's death the NPA had interviewed certain of the security policemen implicated. One of these security policemen, who turned out to be




Nic Deetlefs ('Deetlefs'), had made a statement to the effect that during Neil's last interrogation Neil had disclosed the names of certain individuals having an illegal relationship with the African National Congress (ANC). When asked to identify these individuals, my name was the only one Deetlefs could remember. Adv Pretorius then showed me a hand-written affidavit (or statement) by Nic Deetlefs, which in essence confirmed what he had told me. The clear implication of Deetlefs's statement was that the disclosure of these names, including my own, and the sense of betrayal it would have occasioned, was a motive for Neil to have committed suicide.

6 I told Pretorius that as a matter of public record (in view of the recent publication of my book) that I had had certain links with the ANC as well as its affiliate in the congress alliance, the South African Congress of Trade Union. However I would never have and did not in fact inform Neil of these links, nor were these links known about in the trade union. There was therefore no disclosure Neil could have made about me that could have occasioned a sense of betrayal or guilt. Deetlefs's statement in this regard was therefore false.

7 Further and in any event, I submit that if Neil had disclosed anything material concerning an illegal relationship with the ANC I would likely have been arrested and charged. There was every reason for the security police to have done so, given my position in the trade union. I had after all previously been arrested and charged for my trade union activities at the instance of the security police.



JAN PIERRE THERON

Signed and sworn before me on this 17th day of February 2020 at
after the Deponent acknowledged that he is fully cognisant of the contents of this
affidavit, that he understands it, that he has no objection to taking the prescribed
oath and that he considers the oath binding on his conscience. In administering this
oath the requirements of Regulation R2477 dated 16 November 1984, as amended,
have been fulfilled.



[Handwritten Signature] 7024887
[Handwritten Signature]
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS