

NSW POLICE SERVICE

NSW WATER POLICE SECTION, SYDNEY

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7 June, 1999

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WorkCover
Att: Mr John Watson
L1 400 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Our reference:

Your reference:

RE: 1998 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race - Yacht "Sword of Orion" - Deceased yachtsman Glyn Charles.

Dear John,

As discussed some time ago I have recently interviewed Mr Rob Kothe, owner of the "Sword of Orion". The basis of the interview was to establish whether the crew member, Glyn Charles was paid for his services as, crew on the above mentioned yacht during the 1998 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Glyn Charles as you recall, was helming at the time the vessel was rolled in heavy seas, Charles was attached to the yacht by harness and lanyard. As a result of an impact apparently with the boom Charles was knocked overboard and the *lanyard failed*. Charles was washed away from the vessel and never recovered.

The interview with Kothe took place on Friday 4 June 1998 at Sydney Water Police Station, Pyrmont. This interview was conducted on audio tape and will be transcribed.

Kothe presented notes which he had prepared relating to how Charles came about to be a crew member on "Sword of Orion". Kothe also presented me with a Bank Statement where £1,000 (\$2,621.73AU) was placed in the Bank Account of Margret Charles (mother of Glyn Charles) after date of death.

During the interview Mr Kothe states that Mr Charles was not paid however, an agreement was made by Kothe to "cover costs" which included services provided by Mr Charles to obtain information for the Admiral's Cup in England and participate in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Costs included full flight to England, Accommodation, food and some items of clothing.

I would appreciate your assistance as I feel this matter falls within your area of responsibility and expertise.

The Coroner has requested that the brief be prepared by mid September for an Inquest in November this year. As you are aware I have commenced work with RTA. Crash Lab, they are in receipt of the failed lanyard and other harnesses which will need to be tested as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely,

David Upston
Senior Constable

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