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**STATEMENT OF: Donna IVEY**

**INTERVIEWED BY: Cpl. Monty HENSTRIDGE, RCMP Major Crime Unit  
April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 commencing at 14:11 hours**

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1 **Henstridge:** The time now is 14:11 hours by my watch. Date is April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. My  
2 name is Corporal Monty Henstridge with the RCMP Major Crime Unit out  
3 of St. John's and I'm in the Confederation Building speaking with Donna  
4 Ivey in relation to the Dunphy matter. Ms. Ivey, my understanding is that  
5 you initially asked or advised the RNC or the Protective Detail regarding  
6 something that happened or an email that you received.

7 **Ivey:** Yeah.

8 **Henstridge:** You go ahead and tell me ...

9 **Ivey:** Sure.

10 **Henstridge:** .. about that.

11 **Ivey:** Well as part of my work functions, my – my title is actually Special  
12 Assistant to Communications, and part of my duties is to monitor social  
13 media as well as to post to the Premier's official and personal Twitter and  
14 Facebook accounts. On Good Friday, that morning, my husband and I  
15 were sat having coffee and I was browsing through social media as I  
16 typically do even on – on the holidays and I came across a series of  
17 tweets from Mr. Dunphy. And I was familiar with his tweets cause he's –  
18 he's quite a – an active – he was quite an active person on – on Twitter.  
19 And I – I read through the series of tweets he had there. I think, to my  
20 recollection, there were six or seven tweets in response to a tweet that  
21 Minister Collins had posted. And his tweets were completely unrelated to  
22 Minister Collins and his – most of those – those tweets in that series were  
23 not of any concern.

1 **Henstridge:** Uhm.

2 **Ivey:** They were just relating to his, I guess, dissatisfaction with the benefits he's  
3 received as an injured worker. And I – again I've been familiar with that  
4 over a period of time cause I've – he's – again he's an active post – poster  
5 on Twitter or was an active poster on Twitter. But one of those tweets  
6 stood out to me and I read it several time because it could be interpreted  
7 different ways. But given his tone in that series of tweets and his tone in  
8 the past he's – he did seem to be an angry individual so I – I took it to  
9 mean when he said for it to hurt, I took that to mean physical injury...

10 **Henstridge:** Uhm...uhm.

11 **Ivey:** ... or harm to the family members. But I guess it could have been  
12 interpreted as hurt in a, ah, - I guess to hurt – to hurt their feelings...

13 **Henstridge:** Uhm.

14 **Ivey:** ... the family members' feelings. But I – I didn't interpret it that way when I  
15 read it. Ah, and of course, I'm not the expert on – on analysis so I passed  
16 it on as I normally with any tweets of concern to our Protective Services  
17 Unit which would have involved Joe Smyth with the RCMP, or sorry, RNC  
18 and Doug Noel with the RCMP and it was copied to our Chief of Staff, Joe  
19 Browne. And I simply just copied the tweet of concern, the one that I had  
20 flagged, and put it in an email and just – just a tweet of concern. It was for  
21 them, I guess, to – to investigate and follow up on as they typically do.  
22 This is not the first time something like this – this has happened and we've  
23 passed it along. And I, and other staff people here, frequently pass things  
24 along for investigation that we think could be of possible ...

25 **Henstridge:** Uhm.

26 **Ivey:** ... concern. Ah, cause we – we often get letters, emails, not just social  
27 media, that we – that we would forward.

1 **Henstridge:** Okay.

2 **Ivey:** Ah, I think it was later that afternoon or, I can certainly check the exact  
3 time, it may have been that Saturday, when Joe Smyth had contacted me  
4 to, I guess, to get some context and some information on this gentleman.  
5 Ah, and all I knew basically was that he was an injured worker who was  
6 disgruntled, ah, and I certainly didn't know where he lived or anything like  
7 that. But I – I – being an injured worker I figured that Workers' Comp  
8 would have a file on him so I referred him to, ah, to that Ag – government  
9 agency to get any information he may need. And that's basically where  
10 my contact or involvement with that, I guess, stopped at that point until I'd  
11 heard what had happened on Easter Sunday and I didn't realize that this  
12 tweet and that incident were connected until later that evening and it was  
13 – it was quite upsetting and disturbing ...

14 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

15 **Ivey:** ... cause that certainly was never the intent. I had had actually a bunch of  
16 family over for supper and my father asked me if I had heard about the  
17 shooting in Mount Carmel and I hadn't to that point cause I was cooking  
18 turkey dinner for a bunch ...

19 **Henstridge:** Sure.

20 **Ivey:** ... of people. And, ah, but then I started to think and I did – I – so I  
21 excused myself from the – from the crowd and I did some research to see  
22 if there was a Mr. Dunphy ...

23 **Henstridge:** Uhm.

24 **Ivey:** ... residing in Mount Carmel and sure enough there was. And I said, oh  
25 my goodness.

26 **Henstridge:** Okay.

27 **Ivey:** That's when I realized what had happened. I didn't even ...

1 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

2 **Ivey:** ... nobody here had – had told me about that.

3 **Henstridge:** Yes.

4 **Ivey:** But it was – it was quite upsetting and ...

5 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

6 **Ivey:** ... disturbing.

7 **Henstridge:** Cause the name wouldn't have been released at that point.

8 **Ivey:** No, it wasn't.

9 **Henstridge:** Right. Okay. Ah, well I appreciate that. I'm just gonna kind of recap what  
10 you told me ...

11 **Ivey:** Yeah.

12 **Henstridge:** ... as – as I understand it. If I say anything that's ...

13 **Ivey:** And if you need exact times I can check back through my emails and my  
14 Blackberry.

15 **Henstridge:** Okay. Ah ...

16 **Ivey:** I can certainly do that. You let me know what you need.

17 **Henstridge:** Yeah, maybe – maybe we could do that. And we can do that by way of an  
18 email to me if you want. I can ...

19 **Ivey:** Oh indeed.

20 **Henstridge:** ... that might make it easier.

21 **Ivey:** I mean, I can certainly copy that for you ...

- 1 **Henstridge:** Yeah, that'd be great.
- 2 **Ivey:** ... or forward them on.
- 3 **Henstridge:** Yeah. I'll leave, ah ...
- 4 **Ivey:** Okay, I will ...
- 5 **Henstridge:** ... leave that.
- 6 **Ivey:** ... certainly forward everything that's gone through here, through my  
7 email, I'll forward to you.
- 8 **Henstridge:** Awesome. Thank you very much. So my understanding is that as part of  
9 your function – I – I didn't quite catch your title.
- 10 **Ivey:** Ah, Special Assistant Communications. And then that involves a whole  
11 bunch of things but one of them is to monitor and, ah, and post on – on  
12 the various social media accounts that we have.
- 13 **Henstridge:** So a – as you said you monitor – and as I'm going through this if there's  
14 something that I say that's inaccurate or misunderstood stop me ...
- 15 **Ivey:** Certainly.
- 16 **Henstridge:** ... and correct me ...
- 17 **Ivey:** Okay.
- 18 **Henstridge:** ... cause that's the whole reason I'm doing this. Ah, so you monitor the  
19 media and you do post on the Government site as well as the Premier's  
20 personal site.
- 21 **Ivey:** Yes. Now I'm not the only person responsible for that though.
- 22 **Henstridge:** Okay.
- 23 **Ivey:** I'm just one of a group.

- 1 **Henstridge:** Gotcha.
- 2 **Ivey:** Probably the – the lead person on it though I would think.
- 3 **Henstridge:** Yeah, okay. So on Good Friday, ah, you were actually at home and you  
4 were browsing through the media and, I guess, ...
- 5 **Ivey:** On the Premier's official account ...
- 6 **Henstridge:** Yes.
- 7 **Ivey:** ... in this specific instance.
- 8 **Henstridge:** Yes. Ah, and you came across a series of tweets by – did – did the name  
9 of the person appear at that time, Don Dunphy, or?
- 10 **Ivey:** Ah, it – no, it – ah, he's list – he was listed as, I think of it, his name was  
11 Donahue2dondunphy ... (phonetic) ...
- 12 **Henstridge:** Okay.
- 13 **Ivey:** And, ah, the – the name itself wasn't – wasn't ...
- 14 **Henstridge:** Right.
- 15 **Ivey:** ... clear.
- 16 **Henstridge:** Right. But you were familiar with that person because ...
- 17 **Ivey:** I was.
- 18 **Henstridge:** ... he – he's a frequent tweeter and – and – and I assume letters and so  
19 on and so forth.
- 20 **Ivey:** Yes.
- 21 **Henstridge:** And you noticed six or seven tweets that were in response to Minister  
22 Collins, the majority of which seemed to me not really in a threatening

1 nature but expressed dissatisfaction regarding Workers' Comp, and again  
2 you were familiar with kind of generally the issues around his  
3 dissatisfaction. One of the – one of the tweets in particular concerned you  
4 primarily as I understand it because of word hurt which you agreed could  
5 mean a variety of things but to you it – it mean physical harm which is  
6 certainly reasonable and understandable. Ah, you passed it on. When  
7 you say you passed it on, I assume you passed it on by way of an email ...

8 **Ivey:** I did.

9 **Henstridge:** ... to, ah, Protective Services, i.e. Joe Smyth and Doug Noel with the  
10 RCMP as well as cc'd it to Joe Browne which is the Chief of Staff to the  
11 Premier.

12 **Ivey:** Cor – correct.

13 **Henstridge:** And you entitled it 'tweet of concern' and that you copied the tweet to the  
14 email itself.

15 **Ivey:** Yes.

16 **Henstridge:** You said this is not a completely uncommon occurrence and that you  
17 frequently have issues that you come across that you feel should be  
18 further explored by the Protective Detail. That later that afternoon or  
19 possible on Saturday, you couldn't exactly recall ... (phone ringing) ... Joe  
20 Smyth called you and wanted to get some context for the email. You  
21 explained to him that as far as you knew he was an injured worker who  
22 was disgruntled and that you didn't have a lot of specific information about  
23 him but you felt that because he was dealing with Workers' Comp that  
24 they would probably have a file and would be able to assist him further  
25 in...

26 **Ivey:** Correct.

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1 **Henstridge:** ... in getting an address and so on. Effectively you said that that's where  
2 your involvement ended. You did hear on Sunday about a shooting in – in  
3 – in the community and did a little research on your own to determine  
4 whether or not there was a Don Dunphy living there and there was and it  
5 was at that time that you felt it was likely this was connected to ...

6 **Ivey:** Yes.

7 **Henstridge:** ... to ... (unintel) ...

8 **Ivey:** And actually there was one thing there I missed. On Sunday afternoon,  
9 prior to hearing that there was shooting, ah, Heather McLean, our Director  
10 of Communications, called me and she said can you forward me that  
11 tweet that you had sent to, ah, Joe Browne and to Joe Smyth and – and to  
12 Doug. So I forwarded it to her. So that kind of, I guess, that along with  
13 hearing about the shooting ...

14 **Henstridge:** Right.

15 **Ivey:** ... that's what sparked my ...

16 **Henstridge:** Okay.

17 **Ivey:** ... my con – I guess, the connection ...

18 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

19 **Ivey:** ... potential connection.

20 **Henstridge:** So that would have been prior to you doing the research?

21 **Ivey:** Yeah. She had called me – yes, she had called me around four-thirty, I  
22 think it was, ah, on Sunday. And then shortly ...

23 **Henstridge:** What was her name?

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1 **Ivey:** Heather McLean. She is the Communications Director for the Premier's  
2 Office. Cause she had already caught in wind that something had  
3 happened so she just want – I guess for her own information she wanted  
4 to see what it was that was said. Ah, but after receiving that call and then  
5 shortly after hearing that someone had died ...

6 **Henstridge:** Yeah. Okay.

7 **Ivey:** ... it just – something kind of ran cold in my blood.

8 **Henstridge:** Sure. Alright. And, ah, so that effectively kind of encaptures your – your  
9 involvement in this. You indicated that you would forward me all the  
10 relevant emails ...

11 **Ivey:** Yes.

12 **Henstridge:** ... that you had in relation ...

13 **Ivey:** Absolutely.

14 **Henstridge:** ... to this which is great. Ah, is there anything that I haven't asked you or  
15 any information that you have that you think might be relevant that could  
16 assist us in our investigation?

17 **Ivey:** Ah, as I said, things of this nature that we perceive as a possible threat,  
18 and again it's not for us to evaluate ...

19 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

20 **Ivey:** ... we're just the staff. But sometimes what – what we'll do is, if we're in  
21 the office, we'll run it by one another before we forward it on.

22 **Henstridge:** Sure.

23 **Ivey:** Of course Friday I didn't have that luxury. I was at home. But again I  
24 thought it was – it probably warranted a little review ...

- 1 **Henstridge:** Absolutely.
- 2 **Ivey:** ... by somebody with more expertise than – than I have.
- 3 **Henstridge:** Yeah, absolutely.
- 4 **Ivey:** Ah, so I did forward it on to the, ah, to the gentlemen as we've done in the  
5 past and – and again in the past some of these officers have gone out and  
6 – and in certain instances have instigate – have, ah, have investigated  
7 certain ...
- 8 **Henstridge:** Uhm.
- 9 **Ivey:** ... certain people because of it and had conversations ...
- 10 **Henstridge:** Uhm...uhm.
- 11 **Ivey:** ... and, ah, they've never ended up this way.
- 12 **Henstridge:** No. Human behaviour is difficult to predict sometimes ...
- 13 **Ivey:** It is.
- 14 **Henstridge:** ... isn't it? Okay. Ah ...
- 15 **Ivey:** I think – I think that's about it.
- 16 **Henstridge:** Okay.
- 17 **Ivey:** Ah ...
- 18 **Henstridge:** Aside from Joe Smyth, ah, did you speak to anybody else kind of directly  
19 involved in the investigation? Any other RNC Officers or anybody along  
20 those lines or RCMP Officers or?
- 21 **Ivey:** No, I forwarded, again the email, to both Doug Noel with the RCMP and to  
22 Joe Smyth with the RNC and I guess ... (phone buzzing) ... sorry, I guess  
23 Mr. Smyth was on duty that day ...

1 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

2 **Ivey:** ... and he was the one that responded to me.

3 **Henstridge:** Okay. Okay, I don't have any further questions for you. I really appreciate  
4 your time. I'm going ...

5 **Ivey:** Ah, oh sorry, just one more thing.

6 **Henstridge:** Yeah. No, absolutely.

7 **Ivey:** Ah, Mr. Browne did come back – Joe Browne came back and, ah, and  
8 again he noted too that this gentleman was an injured worker.

9 **Henstridge:** Okay.

10 **Ivey:** Ah, so that he will be in that string of emails that you will see...

11 **Henstridge:** Yeah.

12 **Ivey:** ... forwarded from me.

13 **Henstridge:** Yeah, that's fine. Ah, I appreciate your time. It's, ah, it's ...

14 **Ivey:** Oh, anything we can do to help ...

15 **Henstridge:** ... it's nice to have that little piece.

16 **Ivey:** ... and – and clear that up.

17 **Henstridge:** Yeah. Yeah. So, I'm gonna conclude this statement here. The time now  
18 is 14:20 hours according to my watch. If you do have any other  
19 information, feel free to drop me an email.

20

21

22

23 *Transcribed by: Brenda P. Spurrell*

24 *Transcribed statement provided to investigator: 2015-05-19*

25 *Proofread by: Monty HENSTRIDGE on 2015-05-19*

  
Cpl. Monty Henstridge  
"B" Division Major Crime Unit