

STATEMENT OF STEVEN CONDRA OF MCGWIRE HOUSE, BATH STREET, WATERFORD, DATE OF BIRTH 26/12/1971, TAKEN ON 06/10/24 AT WATERFORD GARDA STATION, BY NIALL DALY, INSPECTOR, 26575F

I hereby declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence I will be liable to prosecution if I state in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

My name is Steven Condra. I was adopted by Michael & Marcella Condra in around 1972 or 1973. At the time I don't recall where they were living. My earliest memories for living in, would be [REDACTED]. I was approximately 5 years old. The house number is [REDACTED] but back then it was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My father's father, my adoptive grandfather Michael Condra started abusing me as young as I can remember. It was all hands and touching and I would be pretending to be asleep. He would be asking, whispering to see if I was awake. I would just feel him touching me then. This happened at my adoptive grandfather's house in [REDACTED]. I would be staying the night in [REDACTED], any time I stayed the night or in his care up until he moved to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I think it was [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. I would have been 14 years of age by the time the sexual abuse stopped at my instigation. He was living in [REDACTED] that stage. But the very last time he abused me was in [REDACTED]. I woke up with him kneeling over me again, touching me asking me was I awake. When I say touching me I mean he was masturbating me. My parents had let him stay in the spare bed that was in my bedroom. It started as early as I can remember, I can remember Michael Condra abusing me every year since I was five, when I can first remember, until I stopped it when I was fourteen years old. When I told my father, Michael Condra, he insisted that it happened only once and that he would deal with it. I believe that my adoptive father Michael Condra knew that his father was a pedophile all along as he had been accused of sexually assaulting soldiers in McKee Barracks. My uncle T [REDACTED] who is married to my father's Sister M [REDACTED] they now live in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He was soldier/cook in McKee Barracks. He told me this after I had told my father and the wider family all found out about it, T [REDACTED] told me this and how they all knew what my father's father was like, for committing sexual offences. I believe my father would not report the abuse of me to the Gardaí as it would have gotten his father

in trouble. He continued to visit his father and take him drinking on a regular basis instead of protecting his adopted child. I don't know if my adoptive grandfather ever went into any sort of treatment for his pedophilia. I do not know any other child victims. I was 13 or 14 years old when I told my parents at [REDACTED], one evening. My father said that we were going to visit the grandparents on Sunday and I said no. He did his usual shouting and screaming at me and said I would do what I was told. He left the room to go to the bathroom or something and I told my mother that my adoptive grandfather had been sexually touching me. She then told my father and I don't think I was in the room. The next morning my father was in the kitchen at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and had me sitting at the breakfast bar. He made us both a cup of tea. Which was unusual and he asked me about what had happened. I only got to tell him about the last incident that occurred at [REDACTED] when he told me that it only happened once, I wasn't to worry about it, he would deal with it. He told me not to worry about it. He told me it only happened once. I was too afraid to tell him about all the other occasions. I hadn't told my mother about the other occasions. I told him, my father, I wanted to speak to Garda because I felt that I would be able to tell them everything. But he wouldn't let me. He said he would deal with it that I wasn't going near the Guards. To this day he still hasn't helped me in anyway whatsoever. I never saw my grandfather after that then. I asked my father on several occasions, over the years, what he had done to deal with it. He would tell me not to worry about it that he had dealt with it that it only happened once. I was too fearful of him, my adoptive father, to tell him that the sexual abuse had been going on since as long as I could remember. I was afraid of my adoptive father because he is an alcoholic and he would verbally abuse me on a daily basis. So I learned to say as little as possible to him to avoid trouble as much as possible. This is also why it took me so long for me to anything about the sexual abuse. My adoptive grandfather died around 1998 or 1999. I was 27 or 28 years old. T [REDACTED], who is my uncle and now lives in [REDACTED] spoke to me telling me that my adoptive grandfather was well known for sexual abuse as T [REDACTED] himself had been a victim of Michael Condra. I don't know about details of that sexual abuse other than [REDACTED] said, Michael Condra, my adoptive grandfather had put his hands down the front of T [REDACTED] trousers. T [REDACTED] said he removed his hand immediately and told him in no uncertain terms never to do it again. How does someone leave their child in the care of a sexual abuser knowing that about him. This may be because my father is an alcoholic, but this is no excuse. I asked Michael Condra,

my adoptive father, for help after being abused by my adoptive grandfather and he appears to have done nothing. I believe he broke the law by doing nothing to protect me or other children. Around 2016 I went to the Lincara Medical Centre in Bray to check if I had autism. I met with Dr. Karen Keogh, psychologist. In determining if I was autistic she said her team had to interview my adoptive parents to see if I had autistic traits when I was a child. I initially said no but as I didn't have to attend the meeting I gave the go ahead. After the meeting Dr. Karen Keogh told me that they, her team, could not believe how flippant Michael Condra, my adoptive father was over the sexual abuse and he told them it only happened once as well. I was subsequently diagnosed along with other mental illnesses that were as a result of the years of sexual abuse at the hands of my adoptive grandfather and the mental abuse at the hands of my adoptive father. I became estranged from my family about 6 years ago and they are still attempting to abuse me by telling my daughter, [REDACTED] that if I came back and apologised that they would forgive me for everything. My adoptive father Michael Condra, brought me to court over a text message at the family can counts in Dolphin House about the last 3 years approximately. He was applying for a family law order to stop me texting him. I had only done it to stop him from ringing me when he was drunk. While he was on the witness stand he proceeded to explain to the judge how afraid of me he was and that the local detective had warned him to make sure he got his court order. I was quiet incensed at this as I am not a dangerous person and I asked him did he think it had anything to do with the sexual abuse. While on the witness stand he said "No, it has nothing to do with that" and at this the judge pointed at me and told me to make a garda report. As a child my alcoholic adoptive father mentally abused me on a daily basis verbally. He would continuously tell me how useless I was, that I was a waste of space and no matter what question he would ask me it was impossible to give the correct answer and he would scream and shout at me and I learned to just say nothing, so he would tire out and I would be sent to bed. Sometimes he would get me out of bed to have a go at me if he came home late more drunk than usual. I'd wet the bed and the next morning my mother would start on me as well telling me how useless I was as well and she would often slap me with an open hand across the face for wetting the bed and that the sooner I grew up and got out of the place the better it would be for all of them. She never had any interest in any issues I had with my father or anyone. She would just tell me that it was none of her business and nothing to do with her. In fact the last time I spoke to her she told me never to

come back, never to darken her door again in last 6 years. These would be huge reasons as to why I would be afraid to say anything about the sexual abuse when I was younger. I was terrified of these people. I have read over this statement and it is correct.

SIGNED: *Steven Condra*

WITNESSED: *Niall Daly, Inspector, 26575F*