## MEDIA STATEMENT

# 8 June 2016

- This Media Statement has been provided to Media on behalf of the family of the late Charles Derschow Mullaley (Baby Charlie).
- The family appreciate your support following the tragic death of 10 month old Baby Charlie in March 2013, and the subsequent CCC Report, which was tabled in Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016.
- It is very important that the views held by family are made public through this statement, however, the family ask that you respect their privacy, and <u>do not</u> contact them for further comment.

Thank you

This Media Statement has been provided to Media on behalf of the family of the late Charles Derschow Mullaley (Baby Charlie).

The family appreciate your support following the tragic death of 10 month old Baby Charlie in March 2013, and the subsequent CCC Report, which was tabled in Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

It is very important that the views held by family are made public through this statement, however, the family ask that you respect their privacy, and <u>do not</u> contact them for further comment.

When the CCC released its findings (21 April 2016) the statement below was provided to the Broome Advertiser and the West Australian newspapers by Baby Charlie's Aunty Kathleen Pinkerton, on behalf of the Mullaley family...

#### - START OF STATEMENT ON 21 APRIL 2016 -

"This CCC report highlights some of the alarming deficiencies in the way police handled matters in the lead-up to the murder of Charlie.

There are too many "don't recall" comments and a lot of "notes were not taken" by officers.

It is convenient for police not to recall certain matters that we consider crucial and to omit details that should have been included.

Ted told them (police) that Charlie was at risk but, as the CCC report states, he was not taken seriously and we have lost our beautiful baby boy.

The big question is what changes have police made? What happens when the next Aboriginal grandfather walks into the station and reports his grandson missing without any action being taken for hours.

We the family of Charlie Boy remain committed to seeking justice for him".

#### - END OF STATEMENT ON 21 APRIL 2016 -

#### **FAMILY STATEMENT**

8<sup>th</sup> June 2016

This Media Statement has been provided to Media on behalf of the family of the late Charles Derschow Mullaley (Baby Charlie).

The family appreciate your support through the brutal murder of 10 month old Baby Charlie in March 2013, and the subsequent CCC Report, which was tabled in Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

It is very important that the views held by family are made public through this statement, however, the family ask that you respect their privacy, and <u>do not</u> contact them for further comment.

## Our Ongoing Concerns...

As the family of Charles Derschow Mullaley, there are so many issues relating to the management of this case in the lead up to (the late) Mervyn Bell being taken into custody and charged on 21 March 2013.

We said we would not rest until we had a complete Inquiry and explanation of the Police process in the event of a baby being taken from its family and how this relates to our case.

Charlie's grandfather was treated with contempt, a lack of respect and he received no assistance from the police, who, amongst other duties, have the responsibility to protect vulnerable children from people like Mervyn Bell. If we achieve only one thing, we want it to be that no other family is ever treated the way that this grandfather was.

We are a strong Aboriginal family taught by our Grandfather Norman Harris Snr and our Mother Myrtle Mullaley that we are the same and have the same rights as all Australians. It is a fact that we have come to again question the Australia in which we live and work today. (Continued next page)

### We have so many questions:

- 1) Is what happened in this case standard police practice?
- 2) What is required by Broome Police when reporting a baby stolen?
- 3) When a child under (1) one year of age is involved, do Broome Police recognise that the child is totally vulnerable and helpless when separated from his family?
- 4) When Broome Police are informed that the person known to them as having violently bashed the child's Mother requiring her admittance into hospital has the child do they become alarmed?
- 5) Knowing the child's Mother is in custody and unable to protect her child is it practice for Broome Police to take no action at all to ensure her 10 month Baby Boy is safe when told he is at risk?
- 6) Is it practice for Broome Police to dismiss and not listen to the distressed pleas of the Baby's Grandfather when help is sought on several occasions?
- 7) Could Baby Charlie Boy's life have been saved or his suffering reduced had he been searched for by Broome Police immediately when they became aware he was missing?
- 8) Finally was the lack of compassion or respect shown at time of first report and throughout this incident influenced by the family involved being Aboriginal?
- 9) Justice was been seen to be served through the courts but we are seeking further justice for our Baby *Charles Derschow Mullaley* and answers to these questions.
- 10) We said we wouldn't give up until we had a complete unbiased report on all fact and matters in the Broome Police actions in the abduction in Broome resulting in the murder of our beautiful innocent 10 month old Charlie Boy.

END OF FAMILY STATEMENT BY FAMILY OF THE LATE CHARLES DERSCHOW MULLALEY DATED 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2016