

**Witness Name:** Dorothy Logoafiafi Alofivae  
**Statement No.:** WITN691001  
**Exhibits:** N/A  
**Dated:** 15 July 2021

**ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO ABUSE IN CARE**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF DOROTHY LOGOAFIAFI ALOFIVAE**

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I, Dorothy Logoafiafi Alofivae, states as follows: -

**Introduction**

1. I am Samoan, part of the first-generation New Zealand born in my family. I am from the villages of Apolima, Saanapu and Manono, Lalovi and Falelatai.
2. I attended the University of Auckland and graduated in 1998 with a BA double major in History and Sociology. I also have a law degree, and I was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in 2003.
3. Prior to working as a lawyer, I worked in the public health sector. My role was to work closely with Pacific communities and Pacific Health providers. I started practice as a lawyer in 2007 as an inhouse counsel for Waitemata District Health Board and also held a position as Pacific Health Contract Manager. In 2010, I moved into private practice as a Family lawyer.
4. Since 2016, I have been a self-employed contractor working as a disputes' resolution specialist trading as Peacemaker Hub.
5. I also work as a Referee with the Disputes Tribunal of New Zealand.
6. I am a professional member of the Resolution Institute, and an accredited mediator and accredited restorative justice facilitator. I am also a Resolution Institute assessor for accreditation of Restorative Justice facilitators.

7. I have experience working with people across a diverse range of backgrounds in community, family and ACC mediations. I help parties with restorative practice processes involved in workplace disputes.
8. I have been a restorative justice facilitator since 2004 at the time of the Ministry of Justice pilot that was rolled out to the Auckland Courts and later across the country to all Courts.
9. Currently, I am a member of the Auckland Restorative Justice Trust (ARJT). As a restorative justice facilitator, I have worked in a range of restorative justice conferences from private referrals or Ministry of Justice Court referrals. These include standard criminal matters to more serious and complex cases including Worksafe Health and Safety and family violence cases. I am often asked to lead cases that involve serious harm to victims, including serious injury and fatalities.
10. I have a strong sense of service and actively engage with the community in a variety of voluntary work. I am a Board member and Secretary of the Bridgebuilders Trust and I have been a volunteer for the Otago CAB legal clinics since 2011.

#### **Public Hearing - 'Tulou – Our Pacific Voices'**

11. I have been asked by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care (the Inquiry) to participate as part of the public hearing on Pacific people's experience of abuse in care, 'Tulou – Our Pacific Voices' ("the Hearing").
12. I have been asked specifically to provide my views as part of the Talanoa Panel discussion on 'A Pacific Lens on Redress' and have been asked to provide my views on the following topics and questions:

##### Redress from a Pacific perspective

- a. What should the purpose or objectives of a redress scheme be?

##### Traditional dispute resolution systems

- b. What are some of the defining elements of traditional Pacific reconciliation processes such as ifoga, fakalelei, isorosoro and ho'oponopono?
  - c. Can culturally specific reconciliation processes be successfully adapted for use in Aotearoa New Zealand?
  - d. What might a redress process that is underpinned by Pacific values and practices look like?
  - e. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of a Pan-Pacific model of redress?
- 1.

#### Pacific Health Models

- f. Can Pacific health and wellbeing models such as the Fonofale, Kakala and Tivaevae models be used to conceptualise holistic redress approaches for Pacific peoples?

#### Types of Redress

- g. Possibilities currently include but are not limited to:
  - i. financial payments (what do you think any payment should aim to do)
  - ii. rehabilitation (e.g. through counselling, education and employment, assisting survivors to build and maintain healthy relationships etc.)
  - iii. acknowledgment of abuse
  - iv. apology.
- h. What other elements are crucial to achieve meaningful redress from a Pacific survivor perspective?

#### Redress for family/redress for intergenerational trauma

- i. Should redress be available for family of survivors, and if so, what type?

- j. If a survivor is deceased, should their family members be able to make redress claims?
- k. Should a redress scheme provide collective redress? What might this look like?

Accessibility

- l. What barriers, culturally related or otherwise, do Pacific survivors face to making claims for redress?
- m. What are Pacific peoples' needs when accessing redress provider services and making claims?

13. I believe that my cultural and academic background and experience qualify me to participate as an expert witness on the Talanoa Panel discussion.

**Statement of Truth**

This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and was made by me knowing that it may be used as evidence by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care.

Signed:

GRO-C

Dated: 15 July 2021

**Annexure A****Consent to use my statement**

I, **Dorothy Alofivae**, confirm that by submitting my signed witness statement to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, I consent to its use in the following ways:

- reference and/or inclusion in any interim and/or final report;
- disclosure to those granted leave to appear, designated as core participants and where instructed, their legal representatives via the Inquiry's database or by any other means as directed by the Inquiry;
- presentation as evidence before the Inquiry, including at a public hearing;
- informing further investigation by the Inquiry;
- publication on the Inquiry website.

I also confirm that I have been advised of the option to seek anonymity and that if granted my identity may nevertheless be disclosed to a person or organisation, including any instructed legal representatives, who is the subject of criticism in my witness statement in order that they are afforded a fair opportunity to respond to the criticism.

Please tick one of the two following boxes:

if you are seeking anonymity

or

if you are happy for your identity to be known

Signed: .....

GRO-C

Date: .....

15/7/2021