

**Witness: Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann**

**Statement No.: WITN0690001**

**Exhibits: N/A**

**Dated: 15 July 2021**

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

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF FUIMAONO KARL PULOTU-ENDEMANN**

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I, Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann state as follows: -

**Introduction**

1. I am a Samoan-born, New Zealand-raised Samoan. I have lived in NZ since 1959 and I completed my education here. I hold the matai title 'Fuimaono', which is an Ali'i High Chief title from Salani, Falealili District, Samoa.
2. My background is nursing with a specialty in mental health. I have held senior positions as a Charge Nurse in the former Carrington Hospital and as an Associate of the Nursing & Health Studies Department at Manawatu Polytechnic. I have worked for over 25 years as an independent Pacific health consultant.
3. For over 35 years, I have represented Pacific people on various local and national boards including the Alcohol and Liquor Advisory Council of New Zealand (ALAC), The Psychologists Board, Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast District Health Boards, Creative New Zealand Pacific Council, the Taeaomanino Board (a Pacific NGO), the New Zealand AIDS Foundation and the Parole Board.
4. I have a national Pacific profile in NZ due to my community involvement, including the establishment of specialised Pacific mental health services as well as Pacific Island AIDS Trust (PIAT) and the creation of the Fonofale Model of Health.

5. I have been a Justice of the Peace for over 30 years and was awarded the MNZM for Public Health in the 2001 New Year's Honours.
6. Currently, my passion and preference is to develop Pacific mental health and wellness awareness through working directly with Pacific communities. I am working with low decile Primary schools in South Auckland on mental health and wellbeing initiatives that bring together Pacific parents, families and teachers.

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

7. 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").
8. I have been asked specifically to provide my views as part of the Talanoa Panel discussion on 'Pathways into care' and have been asked to provide my views on the following topics and questions:
  - a) How can we build safe spaces in Pacific communities to share information about mental health, care and protection and justice for our children and young people?
  - b) What do Pacific communities need to understand about the care and protection, mental health, transitional justice and disability support systems in New Zealand?
  - c) How can Pacific families and communities better support each other to prevent our Pacific children from going into care?
  - d) How can we ensure that Pacific children are given the opportunities to grow their knowledge and understanding of their culture and language if they go into care?
  - e) How can we hold caregivers accountable for their actions of abuse and/or neglect towards Pacific children's cultural wellbeing and needs?
  - f) What does a care system/justice system/mental health system underpinned by Pacific values look like?

9. 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.

GRO-C

Signe

Dated: 15 July 2021

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

I, **Fuimaono Karl Pulotu-Endemann**, 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

GRO-C

Signed

Date: 15 July 2021.