



[REDACTED]

*My career in the Royal Thai Police Force*

7. In 1978, I joined the Royal Police Cadet Academy. I thought that the police force was a good profession and a good way to help my country.
8. I graduated from the Academy in 1982 and have worked in various roles for the Royal Thai Police force since that time.
9. The police force was divided into four regions at the time I graduated, Middle, North, North East and South, in addition to a separate region in Bangkok. I chose to be stationed in the south of Thailand because I had never seen that part of the country before. The South was later divided into three regions – the Southern Border, Region 8 and Region 9. I spent my career working in Region 8 and Region 9.
10. I worked hard and was initially promoted in recognition of my achievements. However, in the past ten years, promotions were not given to me as quickly as other people because I was not willing to pay bribes or use political connections to further my career. I oppose corruption and refused to further my career based on these corrupt methods.
11. I took my role as a police officer seriously. I was not afraid to follow an investigation to its proper conclusion even if this resulted in the arrest of people with money and power. I exposed corruption when I found it and sought criminal charges against people involved in criminal behavior. This was not always popular with politicians and officials, especially if they were involved in the corruption. One of the notable recent investigations I was involved in was my discovery in 2013 of wide-scale corruption in the construction of police stations throughout the country. This scandal involved the former deputy Prime Minister, Suthep Thansubhan and many generals. I gave all of the necessary evidence to the Parliament and the Royal Thai police but no arrests have been made to date. Another recent high profile case was my work in 2014 combating the taxi mafia operating in Phuket which resulted in around one hundred arrests, including politicians.
12. I have received threats in the past because of investigations I have been involved in but these were different to the threats against me now. My fellow officers and I were able to protect ourselves from the previous threats from the mafia or politicians – we didn't go out often in public in our area and were careful when we travelled. I was still based in Region 8 during those times and I had senior officials above me who I felt would help protect me. The warnings I received from my superiors were in respect of the impact these investigations would have on my career if I caused problems for people, they did not involve threats to my life. But the situation is very different for me now following my involvement in the human trafficking case in 2015.

MAN 21/11/15

CB



*My work as an investigator into human trafficking in Thailand - 2015*

13. In January 2015, a new investigations began into the human trafficking of Rohingya after a group of Myanmar Rohingyas were found being transported in trucks in Nakorn Sri Thammaraj in the south of Thailand. My name was initially put forward to be part of the investigating team but the Deputy National Police Chief, Pol.Gen.K [REDACTED] vetoed my name as I used to work under him when he was a Commissioner of Region 8 and he was not happy when I arrested some criminals who are connected with well-known politicians. However, on 5 May 2015, I received a phone call from the then Police General [REDACTED], Deputy Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police (RTP) and the Director of Center to Protect Women and Children and Suppression of Human Trafficking who ordered me to travel to Hat Yai Provincial Police Station in Songkhla province to join the investigators team on the Rohingya human trafficking case. A mass grave had just been discovered in early May in a human trafficking camp in Padang Besar district and there was a lot of international pressure on Thailand to investigate thoroughly. The Prime Minister had said that this matter needed to be investigated and resolved within 10 days and Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] wanted to become Commissioner-General (National Police Chief) and he wanted results to support his promotion so he appointed me to the team.

14. Human trafficking, especially of Rohingya from Myanmar is a big problem in Thailand. The practice is abhorrent to me and it was important to me to do everything I could to stop the exploitation of these victims and punish the people who were profiting from this. But it was also a big task and politically sensitive as a trade such as this could not have become so significant without the involvement of people in high places. Around 12 years ago, there were 3000 – 5000 people coming and they were paying around A\$400 for smugglers. But this had increased dramatically. According to statistics gathered by Non-Government Organisations, in 2007-2009 there were more than 10,000 people arriving, by 2012 this had increased to 35,000 and by 2014 it was up to 80,000. For the first three month of 2015, there were over 25,000 arrivals. Traffickers were kidnapping and holding people for ransom. If their families could not pay the money demanded by the traffickers then people were being sold to fisheries or labour camps and forced to work in slave like conditions. Thailand was demoted to a Tier 3 country in relation to human trafficking, which is the lowest international ranking. Four of the highest ranking members of the current government were Chiefs of the Royal Thai Army over this period when human trafficking flourished in the country – the Current Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister, General Prawit Wongsuwan (from 2004-2005), The Minister of the Interior, General Anupong Paochinda (from 2007-2010), the Prime Minister, General Pruyut Chan-Cha (from Oct 2010 – September 2014) and the Deputy Minister of Defense, General Udomdej Sitabutr (from 2014-2015). The current National Police Chief, Pol.Gen. Chakthip Chaijinda, also used to serve as Commissioner of Region 9 in 2012 at the time human trafficking flourished in that area.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*CB*



15. On 6 May 2015, I traveled to meet with Pol. Gen. [REDACTED] as ordered and received a briefing of the situation along with 5-6 police officers from the Anti Trafficking in Persons Division of the Crime Suppression Department, RTP and the Provincial Police Region 9 (in charge of Songkhla, Satun, Phattalung, and Trang province.) They had gathered a lot of information over the months that they had investigated but they needed help from someone who was willing take action and make sure that arrest were made, even if there were high ranking people involved. There was also a lot more focus on the investigation now that a mass grave had been found. That is why they needed me. I was ordered to contribute in planning the investigation strategy aiming at collecting witnesses and evidences that would lead to the Court to approve the arrest warrants of the mastermind behind the trafficking syndicate.
16. During their investigation, the team had found evidence of one eye-witness of the human trafficking network, Ms. [REDACTED] but they did not know where she was located. She was the wife of a man involved in human trafficking. Her husband had been killed by a rival gang. He had used to take her with him when he was involved in various activities so she knew a lot of information first hand. I undertook the task to find her.
17. One of my investigator colleague, Pol.Lt.Col. [REDACTED] suggested that I should contact Pol.Maj.Gen. D [REDACTED], Commander of Investigation Division of the Provincial Police Region 8 who is also a subordinate but did not work in the same investigation team for information of human trafficking network. However, Pol.Maj.Gen refused to provide any information to me. Afterward, Pol. Col. A [REDACTED] and Pol. Col. Ch [REDACTED] who are members of the Investigation Division of the Provincial Police Region 8 who already began collecting information of past human trafficking network which could have facilitate the current investigation also called and confirmed that they would not provide any information to the team I was working with. This was very frustrating but it is the way things work in Thailand. They were assisting or protecting people above them. Pol.Maj.D [REDACTED] was working in the investigation team led by Pol.Gen. Chakthip Chaijinda, who was a rival to Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] for the position of National Chief. It is possible that they refused to give me information because they wanted Pol.Gen Chakthip to succeed rather than an investigation initiated by Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] or it may be because they were involved in the smuggling and didn't want this exposes.
18. I could not seek a support from the Region 8; therefore, I conducted the investigation by myself and found out that this key witness, Ms. [REDACTED] was residing in Malaysia. My investigation team coordinated with relevant contacts until we could locate and meet with Ms. [REDACTED] to give testimony to the police. Ms. [REDACTED] provided extensive and insight information of the human trafficking network operating in Thailand and revealed that the network has a wide-ranging contacts across several provinces including Ranong, Padang Besar District, Sa-Dao District in Songkhla, and Satun. The information provided by Ms. [REDACTED] pointed out that the network operates starting from the agents based in Malaysia contact agents based in Myanmar and Bangladesh to transport Rohingya from

SPMAMM [Signature]

CB



Myanmar and Bangladesh via Thailand by fishing boats that were altered to accommodate more people. These boats arrived in Thailand via Ranong, Phang-Nga, and Satun province. Those involved in the trafficking network include businessmen who own fishing boats specifically modified to accommodate large numbers of people onboard, military, police officer, local politician, government officials, and traffickers who operate the boats, arranging pick-up cars, guarding jungle camps and transporting food and supplies.

19. I was managing a team of 80 police officers who were gathering information and then it was my responsibility to assess all of the information and decide what was relevant, who we were going to arrest and what evidence was needed to be presented to the court. There were 153 arrest warrants issued as a result of the investigation. We had to attend the court 20 times to issue the arrest warrants and I had to attend court myself 10 of these times when the warrants were in relation to high ranking people.
20. Within a few days of my joining the investigation, arrest warrants were issued in relation to Mr. Banjong Pongpol, the Mayor of Padang Besar District who is the key member of trafficking network; wealthy businessmen from the Ranong province, Mr. Suwan Saengthong, Mr. Piyawat Phongthai aka Ko Yong, Mr. Natthaphat Saengthong aka Ko Mick and Mr. Varakom Molee aka Ko Noen; Mr. Patjuban Angchotiphan aka Ko Tong, a former Chief of the Provincial Administrative Office of Satun who is a wealthy businessman who had closed tie with many Government officials, and also had closed tie with some former members of Parliament, [REDACTED] party.
21. On 31 May, I went to the Nathawee Provincial Court to request for the arrest warrant against Gen. Manas Kongpan, a senior specialist in the Royal Thai Army who was in charge of national security matters in southern Thailand. (The Internal Security Operations Command, Thailand's powerful, military run is equivalent to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The office is under authority of the office of Prime Minister). My subordinates signed the arrest warrants for all the other suspects but I had to sign the arrest warrant for Gen. Manus myself as no-one else was willing to sign the warrant for someone as high ranking and connected as him and I also had to be the one to attend court to convince the judge to issue the warrant. I had to attend court two times to obtain this warrant against Gen. Manus as this was the first time a court had issued a warrant for someone of such high ranking who was still serving in his position and even though I had a lot of evidence the first time, the Court wanted more before they would issue the warrant.
22. The Court approved the arrest warrant based on the banking transaction slips obtained during a search of an alleged trafficker's house which has taken place on 13 May 2015 by a team led by Pol.Col. A [REDACTED], the Deputy Commander of the Provincial Police Region 8. I had ordered this search as part of our joint investigation, however, these papers had not been handed over to my human trafficking team after the search and I had only become aware of this information after reports in the media of the

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*



confiscation of financial evidence. After reading these reports, I had sent an official letter addressed to Pol.Maj.Gen. D [REDACTED] Commander of Investigation Division of the Provincial Police Region 8, requesting for his team to hand over the evidence of the human trafficking to our investigation team. It was with great reluctance that Pol.Col A [REDACTED] handed this evidence over to our team and he later informed us that that the report of that house search and confiscation list were sent directly to the then Deputy Commissioner-General Chakthip Chaijinda who ordered the Region 8 investigation team not to hand over the evidence to our human trafficking investigation team. The evidence included banking transactions slips from the alleged trafficker to Gen. Manas in the amount of 14 million Baht. If the media had not reported about the confiscation of these financial evidence, the investigators would not be able to obtain it and the evidence could have been destroyed. However, instead I was able to get the court to issue an arrest warrant against Gen. Manas.

23. After I had secured the arrest warrant for Gen. Manas, I was contacted by Pol.Col. [REDACTED], a police officer who accompanies and services Gen. Prawit Wongsuwan, the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, and a key person in charge of anti-trafficking policy of the current government. Pol.Col. [REDACTED] said that Gen. Prawit wants to know whether Gen. Manas Kongpan will be released on bail or not when he surrendered himself to the officers. Pol.Col. [REDACTED] expressed that Gen. Prawit wants to see Gen. Manas, a key suspect to be released on bail if surrender. I explained to Pol.Col. [REDACTED] that the human trafficking case is an important case of public interest, other approximately 60 suspects who were arrested around the same time, none of them were released on bail after the bail applications were submitted to the investigators and the Court. This case is a serious crime and of the public interest, the investigator cannot grant the suspects a temporary release because it may damage the ongoing investigation and the public interest of the country.
24. On 3 June, Gen. Manas surrendered himself to Pol.Gen. Somyot Phumphanmuang, the then Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police. However, even though he was a suspect for such a serious crime, Gen. Manas was treated with high respect from senior police officials. It is the usual practice to search someone's house when they are arrested but no one searched his house. He was provided a flight operated by the Office of the RTP from Bangkok to Hat Yai Police Station. There were military officers accompanied him to coordinate with police provide services he needed.
25. Gen. Manas was very upset when he learned that he would not be released on bail. He stated that the then Commissioner-General, Pol.Gen. Somyot Phumphanmuang had allowed him to be released on bail, and was angry that his subordinates would not follow this order. However, the Office of the Attorney General was the only office with the authority to approve bail in this type of case, not the Commissioner General of Police. On that day Gen. Manas threatened police investigators that he would break out of the prison and hurt all the investigators. The next day when he went to court to apply for bail, the court denied his application. He is still in prison now.

*Mr. [REDACTED]*

CB



26. Gen. Manus has many high ranking connections. While Gen. Manus was being questioned by the police investigators, he spoke by phone with Pol.Lt.Gen. T [REDACTED], the then Commander of the Office of the Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police who also has a personal connection with [REDACTED]. Pol.Lt.Gen. T [REDACTED] was a classmate of Gen. Manus while they were studying at the Armed Forces Academy Preparatory School (AFAPS). Pol.Lt.Gen. T [REDACTED] has now been appointed as the Commissioner of the Provincial Police Region 8 since 1 October 2015, and joined the plan to transfer me out of Region 8. Gen. Manus spoke to Gen. T [REDACTED] about how he should respond to the investigation and how he could get out on bail.
27. Even while he was detained at the Nathawee Prison, Gen. Manus was treated differently to others due to his high ranking and connections. He was allowed to walk freely in the compound and was walking around freely while the police brought the key witness, Ms [REDACTED] to the prison to identify suspects. Because he was able to walk around freely, he threatened her in the witness room. This could have put an end to her cooperation but instead she filed a complaint for witness intimidation against Gen. Manus and the court approved this arrest warrant.
28. In addition, on 10 June 15, the mother of Ms. [REDACTED] who is living in Thailand was threatened by a group of people linked to the trafficking network based in Padang Besar District. The mother was told to warn Ms. [REDACTED] not to testify as witness for the human trafficking case. The mother also filed a complaint with the police. The Nathawee Provincial Court approved the arrest warrants against three individuals involved in the alleged intimidation against witness.
29. During the time when my subordinates went to question suspects at the Nathawee Prison, they met with Gen. Manus who asked my colleagues to pass on the message to me that "I am not a lamp without keratin oil, I still have many friends. I will fight to the very end. You should be very careful." My colleagues also conveyed this message to me and warned me to be careful especially when traveling. They fear that I might be attacked or assaulted. They advised me to change the car I use frequently but I answered that I could not change the car because I have only one private car.
30. I also received other warnings about my safety. On 16 July, I received a phone call from Major General S [REDACTED] the Chief of Military Inspector General Department while I was attending a meeting at the Attorney General's office to give information about the evidence I had collected. He reminded me that the supervisors to Gen. Manus are Gen. Prawit Wongsuwan, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense and Gen. Prayuth Chan-Ocha the Prime Minister and warned me that I should stop what I was doing, that my life was in danger. I tried to say to him that my investigation was part of the national agenda and I was doing what I had been assigned to do but he told me that I needed to stop. I was scared after this conversation. Major General S [REDACTED] part

memory. S [REDACTED]

CB



of the military and it would be in his interest for himself and others that I stopped my investigation. It did not feel that this was a friendly warning.

31. And again on 6 August, after a presentation about the progress of human trafficking prosecution to 200 police officers and a specialist on human trafficking from the US, Pol.Maj.Gen. K [REDACTED] the Deputy Commissioner of the Police Strategy Office who worked closely with Gen. Prawit Wongsuwan, the Deputy Prime Minister, came to talk to me. He told me that the army is very upset that I arrested Gen. Manas Khongpan and that Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] will not achieve what he wants if the Army is not happy.
32. The investigation team and I continued to investigate into the Rohingya human trafficking case and press charges against several suspects for money laundering in late August 2015. After we inspected the financial transactions of the alleged traffickers, we found out that the transactions were linked to a few military officials. At that point, my supervisor Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] had already found out on 14 August 2015 that Pol.Gen. Chakthip Chaijinda was appointed to the position of Commission General instead of him and he was trying to negotiate another position with the government. He told me not to seek more arrest warrants especially against military officers, however, my investigation team decided to maintain the independence and impartiality of the investigation and continued to seek more arrest warrants based on the evidence available to us.
33. On 27 August at the Nathawee Provincial Court we sought arrest warrants against three military officers, one navy officers and 45 other suspects. The names of military officers that the Court approved the arrest warrants are as following:
  - i. Colonel Natthasit Maksuwan, Deputy Head of Satun Provincial Internal Security Operation Command (ISOC), (human trafficking only);
  - ii. Captain Wisut Bunnak, military officers under Chum Porn Provincial ISOC (human trafficking and money laundering);
  - iii. Captain Santad Petchnoi, military officers under Chum Porn Provincial ISOC (human trafficking and money laundering);
  - iv. Navy Commander Kampanat Sangthongjeen, Royal Thai Navy Region 3 (human trafficking and money laundering);.
34. After the arrest warrants were approved, we reported to Pol. Gen. [REDACTED] our supervisor, but he was shocked and frightened. He reprimanded me and ordered me to seek cancellation of the arrest warrants from the Court. This would have required me to make a statement to the court about why we wanted to cancel the arrest warrants and I couldn't do this in good faith after just presenting the evidence to the court about why we needed the arrest warrants. Therefore, Pol. Gen. [REDACTED] ordered the investigation team not to disclose the new arrest warrants against military officers to the media. This demonstrated that my supervisor was also under severe pressure from the army.

gmsmsy S/MJ

CB



35. My investigators were able to keep these arrest warrants from public awareness for nearly a month. However, we sent letters to the military units which supervised those military officers requesting the army to bring the military officers to be questioned by the police investigator which caused new anger among the military. In late September Captain Wisut Bunnak surrendered himself to our investigation team. He told the investigation team that he was threatened by Gen. Manas' peer group. They informed him not to surrender to the police. However, Captain Wisut feared that the traffickers might kill him to prevent him from disclosing some information so he felt that he might be safer in police custody.

36. Around this time, in late September 2015, [REDACTED] was also told by the Commander of the Phuket Provincial Police, Pol.Maj,Gen. [REDACTED] that he had learnt from his military officer friends, who were working closely to the Prime Minister Gen. Prayuth Chan O-Cha, that the Prime Minister Gen. Prayuth Chan O -Cha was very upset me. He indicated that the Prime Minister might do something me to stop me doing further work. Gen [REDACTED] was on the same flight as [REDACTED] from Bangkok to Phuket and he was giving [REDACTED] this information as a friendly warning. He said that he would like to help support us but he didn't have the ability to do this. He has since also been posted away from Phuket to Rajaburi Province in Central Thailand. I was very scared when I heard this news from [REDACTED] I had been working very hard and combating human trafficking was part of the national agenda. The Prime Minister had made many announcement in the press about the importance of this work and about needing to arrest whoever was involved. I was disappointed that he was not genuine in what he was saying and I felt betrayed. I was also scared. I had investigated and arrested some very powerful people and now I found out that the Prime Minister did not support my team and myself. He was the most powerful person in the country so he could do whatever he wanted to do to me if he was not happy with me.

37. Our investigation was forced to come to an end at the end of September 2015 even though there was a lot more work to be done because we had no more financial or political support. Our supervisor, Pol.Gen. [REDACTED] had been appointed as the Permanent Secretary to the Office of the Prime Minister, with the position commencing on 1 October 2015. No one had been appointed to replace him and we were concerned that even if anyone was appointed to replace him, that person may interfere with the documents and evidence we had prepared to help the suspects escape prosecution. We had no dedicated financing for the taskforce so the officers that had been working with the taskforce were forced to return to their normal duties as their normal areas were no longer willing to support their work in combating human trafficking. Many of them had already stopped their work on the taskforce from August when Pol.Gen [REDACTED] had not been appointed to the role of Commissioner General.

38. Therefore, on 29 September 2015, the investigation team and I wrapped up the Rohingya human trafficking case and submitted it to the Attorney General. There were 699 folders, 271,300 sheets of paper. This case involved 155 alleged offenders (two alleged offender died before the arrest

mon. S. H. W.

CB



warrants were approved.) 91 suspects were arrested or apprehended and 62 are still at large including two military officers and one navy officer.

39. Although the investigation was wrapped up, there was still a lot of work to do. There were many more people who should have been arrested if the investigation had been allowed to continue, including the current Commissioner General Chakthip who has obstructed justice and brought the justice system into disrepute from the beginning.
40. Although I was prevented from making any more arrests with the disbanding of the taskforce, we still needed to prosecute those involved and I continued to meet with the Attorney General's office and attend the Bangkok Criminal Court until I was forced to leave the country in fear of my life in November 2015. I would have continued gathering evidence and working with the Attorney General's office as much as possible if I had been allowed to remain working in Region 8 and had not been forced to leave the country but now there is no more funding for the taskforce, the officers working on the task force have been returned to their own areas and only the local police in the area must still cooperate with the courts so there have been no more arrests, no more warrants issued and no more investigations.

*Ongoing threats and pressure following the investigation and forced retirement from the Royal Thai Police Force*

41. Even though our investigation had ended, there was still a lot of anger and hostility towards us from the military for the arrests we had made. On 1 October 2015, the new Commissioner of the Provincial Police Region 9, Pol.Lt.Gen. [REDACTED] and investigators in human trafficking cases in Region 9 traveled to meet Lt.Gen. V [REDACTED] the Commander of the Army Region 4. Lt.Gen. V [REDACTED] is in charge of the security forces in the southern region and as the Army is the most powerful authority, it is tradition that the new Commissioner for Police would go to see him to pay his respects. However, instead of being treated with respect, Lt.Gen. V [REDACTED] was demanding to know why the team from Region 9 had arrested his friend, Gen. Manas and how they would dare to do this. It was not an overt threat but it made clear that the military, who had the most authority in the area, were not happy with the work we had done.
42. On 4 October 2015, I attended the welcome reception meeting of Commissioner General Chakthip Chaijinda who had been appointed to that role in August 2015 rather than Pol.Gen. [REDACTED]. After the reception speech, Pol.Gen. S [REDACTED], he told me that the military was upset with me for pursuing arrest warrants against the military and said that he was also angry with me for making the police look bad in front of the military. He was the Commissioner of the Bangkok Metropolitan Police Bureau at that time but he has since been promoted to the position of the Deputy Commissioner-General and is likely to be promoted to be Commissioner in the near future. He is very close to the Deputy Prime Minister Prawit.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*CB*



43. I began to feel that there was a serious threat to my life when an order was issued by Committee of the Office of the Police Commission (OPC) on 21 October 2015 transferring me to the Southern Border Provinces Police Operation Center (SBPPOC). This meeting was chaired by the Gen. Prawit Wongsuwan, the Deputy PM and Minister of Defense as he was assigned by the Prime Minister. The CPO is the committee responsible for human resource management of the police including approving police transferring orders and regulations. The SBPPOC is based in Yala, a southern border province where there is ongoing internal armed conflict between insurgents and security forces for more than 11 years and the area where human traffickers are active. The southern border provinces are the area where military officers are powerful and network of traffickers are strong and influential. There are two military officers and one navy officer who are suspects in this case that are still at large and there is much anger against me and my team by other high ranking military officers, politicians and powerful businesspeople because of what we exposed. Working in the Southern Border area would significantly increase security risks to my life and I was immediately concerned about my safety.
44. According to the official rules and regulations, the transfer order of government officials to the southern border provinces has to be on a voluntary basis. Therefore, it could be considered a violation of these rules to transfer me against my will. In contrast, police officers who might have gain benefit from the traffickers or who had otherwise neglected on their duties in combatting human trafficking, were promoted to be on better positions. For example, the commander of Phang-nga province where Rohingya trafficking flourished was promoted to be a Deputy Commissioner of Provincial police region 8; a deputy commander who was in charge of Padangbazare area, where mass graves were discovered, was promoted to be Commander of Samut Prakarn Province, near Bangkok. None of officers in my investigation team were promoted and I was being forced to go to an area where my life would be at risk.
45. The order would become effective on 30 October 2015. I refused to accept the order as final and on 28 October, I informed an AFP reporter that I plan to quit force if the Commissioner General of Royal Thai Police did not review my posting to this southern border provinces area. A few days later, on 2 November 2015, the Daily News reported that Pol.Gen. Chakthip, Commissioner-General of Royal Thai Police as saying that the request for me to be transferred had been made by Pol.Lt.Gen. T [REDACTED] the Commissioner of the Provincial Police Region 8 (who is a friend of Gen. Manas Khonpan and who Gen. Manas had made a phone call to while he was being questioned at the police station.). I asked Gen. Chakthip Chaijinda to review the transfer order because I fear that my life would be under serious security risks but Gen. Chakthip insisted that the transfer order remains and I must serve the position in the southern border provinces. I also sought help from my former supervisor in the human trafficking case, Gen. [REDACTED] who has been transferred to serve at the Permanent Secretary to the Office of the Prime Minister. I asked him to speak to Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, the Prime Minister about my transfer

*[Handwritten signature]*

*CB*











53. However, later that night I received a call from the assistant to the Commission General stating that Pol.Gen Chakthip wanted to meet with me the next day regarding important matters. When I attended that meeting, I was taken completely by surprise. Pol.Gen. Chakthip came in and sat on the chair on the same side with me and said that "You and I, we don't have anything upsetting each other before, but you must resign and remain silent." I was taken by surprised by his order. I also wonder what happened to the memo to withdraw my resignation that I just signed. Pol.Gen. Chakthip made a phone call to Pol.Gen. Chumpol Manmai, an official who served closely with the Crown Prince and then handed over the phone to me. Pol.Gen. Chumpol said that I must resign and remain silent, exactly like what Pol.Gen. Chakthip said. I was also told to call Air Chief Marshal S [REDACTED] but at the time I called him, he did not pick up. Finally, I sent message to him, informed him what had happened.

54. The Secretary to [REDACTED] was not accepting or returning my call any longer and I was not sure if they had concocted the idea of allowing me to remain as an investigator so it would seem like an insult to the Crown Prince that I had not taken his job offer or if there was something else that they were trying to do. I felt that there was something very suspicious about the whole situation for them to have changed their minds so quickly and I was concerned that it was a plot to accuse me under the *Lese Majeste* laws. I decided that the best thing to do would be to leave Bangkok as quickly as possible so I flew back to my partner in Phuket that night.

#### *Leaving Thailand and Travel to Australia*

55. On 16 November 2015, the Commissioner-General, Pol.Gen Chakthip Chaijinda made an announcement on Thai television that he had approved my resignation. This meant that he had destroyed the withdrawal of my resignation even though I had signed this in front of several witnesses, which was illegal. This confirmed that he had the power and inclination to do whatever he wanted to do regardless of the truth or the law. I was truly afraid of what would happen to me. I knew that I could not trust anyone any longer and that I had nowhere to turn within the country where I would be safe. I knew that I would either be targeted by those involved with the human trafficking to silence me and I worried now that something untrue would be said about me to the Crown Prince about why I didn't take the job offer which would result in me being charged under the *Lese Majeste* laws. I knew that early in November, two people who were previously serving the Crown Prince were accused of violating the *Lese Majeste* laws and died in military custody after being interrogated. No one could protect me from this.

56. [REDACTED] I strongly feared that my life would be at risk if I remained in Thailand any longer. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

mon of SW

CB



57. I knew that I could not go back to Thailand but when I left the country, I only had the thought to save my life, I didn't know what would happen in the future.

[REDACTED]

58.

[REDACTED]

59.

[REDACTED]  
Australia.

60.

[REDACTED]  
in Australia on 5 December.

61.

[REDACTED]

*Ongoing fears on return to Thailand*

62. Since I have left Thailand, the risk to my life has not subsided.

63. There has been a lot of media publicity about my case in Thailand and internationally. I was already known in the media in Thailand because of

*Mr. S. S. S.*

*CB*



my involvement in high profile cases in the country, including this human trafficking case. There was reporting in the media about my work on this case almost every day for the five months, from May – September 2015 while I was running the investigation. There was also a lot of coverage in the media in November when I resigned and when I left the country. When I arrived in Australia, I was contacted by a journalist, [REDACTED] who had worked on the issue of human trafficking in Thailand previously. This is an important matter that is destroying the lives of hundreds of thousands of people's lives and I don't want this issue to disappear from people's thoughts. The government in Thailand is trying to say that since the investigation, the gangs have been destroyed and there is no longer an issue of Rohigya human trafficking in Thailand but this is not the case and I want people to know the truth. This is why I have spoken out in the media about what has happened but this has only made me a greater target for the authorities in Thailand if I return. The Thai Government is also making statements in the media that I have not been threatened, that I am a bad police officer and I am defaming the reputation of our country. It is considered a serious offence to defame the reputation of our country and based on the statements the government is making, I believe that I could be charged with defaming the nation and destroying the national security of the country. The current Prime Minister also passed a law under Article 44 which gives the military the power to arrest anyone who they deem to jeopardise national security or stability. These accusations also increase my fear that I will be falsely accused under the *Lese Majeste* laws or simply made to disappear.

64. Furthermore, the human trafficking case that I have been actively involved in is still ongoing. This matter reaches up the highest levels of government and affects many people including the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, the Interior Minister and the Commissioner General so they do not want me to be there to pursue this further or give evidence. I was essentially forced to resign from my role because they wanted to ensure that I could not continue with the investigation or act on any of the information I had learned. If I was in Thailand, I would still be giving evidence in the court cases on behalf of the Attorney General's office regarding the investigations I undertook and what I witnessed firsthand. The case can run without me being there, the subordinates from my team can be witnesses instead of me but they do not know as much as I do about what happened so the case is stronger with me as the witness.

65. The Thai government has been making statements to the media that there were no threats against me because of my work and that it would be safe for me to go back to Thailand. This is not true. I have outlined above the threats made against me and I would have remained in Thailand if I did not think that there was a serious and immediate threat to my life. There is one report where the Deputy Police Chief S [REDACTED] has said that I only worked on the case for less than 20 days and that I did not have any significant involvement. This is obviously not true. I led the investigation for the five months that we were allowed to investigate and I continue to work with the Attorney General after this to prosecute the cases for the people we arrested. These comments denying my work and the threats

*mmma - 1/11/15*

*CB*



against me highlight how the highest officials in the country are willing to bend the truth for their own ends and how they are willing to go to any lengths to discredit me. This shows that they can do whatever they want to me if I return – arrest me or kill me – because they do not respect the law or the truth.

66. The people who are seeking to harm me are at the highest level of police, military and government in Thailand. They have shown that they do not hold themselves accountable to the law or the rules of the country.

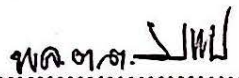
67. Also, although I was a police officer for decades and know many people in high ranking positions, anyone who may support my actions would be putting their lives and careers at risk since the most powerful people in the country are the ones who are targeting me.

68. I cannot live anywhere safely in Thailand. I angered many powerful people when I exposed the corruption in the human trafficking trade in Thailand and arrested people in the military. These people have power and connections throughout the whole country and there is nowhere that I would be able to remain living there safely.

69. I do not have the right to live in any other country. Although I have a Visitor visa to America, I was not aware of the process of seeking asylum until I came to Australia. Since I was already in Australia at that time, it made sense to lodge my application here and I hope that I will be given the opportunity to remain here safely.

70. This Statutory Declaration has been prepared with the assistance of qualified Thai interpreters as required and I confirm that I understand the content of the statement and that it is correct.

I understand that a person who intentionally makes a false statement in a statutory declaration is guilty of an offence under section 11 of the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*, and I believe that the statements in this declaration are true in every particular.

Declarant's signature .....  .....

Declared at Collingwood in the  
State of Victoria this  
13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2016

CB



before me



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

An Australian Legal Practitioner within the meaning of  
the Legal Profession Uniform Law (Victoria).