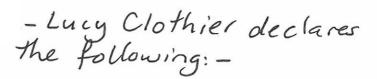
Submission 093
Date Received: 4/3/14

STATUTORY DECLARATION

Mrs Lucy Clothier



Review of 7/9/2013 Election Kingsford Smith Electorate

The management of the election campaign was initially and in the last two weeks up to and after polling day my responsibility as Liberal Party's (LP) Campaign Manager appointed by the LP Kingsford Smith (KS) FEC for candidate Dr Michael Feneley. After the election reports were received from several volunteers acting as Booth Captains, scrutineers and HTV workers at several PPs in the KS electorate. Some of the incidents that led to my concern were:

- Unions supplied funds and workers to the ALP's KS campaign. Comments by ALP volunteers about their extensive corflute campaign were supported by evidence of the vast number erected throughout the electorate.
- The petition/campaign by the ALP Candidate M Thistlethwaite claiming that the LP was responsible for the dismantling of the Prince of Wales Hospital was misleading and dishonest. The reason for the closing of some wards and the hydrotherapy pool was due to funding cuts by the NSW govt after the ALP Federal govt had cut the health funds grant to NSW by \$100 million causing the P of W Hospital Administrator to require his team to live within their budgets and make appropriate cuts to

their facilities. It was an interesting coincidence that the Prime Minister Julia Gilliard granted \$100 million to Adelaide University which shortly after appointed her to a Profesorship.

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- AEC officials at a number of PPs avoided allowing scrutineers from checking identification tags on cardboard ballot boxes before voting started. Others prevented some scrutineers from entering booths, (e.g. Eastlakes) while others refused to allow scrutineers to retain their scrutineers' badges if they left the PP and demanded that they be retained by the AEC PP Mgr who attempted to dissuade other scrutineers from standing behind the AEC officials checking voters as they registered their names in order to obtain voting papers.
- Reports of multiple voting were observed and reported. (e.g. Ms F Zylstra observed at least 3 people coming to vote several times at Maroubra Junction Pre_Poll PP. This was expected after a HTV volunteer at the Pre-poll booth at Maroubra junction on Tuesday 20 August 2013 overheard three ALP HTV volunteers say "There's a large

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number of people voting for Feneley" to which one of his companions replied "Don't worry, 'Vote early vote often' will fix it" or words to that effect. The AEC official in charge, Chris Thompson, was the same man who was in charge of the Clovelly Surf Club joint PP at the November 2007 Federal election, who had said to the three female staff after the counting, "We've won" referring to the ALP candidate Peter Garrett thereby revealing his political bias.

- reports were lodged of OICs "very definitely favouring the ALP". Some instances were observed of the wrong instructions being given to voters about how to fill out the voting papers which, if followed, would make the vote informal. Many scrutineers reported a high number of informal votes.
- AEC officials allowed non party Get Up members to compete for voter attention outside PPs.when they should have been told to depart.

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Get Up volunteers were observed changing T-shirts with the Greens volunteers at some polling place (As photographed in Richmond Electorate in 2004 – apparent failure by AEC to follow up since and complaint lodged with JSCEM 2005).

- There were several instances reported of AEC officials failing to follow the regulations about checking voter's addresses correctly by volunteering the address instead of waiting for the voter to properly identify the address.
- Many of the ballot papers issued were unsigned.
- Bias in favour of the ALP was apparent amongst some AEC workers who instructed some voters holding Liberal Party HTV cards that they only needed to fill in a "1" on the voting paper for their preferred candidate for H of R as for the Senate paper.
- There were ignored ALP workers wearing their party's shirts in the PPs both during the day and at counting whereas Liberal Party workers were told by OICs at PPs that they had to remove any party sign when in the PP.

Declared at Coogle This 25th day of February 2014
Signature.
before meJustice of the Peace
Linda Elsner

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