

THE MENTAL HEALTH CHECK

A verbatim transcript of a police “welfare check” conducted on the Gold Coast on 6 August 2024, in which officers relayed allegations that the subject had threatened to kill members of parliament — while confirming that no criminal complaint had been made and producing no evidence.

DATE	6 AUGUST 2024
LOCATION	GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND
ATTENDING	“MARK” (POLICE) · “JEFF” (POLICE, SILENT) · “TRACY” (MENTAL HEALTH NURSE, GOLD COAST MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE)
RECORDED BY	KONSTANTIN (KOSTA) KONDRATENKO
NAMED THIRD PARTIES	STEVEN MILES (PREMIER) · TOM TATE (MAYOR) · GINA RINEHART / HANCOCK PROSPECTING

● KOSTA ● MARK — POLICE ● TRACY — NURSE ● UNATTRIBUTED

On this transcript. The audio was machine-transcribed (TurboScribe) and is reproduced here with the wording preserved verbatim. Punctuation and capitalisation have been added for readability, the transcription tool’s watermark lines removed, and mistranscribed proper nouns corrected — “Tom Tay / Tom Pate / Tom Taylor” to **Tom Tate**, “Gina Reinhardt” to **Gina Rinehart**, “Hancock Prosper” to **Hancock Prospecting**, “Megan Scanlon” to **Meaghan Scanlon**. Speaker attribution is by best judgment from context; the officers’ rapid, overlapping affirmations (“yeah”, “sure”, “no I understand”) made a small number of turns ambiguous. Flagged passages are marked in red and indexed below.

FLAGGED PASSAGES

01 The allegations, read out: emails “stating that you will kill them”

02 “Photos ... of Steven Miles ... you’re going to put him in a coffin”

03 No criminal complaint made — “raised ... through the chain”

04 Twenty-year-old mental health history surfaced

05 A “warning on the run” about what he posts

06 “That almost sounds like a threat”

07 “Take this as an educational visit”

08 Close to camera: “The setup is in”

KOSTA

Uh, who’s that?

UNATTRIBUTED

It’s the police, mate.

KOSTA

Oh, it’s the police. Yeah. Oh, okay.

MARK

What’s your name?

KOSTA

My name’s Kosta.

MARK

Yeah, is that your real name? What’s your full name?

KOSTA

Kosta Kondratenko.

MARK

That’s the man. Yeah, how you doing, mate? My name’s Mark. Yeah, hi. I brought Jeff and, uh, Tracy with me. Glad we got to catch up with you — we’ve been hanging out in the park here. The reason that we wanted to stop by and have a quick chat is just to double-check to make sure there’s any issues that you’re experiencing at the moment we could possibly help you out with. We’ve been receiving some information that you’ve got some issues with surrounding businesses, and also other people that you’ve been making some comments to and stuff like that.

KOSTA

What kind of comments?

MARK

Comments that you wanted to hurt them and harm them.

KOSTA

Who said that?

MARK

Yeah, I can look them all up in a sec, but basically what I'm saying to you is that there's been people around who are concerned for you and your mental health. Do you feel like there's anything that you wanted to discuss with us today that we could possibly assist you with?

KOSTA

No.

MARK

I'm not here to act on any offenses that you've committed — we're not here to charge you with any offenses or anything like that. This is literally a personnel chat to try and help you out.

KOSTA

Yeah, no — I mean, the statement that I've said to other people, that I've hurt somebody, that's a very serious accusation. Like I said...

MARK

Sometimes when we receive this information, it can be second and third hand, so that's part of the reason I wanted to speak to you personally, to double-check to see if any of that was true. You had those feelings towards these people — they were mainly members of parliament and stuff like that, that you said you wanted to take down and that you were going to deal with them. I can look up the exact quotes. Tom Tate, the mayor — have you got any issues with Tom?

KOSTA

Well, Tom Tate — I have a channel called Sunlight. Quest...

MARK

Okay.

KOSTA

...where I talk about certain things that are, you know, political type of conversation.

MARK

Yeah. And what's that platform — it's like videos and stuff like that? YouTube?

KOSTA

Have you received — what kind of information have you received?

MARK

Just that those comments have been made, that you're making threats against Tom and also that you're going to take him down and stuff like that.

KOSTA

Take him down?

MARK

Yeah, mate, I'm going to have to double-check exactly, but like I said, these are the general consensus of the comments that you've been making towards these members of parliament, and also, uh — what was — Gina Rinehart, I believe, is another person you've got an issue with, or something like that. Is that correct?

KOSTA

Yeah, based on what comments? Like I said, I'm gonna have to read them all...

MARK

But I'm trying to get a vibe from you to understand if there is any issues that you have with these people, before I go digging through and start reading quote for quote what I've been told. Do you feel that you have any issues? Well, so — let's talk more about the platform that you have. What was it called again?

KOSTA

Uh, Sunlight.Quest.

MARK

Okay, right. And so what's the main content of your, um, your channel?

KOSTA

Well, it's just content about the homeless situation, stuff about my own experience and stuff like that. There's no threats on that particular channel. I talk about certain things — as far as I'm aware, it's all legal stuff. I'm quite surprised that Gina Rinehart is raised and Tom Tate is raised. I've never said anything — I mean, there was one video where I said a couple of things, but it was never in a way that could be in any way implied to be, you know... I'm actually quite surprised, because I've never said anything even remotely close to anything like that. So the fact that there's these allegations that I'm somehow taking down Tom Tate, I'd be...

MARK

Some people can interpret comments that get made in different ways.

KOSTA

Yeah.

MARK

And so what sorts of things have you said that you think maybe could be misconstrued?

KOSTA

Well, I don't want to say — all my channel is online. There's nothing that is secret there. So the fact that something about Tom Tate or Gina Rinehart — there's nothing that I've said publicly that bad, there's nothing I've said privately that's bad. So if you're saying somebody around the neighborhood has said something that I've said — I just think it's very strange that you guys would visit me based on somebody in the neighborhood saying something about Tom Tate. But again, all my videos are online. So I don't know what to say.

MARK

Do you feel that you could [use] assistance from any sort of...

KOSTA

Assisting in what way?

MARK

Um, whether it be with — obviously housing. That's obviously an issue for you at the moment. What's your living situation?

KOSTA

Yeah, well, the PSLO team is aware of my situation. I've been in contact with them. They have never offered any support. They've also never replied back to many of my emails.

MARK

So you're in contact with them?

KOSTA

Well, like, I sent an email about a week and a half ago. This is all on my email thread — the email thread can be checked. They never got back to me. They've never offered anything, never contacted me. They have my email address; it's in the footer of my emails. So as far as a mental health check goes — have you guys been looking for me for some time?

MARK

Only to speak to you about what we're talking to you today.

KOSTA

That's my awareness, yeah.

MARK

Me personally, I haven't been hunting you down.

KOSTA

Yeah, no, I'm not saying yourself, obviously.

MARK

When we have these resources available to us to assist people, we have different taskings that come up at different times which enable us to speak to people like yourself. So the only way that we can offer you those services is if you wish to engage with those services and provide us with information which is potentially going to help us help you.

KOSTA

Well, I'm not sure what information I could provide you.

01 ALLEGATIONS READ OUT — NO EVIDENCE PRODUCED

MARK

And this is up to you what you want to tell us. But if you're happy, I'll just quickly run through this and give you a base upon why we're here today. So, persons have stated that they believe that your behavior has become increasingly concerning because it's become threatening and violent in nature. It's been reported that you've sent emails and videos to numerous persons stating that you will kill them. You recently sent an email to Hancock Prospecting that included contact numbers, expressing — and so their communication has been towards us saying that they're concerned about your behavior as well. So, do you know who Hancock Prospecting [is]?

KOSTA

Well, I have the record of the emails, and in fact, in the emails I've clearly stated that they can quite easily say 'not interested.' Now, in terms of saying you've said 'kill them' — is that what Hancock Prospecting is making the allegation [about]?

MARK

I'm not sure if that's part of that same one. It's just in the same passage. But once again, I don't have direct — I'm not the one who's received those emails.

KOSTA

No, I understand.

MARK

But yeah, I'm attending your dwelling here today to discuss with you concerns that other people have raised about your behavior.

KOSTA

So without any hard evidence...

MARK

No, I understand. So we're here to try and get from you an indication that, yes, you may need some assistance, and we're happy to provide that to you.

KOSTA

Yeah, no, I completely understand — but there's been an allegation made that I've made a death threat, which is a very serious allegation. Like I said, I can't provide you with any more details than what's written on here. And I refute that very seriously.

MARK
And I said to you at the start, mate, we're not here to make any sort of criminal advances.

KOSTA
No, I'm not saying that you are.

03 NO CRIMINAL COMPLAINT — "RAISED THROUGH THE CHAIN"

MARK
Yeah. I'm just saying that the person who's received that threat has not made a criminal complaint against you, but they've made a concern and raised it eventually through the chain to us — that you potentially need some assistance with your fixations and your behavior on these particular — well, you've mentioned Gina Rinehart...

KOSTA
I have the email thread for Gina Rinehart and to Hancock Prospecting, and in that email thread, which I'm happy to provide, there has never been a threat. Okay? There has never been — definitely not a death threat. I don't believe there was even — actually, I would say there's not even an insinuation of anything of that nature.

02 THE "COFFIN" ALLEGATION

MARK
Have you ever sent any photos to anybody of Steven Miles stating that you're going to put him in a coffin?

KOSTA
No, I've never — and again, that's an allegation that I refute completely. If somebody has stated that, I would love to have the email thread of that allegation. Because if you have a situation where now I'm hearing allegations that I'm putting people [in coffins] — these are very serious accusations. I refute them completely. And if there was evidence that I had of that and I wanted to pursue a criminal investigation, then this communication that we're having now would be completely different.

MARK
Yeah, no, I understand that. At this time, it's a welfare scenario where we're trying to provide you with assistance. You do understand that? This is not me trying to hold you accountable criminally for something.

KOSTA
I'm not saying that — no, no. What I'm basically saying is that you've raised serious allegations against my character. You've stated that I've threatened death to Gina Rinehart, that I've threatened to take down Tom Tate in a way that could be implied as physically bad. You've also made the allegation that I've stated I want to put Steven Miles in the ground. And so, even though you're not here on a criminal basis — and I understand that, and you're in a welfare check — the fact that those allegations are being made is very serious, and I wanted to refute those.

MARK
And we've given you the opportunity to do that. So, saying that you haven't made those comments and that you haven't said those things — is that correct?

KOSTA
What I'm saying is — not only have I not made those things, I'm saying that whoever has told you about those allegations, there is no evidence backing up those allegations.

MARK
I'm not going to say there isn't...

KOSTA
But I'm going to say right now that I don't have the evidence other than a report that's been made — secondhand or thirdhand.

MARK

Okay, so if those people did want to make the criminal complaints, then yes, they could put forward that evidence, and then this conversation would be different. You do understand — I'll say it again, we're not here for a criminal purpose.

KOSTA

Sure. No, I completely understand. Of course.

MARK

And we're happy to leave you alone for the rest of the afternoon.

KOSTA

Yeah.

TRACY

Hi, I'm Tracy. I'm not police, I'm a nurse, and I work with the mental health team. Part of my role is that sometimes the police ask me to come along if a person's got a history of mental health issues or something like that, to offer support. So that's why I'm here. I know you've been linked with our homeless outreach team before.

KOSTA

Well, I've been in contact with the PSLO team for over six months — for eight months. They have my contact details, and that's why I don't believe that this visit is — it seems like the claim being made is that this visit is, like, for my own good. But the reason I don't believe that is because there are allegations being made against me that I'm threatening people, I'm threatening to kill people.

TRACY

Because you said you didn't make those allegations.

KOSTA

No, I understand — but the fact is — yeah, no, I understand that. I've cleared that up, and I understand what the gentleman is saying: that the reason you guys are here is not because of, you know, criminal [matters].

TRACY

So they've contacted the police, I assume, saying that they've received these emails. But you're saying you didn't do that, so that's fine.

KOSTA

Well, I'm saying if they're making those allegations — prove it, or retract those comments. I would like Steven Miles to retract those comments. I would like Tom Tate to retract those comments. And I would like Gina Rinehart to retract those — and [stop] leveraging the police. And I know this gentleman is doing a great job, and I'm not in any way implying that they're bad. But leveraging the police to come out here and make those statements is very serious. These gentlemen are receiving information, and I would like the Premier, Steven Miles, the Mayor, Tom Tate, and Gina Rinehart — and by the way, this is nothing to do with Gina Rinehart — I would like those people to retract those comments.

MARK

But you can understand why we've turned up — when comments like that, when things are suggested to the police that there's some concerns, the police just have to come.

KOSTA

Yeah, sure, I understand.

MARK

And I hope I didn't come across as in any way accusatory. The reason why I reiterated several times why we were here was I didn't want you to misinterpret our visit, I didn't want you to get on the back foot. I feel like you were defending yourself against those comments. I wanted to give you the opportunity to understand that we're here to assist you, if there is something that you think we can assist you with. That was my reason.

KOSTA

Sure, sure, I understand.

TRACY

And the reason I'm here is just to see — is your mental health okay? Can I, on behalf of the Gold Coast Mental Health Service, offer you some support? Not to intrude on you or accuse you of anything, but just to simply come in and see — are you okay? Is it something that I can get assistance for you with, given that we've had contact with you before in the past with the homeless team? You've said then that you've had previous mental health history in New South Wales, and that you've had some diagnosis in the past. So it's just really to come and say, are you okay? Can I help you with anything?

KOSTA

Well — as far as the mental health situation, that's been over 20 years. The fact that it's been dug up is quite — but okay, that's fine.

TRACY

But we saw you in 2023 — in October 2023 the homeless team saw you. That's where you mentioned it yourself, that you had a mental health history in New South Wales and that you had a previous diagnosis of bipolar affective disorder. You said that back then, in October last year. So that's why I'm just mentioning it — it's not that I'm digging up things from the past. You didn't actually indicate a time frame at the time to the clinicians who spoke to you. You couldn't actually [reach] the homeless mental health team — it's called HOT.

KOSTA

Oh, okay.

TRACY

Yeah. And they often go around like Rosies, and I know...

KOSTA

Yep, yep, I've spoken to them, and I actually talked to them about a situation with a landlord and some fraud that was going on there. They stated that they didn't want to continue on that conversation. The reason I'm being a little bit defensive, I should also mention, is that I believe it was two days ago, the police had actually come here — and these guys were very professional as well — on a tip stating that somebody had run through here in a black jacket and had been reported for theft or something like that. It was very suspicious that they had come and been told that tip, because nobody would run here in a black jumper. And it happened one day after my tent was taken — my tent was taken by the PSLO team. And the fact that I'm doing videos on the homeless situation, which is a big issue in the country, and now I'm having you guys, the police, receive information that I'm making threats towards Steven Miles and Tom Tate — quite serious accusations — it's quite concerning to me.

MARK

Sure, sure, I understand.

KOSTA

So I mean — I'm in contact with the PSLO team as well.

MARK

So you've got your supports around you then?

KOSTA

Well, the PSLO team was designed by the Gold Coast Council as an interface between the homeless. So I understand that you're from a different department, but I just wanted to be clear, because I know the PSLO team is in contact with the police — because they talked about getting the police. I haven't spoken to them at all.

MARK

Yeah, gotcha. Okay. And as far as I'm aware, they haven't spoken to these guys. So when the issues become raised, when comments get made — whether it be through email, an online portal or whatever — they filter their way back, not to my desk personally; obviously I've got supervisors and people who send out taskings, and they try and work out, how can we best assist this person? We're not going to go marching down knocking doors...

KOSTA

Sure, sure, I'm not saying that.

MARK

Yeah, I'm not implying that at all. [It's] let's say this guy needs some help. That's why we're here. Plain and simple, black and white, there's no two streets. It's just — do you need any help? And I guess we're putting the ball back in your court and saying, do you think you need any help? And that's why Tracy's saying to you, what can we do to help you?

KOSTA

Well, if you guys have accommodation options for the homeless — this is one of the things that I talk about [on] Sunlight.Quest — because you guys have come and you have the best intentions, but you see the homeless all over the Gold Coast. People who don't have a safe place to sleep, people that are getting agitated. I've had the police come through here, who were very professional, but they were acting off a tip saying you match a description and all of this stuff — they put me on my hands and put handcuffs on me. And so these are the things that agitate people. So if you guys don't have accommodation, that's fine. I'm not having a go at anything. But, for example, broken telephone numbers — the fact that there's homeless charities that have been funded hundreds of millions of dollars, and you tell them the phone number is broken and they do nothing about it. You contact the Department of Housing — who do you contact when you tell them? I have a video right now that I worked on with Adam Watson; we contacted Premier Miles, he's forwarded that on to the honorable Meaghan Scanlon, who's the housing minister. We talked to...

UNATTRIBUTED

[They] got back to you?

KOSTA

Yes, they got back to me. The Department of Housing gets back to me — they said it's being passed around, and they don't do anything. They don't change the phone numbers. And so, to come here and act like — and I'm not saying this is based on you — but it just seems to me that this could be a reprisal for the fact that I'm actually creating this type of content. Because if allegations are being made that I've created threats by emails, then that has to be backed up. So it's all that background stuff.

MARK

See, that we didn't know.

KOSTA

No, I understand. And of course — I'm not having a go at you guys, but surely Blind Freddy could see: if the allegation being made is that an email has been sent with a damning, physical threat against a politician, Tom Tate, Steve Miles — they should be willing, they should be able to provide that and back it up. Because if they're not willing to provide and back it up, then what they're doing is they're leveraging the police. That's my suggestion on that.

05 A "WARNING ON THE RUN" ABOUT WHAT HE POSTS

MARK

I'm only gonna speculate and say that they're probably in a position where they're happy to try and assist you before they prosecute. So if they did want to prosecute, then they probably would supply emails, they probably would supply us with every bit of evidence that they possibly had — and like I said to you before, this chat would be different. They haven't, to my knowledge. So that's why the extension of the assistance is before charging you with any offenses — and also a warning on the run, almost, to just be wary of the stuff that you do say and the stuff that you do possibly post, that could be misinterpreted by others, especially people in roles such as parliamentary, and that you could find yourself in trouble more than a mental health side of things. Does that make sense?

06 "THAT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE A THREAT"

KOSTA

Well — and not to be rude — but that almost sounds like a threat, that I shouldn't be able to speak my...

MARK

No, no — and I'm not saying that's what you're saying.

KOSTA

But what I'm saying is, if there's been an allegation made — a very serious allegation towards me, that I've threatened to put Steven Miles in the ground — these are very serious. Someone is coming now...

07 "TAKE THIS AS AN EDUCATIONAL VISIT"

MARK

Yeah. Take this as an educational visit as well — as to say: raise your point, do whatever you got to do, [but] be mindful of how you do that, and be mindful of how it could be interpreted in respects to crossing the line of it being an offense, as opposed to it being someone who's down on their luck and struggling with life at the moment. Does that make sense? We all have to do that. You know, we've all had issues with different things in the past, but we all have to be mindful with how we communicate — and that's all that the police...

KOSTA

No, I completely understand. I'm just — not saying you can't have freedom of speech, but it's just...

MARK

Sometimes maybe the way you might word things, just so that you don't cross the line, so that you don't get yourself in any kind of trouble that's not warranted for you.

KOSTA

No, of course. And you're obviously doing a good job, doing it for people who need it, so of course you're fighting the cause.

MARK

Oh, of course.

KOSTA

And again, I appreciate you guys, I know you have to do this as procedure, and I just wanted to clarify to this gentleman's comments — I have never said anything that could be misconstrued in any way. That's just my statement. And I understand that you've gotten that information. You've said there's no accommodation options. I'm in contact with the PSLO team, they have my details, so the reality is they could pick up the phone and call me — and yet they choose to leverage the police to come and do an on-site visit.

TRACY

So, do you have a phone that works?

KOSTA

Yeah.

TRACY

Okay. Would you like me to give you the number for the mental health team?

KOSTA

Well, again — there's this allegation that I have some mental health issues, but I'm not sure what I've actually done.

TRACY

Issues aren't just — mental health issues can be a lot of things. People in stress, people anxious, people in crisis — it can be a lot of things.

KOSTA

But the thing is — mentally ill...

TRACY

No, I'm not saying that.

KOSTA

You're insinuating that. But you've got a homeless situation in the Gold Coast, right? And the idea that you're visiting people with police and making allegations that they're threatening to kill people — it just seems to me like there's a concerted effort to make me appear like I'm crazy. And I'm saying, if there's an allegation made like that from a member of parliament, they should back that up.

MARK

I understand. We're not coming [back] for the rest of the afternoon. You happy with that? This doesn't need to go any further.

KOSTA

Yeah, yeah, no, I understand.

MARK

Please be aware that we came with good intentions.

KOSTA

Yeah, no, and I understand, of course.

MARK

All I can stress to you is that if you maintain that there are no issues with needing any assistance — mental health, whatever it may be — just keep that sort of mentality of, okay, well, I've got to do the right thing.

KOSTA

Of course, of course, 100[%]. And I appreciate that you guys are doing a great job.

MARK

Yeah, no, of course.

KOSTA

And I'm always available to speak anytime. The PSLO team has my contact details. And, you know, I appreciate you guys being so professional. Thank you. Thank you.

MARK

Thank you.

08 CLOSE TO CAMERA — "THE SETUP IS IN"

KOSTA — TO CAMERA

Hey — so I'm just going to make a video on my thing, I'm talking on the video, okay? So — Steven Miles and Tom Tate, you've just heard that, apparently, I've sent you threatening emails. What are the threatening emails I've sent? Because that's what the police are saying. So if you haven't got any of those threatening emails, then what's happening is you guys are leveraging the police against me. Now, the police are doing a great job, I'm not having a go at them — they've done everything — but the reality is somebody has stated that to them. There were specific things that have been said: putting Steven Miles on the ground, this and that, 'I'm gonna kill this person.'

And then coming over and saying, 'Oh, you're crazy,' or 'We're doing a mental health check on you' — and then creating these stories. So that's what I mean by a setup. The setup is already in. Right now you've seen the police come through before, where they said there's a person that matches the description. You've seen the police come through — match the description. And, by the way, these guys are doing what they're told to do — this is not me having a go at them. But you can see, slowly, there's this criminalization. Now they come in, they say, 'Look, we're doing a mental health check' — that's fine. I have no issue about the mental health check. What I do have an issue with is these allegations. Apparently I've threatened Gina Rinehart, apparently I've threatened Steven Miles, apparently I've threatened Tom Tate. And what I will say is, if those allegations are being made — keep in mind, these aren't just things I've said on the street. They're saying I've said that in digital communication. So if I have said those things in digital communication, please back it up. And I want to remind you one thing as well: this is the 6th of August 2024. I want you to watch this space. I have no criminal charges. I have done nothing wrong. I have never sold drugs, never bought drugs, never hurt anybody. But the setup is in. So when you watch this in four months' time, if there's some kind of bullshit criminal charge that I did this or that, or that person said this or that — this is why you need a camera. It is bullshit. The setup is in. You heard them say, 'Oh, you've emailed somebody saying this.' What did I say? Okay.

— END OF TRANSCRIPT —