Brief of Evidence of Paul Arthur Campbell – 603 and 605 Colombo Street

I, PAUL ARTHUR CAMPBELL of Auckland, Structural Engineer, state:

- 1. I hold a BSc, BE (Civil) (Hons). I am a member of the Institution of Professional Engineers of New Zealand, and am a Chartered Professional engineer. I have 14 years experience as a Structural Engineer. From 1997 to the present I have been employed by Opus International Consultants Limited ('Opus') and hold the position of Principal Structural Engineer. I am a member of the New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering (NZSEE), and a member of the Structural Engineering Society New Zealand (SESOC) of which I am also a member of the Management Committee. I am a past chairman of the Auckland Structural Group (ASG) 2005 2008.
- 2. From 27 December 2010 to 22 February 2011 I was seconded to the Christchurch City Council ('the Council) to carry out inspections under the direction of its Building Recovery Office ('BRO'). The Council warranted me for this purpose and I held a warrant card confirming this.
- 3. The inspections I carried out for the Council and which are the subject of this inquiry were all reinspections of buildings that had previously been inspected by other engineers or building inspectors. The inspections I carried out were limited in scope and generally involved only exterior observations. They were not detailed structural engineering evaluations. Nor did they involve calculations of structural capacity or strength assessment, and I was not provided with building plans or drawings.
- 4. My brief of evidence [WIT.CAM.0002] relating to 116 Lichfield Street contains evidence of a general nature relating to the building reinspection process after the September 2010 earthquake and aftershocks. I do not intend to repeat that evidence but it remains relevant to the other buildings that I have been asked by counsel assisting the Commission to comment on.

603 Colombo Street

- 5. I do not recall the date on which I completed an Engineers Re-inspection of Damaged Buildings form in respect of the property at 603 Colombo Street but according to a chronology prepared by counsel assisting the Commission, it was around 16 February 2011.
- 6. The re-inspection was directed by the Council although I do not now remember exactly why I was requested to carry out the re-inspection.
- 7. I prepared a report of the reinspection [BUI.COL603.0038.36]. I recorded in the report that it was not possible to access the building at 603 Colombo Street due to protective fencing that was in place around the property. I was not responsible for the fencing around the property and do not know who was.
- 8. My notes in the report state that there was bad cracking to the Mollett Street elevation.
- 9. On 14 February 2011, two days before my inspection of 603 Colombo Street, I inspected the building at 601/601A Colombo Street which was the next building south of 603 Colombo Street, across Mollett Street. I considered that the cordoning was appropriate for that property and it appears from my report on 603 Colombo Street that I reached the same conclusion for the cordoning near that building. The hazards presented by 601 and 603 Colombo Street were similar in that the side walls of each building running along Mollett Street were cracked. The cordoning prevented access to this part of Mollett Street both at the Colombo Street end and further down Mollett Street.
- 10. The Colombo Street frontage of numbers 601/601A and 603 was cordoned off with the fencing extending into Colombo Street.
- 11. To my knowledge, my inspection on or about 16 February 2011 was the only inspection I carried out of this property and I was not involved in any further action in relation to the building.

WIT.CAM.0003.3

605 Colombo Street

12. On or about 2 February 2011 I carried out an inspection of a property at 605 Colombo

Street and completed an Engineers Re-inspection of Damaged Buildings form [BUI.COL603-

613.0001.27].

13. There was no access to the building because it was locked. I was aware that there had

been a Level 1 assessment on 26 December 2010 by another inspector identified as

'Nilsson' who apparently viewed the building from a cherry picker. I am now aware that

another Opus engineer, Tony Raper, was also involved in that inspection. They do not

appear to have recommended cordoning outside 605 Colombo Street.

14. On the re-inspection form I noted a question mark beside the "protection fencing

required" field. I do not now remember why I did that. From my external observation I did

not see any fall hazard that required a cordon. My observation in the general comments

field of the report that there was no evidence of work being carried out indicates that I

may have been instructed simply to report on the issue of whether work had been carried

out.

Dated 30 January 2012

Paul Campbell