

Under **THE COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ACT 1908**
In the matter of the **CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKES ROYAL COMMISSION
OF INQUIRY INTO THE COLLAPSE OF THE CTV
BUILDING**

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF ALAN NOEL EDGE

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BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF ALAN NOEL EDGE

1. My full name is Alan Noel Edge. I reside in Weedons, Christchurch. I am director and CEO of Southern Demolition & Salvage Limited ("**Southern Demolition**").
2. Southern Demolition is a demolition contracting company based in Christchurch.
3. Following the earthquake on 22 February 2012, I was appointed by CERA to manage the process of making safe buildings around the city that had been damaged in the earthquake. I held this role for around 2 months until the streets were clear and all necessary urgent demolitions had been completed.
4. On 22 February 2012 I was at Southern Demolition's offices in Mowbray Street when the earthquake struck. A short time later, I received telephone calls from the Fire Service and Police asking for Southern Demolition to mobilise gear to the CTV Building site because of the collapse.
5. Around two hours after the earthquake struck, I arrived at the CTV Building. I arrived with four operators, 2 high reach diggers and a 30 tonne excavator.
6. The exposure of the structural elements of the building to the effects of fire, water and the mechanical disturbance varied in different parts of the building. When I first arrived at the site, a fire was already smouldering. I could only see smoke at that time and it was localised to the lift shaft area.
7. On that day, as time went on, flames became visible around the lift shaft area and smoke spread more widely across the debris, indicating that the fire was burning underneath. At its peak, I estimate 1/3 of the building footprint was either in flame or smouldering.
8. The fire was fought with water applied by monsoon bucket and, later, by hose. I cannot be sure of the time, but it was still daylight on the first day. I stayed at the CTV Building site for about 19 hours. I went home to sleep for two to three hours and then returned to the CTV site for another 18 or 19 hours.
9. When I returned, the fire was still smouldering widely across the debris, but I do not recall seeing flames. I cannot recall whether fire fighting was still

taking place. When rubble was cleared from this position, charred furniture was visible underneath, confirming that the fire had travelled some distance from the lift shaft under the main rubble.

10. The fire continued to smoulder for a few days.
11. The demolition Southern Demolition carried out was not done with the purpose of preserving materials for later investigation. The concern was with finding survivors and bodies. Because of this concrete elements could have been damaged in the course of removal.

Dated this 25th day of June 2012



A N Edge