

**INQUIRY INTO UNSOLVED MURDERS AND LONG-TERM  
MISSING PERSONS CASES IN NEW SOUTH WALES  
BETWEEN 1965 AND 2010**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially  
Confidential

Subject: Case of Janine Vaughan (Bathurst, NSW, 7 December 2001)

I wish to make a submission regarding the disappearance of Janine Vaughan from Bathurst, NSW, on 7 December 2001. Although I am not a direct family member, I have followed this case very closely over time and hold serious concerns about aspects of the investigation.

It is deeply troubling that, more than 24 years later, Janine Vaughan remains missing and her family continues to live without answers. Cases such as this highlight the need for renewed scrutiny, modern investigative techniques, and greater institutional accountability.

In particular, I believe that the original CCTV footage associated with this case should be formally re-evaluated. Advances in technology since 2001 may allow for improved clarity, enhanced detail, and potentially the identification of information that was not previously visible or recognised.

I believe there is significantly more information contained within it than has not been fully examined or acknowledged. This raises concerns that critical evidence may have been overlooked or insufficiently analysed at the time.

I also wish to raise a serious concern that this case does not appear to be a random or chance abduction. Based on publicly available information and the circumstances surrounding Janine Vaughan's disappearance, it is reasonable to question whether individuals closely known to her may have been involved or may at least hold relevant information.

In this regard, it is concerning that some individuals who were reportedly close to Janine Vaughan in the months leading up to her disappearance do not appear to have been thoroughly investigated. Any gaps in this area could represent missed opportunities to uncover critical evidence.

Furthermore, it is concerning that the burden of pursuing answers appears to have fallen so heavily on Janine Vaughan's family. Families should not be left in the position of effectively investigating serious crimes themselves. This not only places emotional strain on loved ones but also risks important lines of inquiry being missed without adequate institutional support.

## Key Concerns and Recommendations

### 1. Reassessment of CCTV Evidence

- Conduct a comprehensive re-analysis of all CCTV footage using modern forensic and enhancement technologies.
- Engage independent experts if necessary to ensure no detail is overlooked.

## 2. Expanded Investigative Review

- Re-examine all persons known to Janine Vaughan in the months leading up to her disappearance.
- Ensure that all relevant individuals were appropriately interviewed, assessed, and, where necessary, re-investigated using modern techniques.

## 3. Case Review and Oversight

- Implement an independent review of the original investigation to identify any gaps or missed opportunities.
- Ensure transparency and accountability in how historical cases are revisited.

## 4. Support for Families

- Provide structured, ongoing support to families of missing persons.
- Ensure families are kept informed and are not left to pursue investigative avenues on their own.

## Conclusion

The case of Janine Vaughan represents not only a personal tragedy but also a broader systemic issue in how long-term missing persons cases are handled. There is a clear need for renewed attention, particularly where new technologies may uncover previously hidden evidence.

I respectfully urge the Inquiry to consider this case to be re-investigated and used as an example of why re-investigation, broader suspect consideration, technological re-analysis, and stronger institutional responsibility are essential in delivering justice and answers.

Janine Vaughan deserves justice and to be returned to her loving family.