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This document has been redacted for Public Interest Immunity claims made by Victoria Police. These claims are not yet resolved.



Crime Department
14/412 St Kilda Road
Melbourne 3004

Ms Nicola Gobbo
PII Street,
Port Melbourne, 3207

Dear Nicola,

I am writing to you to express my concerns about your current status as a prosecution witness regarding the current Paul Dale matters which are being prosecuted by the Commonwealth DPP. I have discussed this with Detective Senior Sergeant Boris Buick, management from the Driver Taskforce and the Witness Security Unit.

On 17 October 2011 you forwarded a letter to Senior Sergeant Buick expressing your fears and concerns regarding the requirement to appear as a prosecution witness. I've read this letter and agree that Victoria Police do have a duty of care for prosecution witnesses. I'm advised that historically on numerous occasions you have met with PII where PII your proposed entry to witness protection program could not be agreed upon. Most recently, I believe on 3 November 2011 you again met with PII and again PII could not be resolved.

As you are aware both the Witness Protection Act and the Witness Protection Program have PII conditions and these are in place to ensure the safety of protected witnesses. There are both legislative and safety issues which restrict Victoria Police acquiescing to your terms and conditions.

It is incumbent on Victoria Police to ensure of witness security is assessed and addressed. In your case the PII but unfortunately PII unless you enter the witness protection program. You have made it clear that you will not be entering the program PII PII.

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Victoria Police are not willing to continue to accept the responsibility for the risk surrounding your status as a prosecution witness. To that end we have met with the Director of the Commonwealth DPP on 8 November 2011 and advised him of the unacceptable level of risk that exists surrounding your status as a witness. I stress that this risk would be manageable if you were entered into the witness protection program. The Director has reluctantly agreed to withdraw you as a prosecution witness based on our advice on your risk levels as a witness.

Whilst your terms and conditions to enter the witness protection program remain unchanged I can't envisage Victoria Police again engaging with you regarding any witness testimony.

Once you have received this letter I don't envisage a need for you to contact Senior Sergeant Buick and I have instructed Senior Sergeant Buick that he no longer has a need to initiate contact with you.

I believe the original arrangement put in place was for Inspector John O'Connor to be a central point of contact for Victoria Police.

Yours sincerely



Doug Fryer

Detective Superintendent

8 November 2011