Our reference AG

Your reference

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Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth Port Moresby

5 May 2020

By email: howard.rapke@rcmpi.vic.gov.au Howard Rapke Solicitors Assisting the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants PO Box 18028 Melbourne VIC 3001 Contact Abigail Gill (03) 9672 3262 Email: abigail.gill@corrs.com.au

Dear Howard

# **Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants**

We refer to our correspondence dated 1 May 2020. This letter provides a further update.

#### 1 Statements

Statements have now been produced to the Royal Commission for Paul Rowe, Jim O'Brien and Gavan Ryan.<sup>1</sup>

We have also requested a Notice to Produce for Tim Johns' statement and this statement is ready to be produced once we have been provided with an NTP.

Further, we request a Notice to Produce for a statement prepared by Acting Commander Paul Millett, who has signed his statement this evening.

We note the Commission's request for a statement to be provided by Dale Flynn and Russell Fletcher. These statements are well advanced and we expect to produce them (subject to receipt of Notices to Produce) tomorrow (Wednesday 6 May 2020).

We also consider that the Commission would be assisted by a statement from an officer from the Special Projects Unit. A draft statement is being prepared and we are endeavouring to have it finalised tomorrow also.

#### 2 Production of TI materials

Production of materials obtained under TI warrants has been ongoing since our last update and we will continue to make production of this material in tranches (pursuant to Notice to Produce 002 category 7(8)) as it is identified and extracted from Victoria Police IT systems. The first tranche of material obtained pursuant to 'Other Warrants' will be made this evening.

We understand that extraction of this data to date has focused on calls to mobile phone numbers that are known to have been used by Ms Gobbo. The extraction of call log summaries has been prioritised as this is the most efficient way to identify potentially relevant calls. The focus will now shift to other phone numbers associated with Ms Gobbo.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Noting Gavan Ryan's statement does not concern TI materials.

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As the production of this material is being made in tranches, Victoria Police intends to undertake a reconciliation of the material that has been produced to ensure that relevant call log summaries, audio and any available transcripts have been produced to the Royal Commission. We also intend to link the materials in a particular tranche of material to a particular warrant number at the time of the production. The reconciliation report will be produced to the Royal Commission.

As noted in previous correspondence, should the Commission identify particular calls from the call log summaries or audio, where there is no transcript available, Victoria Police will make arrangements for a transcript to be prepared and produced.

## 3 Royal Commission's Media Release

We refer to the media release published by the Royal Commission today. In particular, the following statement:

For example, on 27 April 2020, Victoria Police produced 38 hours of tapes of relevant intercepted phone conversations, many with Ms Gobbo.

Our letter dated 28 April 2020 confirmed that a total of 2,159 call recordings were located in relation to a warrant relevant to **exercise** and the calls amounted to over 38 hours of recorded material. Of these, we noted that 90 calls or texts were linked to a phone number used by Ms Gobbo (4% of the total) and 34 calls or messages (clarified in our letter dated 1 May) may potentially concern Ms Gobbo.

The production to the Royal Commission was confined to the 90 calls and 34 text messages that were responsive to a Notice to Produce, not the 38 hours of recordings that were said to have been produced in the media release.

We therefore request that this matter be corrected in the media release.

If you have any queries, please contact us.

Yours faithfully Corrs Chambers Westgarth

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Abigail Gill Partner