



Department of Justice

Secretary

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Our ref: CD/14/538545

Mr Josh Munroe
Coroners Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006



05 JAN 2015

Dear Mr Munroe

Response to recommendations three and four of the findings of the Inquest into the death of Samir Ograzden
Court Reference: COR 2008 2028

I am writing in response to your letter of 16 July 2014 enclosing a copy of the findings arising out of the Inquest into the death of Mr Samir Ograzden.

Recommendation Three

In relation to Recommendation Three of those findings, I note that this recommendation was recently repeated in two further inquest findings:

- Recommendation Three of the findings of the Inquest into the death of Craig Douglas (Court Reference: COR 2011 1554); and
- Recommendation Two of the findings of the Inquest into the death of Gong Ling Tang (Court Reference: COR 2010 1790).

On 12 December 2014, I received a letter from the Coroners Court enclosing a copy of the finding of the Inquest into the death of Gong Ling Tang.

The findings of the Inquest into the death of Craig Douglas and Gong Ling Tang each contained additional recommendations relating to the manner in which evidence is taken from police witnesses in police contact deaths. To allow my response to be properly informed by the issues raised in these latest findings, I advise that I intend to provide a single response to Recommendation Three of the findings of the Inquest into the death of Samir Ograzden, and to the identical recommendation from the findings of the Inquest into the death of Craig Douglas and Gong Ling Tang.

Recommendation Four

In relation to Recommendation Four, the component of this recommendation relevant to my responsibilities is that, if Recommendation Three is adopted, an institutionally independent, legally trained third person be present at meetings between the Victoria Police Civil Litigations team and police witnesses in preparation for giving evidence at an inquest in police contact matters.

Having given consideration to this component of the recommendation, I advise that I do not propose to adopt this component of the recommendation. The reason that I do not propose to adopt this component of the recommendation is because it would infringe upon the well-established right to legal professional privilege.

Yours sincerely



Greg Wilson
Secretary