



## VICTORIA POLICE

### Office of the Deputy Commissioner

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Coroner Audrey Jamieson  
Coroner's Court Victoria  
65 Kavanagh Street  
Southbank VIC 3006

**Subject:** LECEK, Ignac  
**Case Number:** COR 2007 003964  
**Date of Recommendations:** 29 May 2015

Coroner Jamieson,

I write in response to Recommendation 1 and 8 arising from your findings in the inquest into the death of Ignac Lecek.

#### **Recommendation 1:**

With a view to providing access to additional medical support to regional police stations with custodial facilities and providing support to existing Custodial Medical Officers and preventing like circumstances, I recommend that Victoria Police, if they have not already done so, review its' policy and/or arrangements with regionally based medical practitioners in the position of Custodial Medical Officer with a view to having at least two medical practitioners for contact by the watch-house keeper/police station.

**Response:** An alternative has been implemented.

A review has been undertaken by Victoria Police resulting in a number of VPCHS initiatives being introduced to address the need to have a greater number of medical practitioners available for contact by police stations.

While the Custodial Health Officers have an unquestionably vital role, given the geographical spread of centre and difficulty in resourcing particularly regional areas, a broader range of services have been considered and implemented, including:

- Custodial Health Advice Line (CHAL)
- Custodial Medical Officers (CMO)
- Rural Custodial Nursing Staffing
- Expansions of the Metropolitan Service Boundary

Through these initiatives, VPCHS has significantly improved its medical support to regional police stations with custodial facilities.

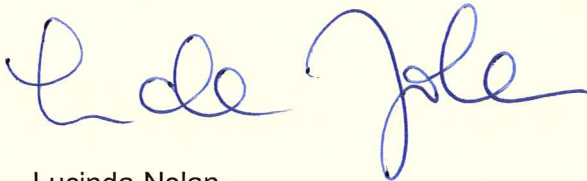
**Recommendation 8:**

The CCTV footage from the cells at BPS was inadvertently overwritten despite timely notification to the Bendigo Police Station that Mr Lecek had died in custody. With a view to improving the retention of CCTV footage in custodial centres including police cells and preventing like circumstances, I recommend that Victoria Police, if they have not already done so, review its' policies and procedures regarding the retention of the same particularly in light of the notifications of a death in custody.

**Response:** This recommendation will be implemented.

A review of **Victoria Police Manual – Guidelines (VPMG) – Safe management of persons in police care or custody** has identified minor enhancements required to address this recommendation. This recommendation has been provided the Corporate Policy to progress the development of suitable amendments to the VPMG.

Yours sincerely,



Lucinda Nolan  
Deputy Commissioner Regional Operations

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