



VICTORIA POLICE

Received 18/1/16

the

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Dear Judge Hinchey

Subject: Sargun Ragi
Case No: COR 2012 004184
Date of Rec: 5th November, 2015

Victoria Police response to recommendations arising from the Inquest into the death of Sargun Ragi

This document provides the Victoria Police response to the State Coroner's recommendation directed at the Chief Commissioner of Police (recommendation 1), arising from the Inquest into the death of Sargun Ragi, at Kew East on 4 October 2012.

This recommendation comes at a time of significant change in the way that family violence is responded to in Victoria, including within Victoria Police. This recommendation, together with the upcoming findings of Royal Commission into Family Violence, will further inform future policy development and assist all agencies, including Victoria Police, to do everything possible to prevent tragedies like the death of Sargun Ragi from occurring again.

RECOMMENDATION 1

In line with my recommendations in the Luke Batty finding relating to the use of the L17, I recommend that the Chief Commissioner of Police amend the Victoria Police Manual and other relevant operating instructions and, if appropriate, the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence to require police officers completing an L17 to review previous L17s relating to the same offender and, where possible to contact the authors of previous L17s to ensure information regarding risk is shared and considered.

(1) REVIEW OF PREVIOUS L17s AND LEAP CHECKS

The Coroner's recommendations that police officers review previous L17s and check LEAP is under consideration.

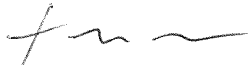
Section 3.1.1 of the Code of Practice for the investigation of Family Violence (Code of Practice) requires members to consider the history of family violence when assessing risk of future family violence.

While this implies an assessment of all previous L17s in order to consider the relevant history, this section of the Code of Practice may be amended to make explicit that police should review previous L17s and other factors that may affect risk.

Victoria Police considers the recommendation to require police completing an L17 to contact all previous authors as unfeasible, adversely impacting response time and capacity. Additionally, previous authors may have limited or inaccurate recollection of incidents, given the volume of family violence incidents many police officers respond to.

As an alternative to requiring police officers to contact previous authors of L17s, Victoria Police will investigate whether improvements can be made to the quality and depth of information recorded in L17s.

Yours sincerely



Findlay McRae
Director Legal Services

24/12/2015