



VICTORIA POLICE

Ken D. Lay APM
Chief Commissioner of Police

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Our Ref: 072672/12

Judge Jennifer Coate
Coroners Court of Victoria
Level 11, 222 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Judge Coate,

**Re: Coronial Inquest into the deaths of Rajesh Rohit Ram OSBORNE (1345/10),
Asia Charlotte OSBORNE (1346/10), Jairus Nicholas OSBORNE (1347/10) &
Grace Cheyanne OSBORNE (1348/10)**

Please find enclosed the Victoria Police response to your recommendations made on 8 May, 2012, following a Coronial Inquest into the deaths of Rajesh Rohit Ram OSBORNE, Asia Charlotte OSBORNE, Jairus Nicholas OSBORNE and Grace Cheyanne OSBORNE.


I wish to acknowledge these deaths. A death of a family member is indeed tragic, and in this case the tragedy is exacerbated by the loss of four members of the same family.

As the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police, I am committed to continuing our strong focus on reducing and preventing family violence and improving our response to family violence.

As noted in the enclosed response, under the *Enhanced Family Violence Service Delivery Model 2011-2014* we will continue to ensure our members have adequate training enabling them to respond effectively and efficiently to family violence incidents. We are continuing to revise our investigative guidelines for members including the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence and the Victoria Police Manual Guidelines to ensure our members are supported and updated regarding family violence reforms.

Should you wish to discuss the enclosed response, please contact Detective Superintendent Rodney Jouning, Sexual and Family Violence, Crime Department on (03) 9611 8815.

Yours sincerely,


Ken D. Lay APM
Chief Commissioner

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RECOMMENDATION 1

That the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police review the availability and accessibility of all relevant investigative databases held by Victoria Police to ensure that investigating members are assisted and supported to obtain all information potentially relevant to an investigation in a timely way.

The Victoria Police Law Enforcement Assistance Programme (LEAP) database provides the ability to formalise the management and supervision of the investigation of crime and recorded event matters. Recorded Events being those non-criminal events that are reported to police and generate ongoing police action, such as Missing Person Reports and Family Incident Reports. The LEAP data base holds information regarding firearms including registration information and information pertaining to Firearms Licences or authorities. All Victoria Police sworn members have access to the LEAP database.

INTERPOSE is the Investigation and Intelligence Management System within Victoria Police. It is currently accessible to all investigators (detectives) and intelligence practitioners within Victoria Police. The INTERPOSE security framework provides the ability to share information state-wide where there is a need to share, but protects sensitive investigations relating to organised crime, corruption, high profile individuals or investigations that have significant community or political impact. INTERPOSE access is currently not available to general duties members for this reason. Members requiring INTERPOSE access to assist in the investigation of family violence incidents can access information from INTERPOSE by making a request to the Divisional Intelligence Unit.

Information received at Crime Stoppers is recorded on an Information Report (IR). This information report is recorded on the INTERPOSE database if it is "information that relates to allegations or suspicions of activity or activities for the purposes of sharing with authorised customers". This information report is then disseminated to the local Divisional Intelligence Unit where the staff will analyse the information. The information will be classified as either intelligence value or investigative value. Investigative IR's will be assigned to a member for investigation. Intelligence value IR's will be filed, pending the receipt of further information. Information entered on INTERPOSE is searchable and is an extremely useful investigative tool.

I am confident that the current accessibility limitations are necessary to safeguard and limit access to information as required by the various investigative functions performed across the organisation. General duties members can access INTERPOSE information if required however routine access is not available owing to the security reasons noted above. However, Victoria Police will consider reviewing the availability and accessibility of all relevant databases held by Victoria Police.

RECOMMENDATION 2

That the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police reinforce the need for members receiving complaints about family violence and sexual assault, to make specific inquiries with complainants in connection to any information that they may hold about alleged perpetrators having access to, or being in possession of, firearms and other weapons.

The Victoria Police Manual (VPM) sets the behavioural, operational and administrative standards for the organisation. The Victoria Police Manual consists of the Policy Rules and the Procedures and Guidelines and is accessible to all members. The Policy Rules are the foundation of the VPM and detail the mandatory accountabilities and responsibilities of police members. The Policy Rules are supported by the Procedures and Guidelines which provide police with information on how to apply and interpret the Policy Rules.

The Victoria Police Manual – Procedures and Guidelines Family Violence, provides an operational guide for police members when responding to family violence incidents. These guidelines have recently been updated and include amendment to instruction reinforcing the need for members receiving complaints about family violence to make specific inquiries with complainants in relation to a respondent's possession of or access to firearms or other weapons. This updated VPM will be available to members in late 2012, following internal consultation.

The 2nd Edition of the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Family Violence was launched in December 2010. This built on the achievements of the original Code launched in 2004, to provide consistent and clear advice to members when responding to family violence. This revised Code contains instructions regarding the need to investigate the respondent's possession of or access to firearms when attending family violence incidents.

On the 25th November, 2011, Victoria Police launched *the Enhanced Family Violence Service Delivery Model 2011- 2014*. Under this model Victoria Police is conducting a review of family violence training across all levels of the organisation. The review focuses on the members response to and investigation of family violence incidents, and canvasses current guidance on weapons checks.