

MEDICO LEGAL LETTER

25 September 2019

[REDACTED]
Solicitor
MinterEllison Lawyers
Level 23 Rialto Towers
GPO Box 769
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

[REDACTED]
Dear Sir,

Name: Nicola Gobbo

UR: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Date Of Birth: 16 November 1972

YOUR REF No: 1239987

Thank you for your email requesting further information concerning Ms Gobbo.

I have also had the opportunity to read the medical reports from Ms Gobbo's current [REDACTED] Physician and current Psychiatrist. These reports only reinforce my opinions.

1. The first question was whether Ms Gobbo would be fit to give evidence: On the most recent assessment by me of Ms Gobbo in October 2018, her picture had remained consistent. As noted in my previous report she continued to struggle with [REDACTED] on a daily basis and required [REDACTED] medication to assist with managing this although she had decreased the quantity of the medication. The [REDACTED] itself interfered with her sleep, day activities and mood. Any physical or psychological stressors would increase [REDACTED]. Her general tolerances were lowered associated with [REDACTED]. Given the time frame since the original development of her [REDACTED] and her lack of response to appropriate [REDACTED] management and [REDACTED], along with the physical and psychological consequences of her [REDACTED], I do not believe that Ms Gobbo will be fit to undertake any form of interrogation within the Commission setting. The likelihood is that there would be a deterioration in her [REDACTED] and subsequent to that worsening of concentration and attention, lowered frustration tolerance and this would lead to significant decline in performance inhibiting her role as a satisfactory witness. This unfortunately for Ms Gobbo will be for the long term.

2. The second question was whether she was feigning illness to avoid giving evidence: Throughout the 11-1/2 years that I have known Ms Gobbo she has been consistent in her reporting and her response to requests and activities in terms of rehabilitation and [REDACTED] management. At no stage was I of the opinion that her symptoms and signs were not real. Her [REDACTED] clearly interferes with her whole life. I do not believe that she is feigning her symptoms.

I trust this assists you in your determinations.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]