

From: Ashton, Graham
Sent: Tue, 1 Apr 2014 15:10:51 +1100
To: Tabain, Merita; Morton, Charles; McRae, Findlay; Fontana, Stephen; Clegg, Robert; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Allen, Catherine
Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Sary re Lawyer X

Ok thanks

Graham Ashton AM
 Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Operations

-----Original Message-----

From: Tabain, Merita
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 02:34 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time
To: Ashton, Graham; Morton, Charles; McRae, Findlay; Fontana, Stephen; Clegg, Robert; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Allen, Catherine
Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Sary re Lawyer X

Graham, we might go down that path, but I still thinking Charlie's approach of waiting for 24 hours and reassessing it then is the right approach.

The Age are not running with it very strongly and now that Mitchell has had his rant - unless something happens today - it might just fall off the perch and revert back to being a story which runs in the Australian only.

Also - I am not sure why we would brief Mitchell then and nobody else - why would we not brief Dowsley as well - he has been leading with the story - mitchell is only following dowsley's lead.

Charlie is waiting on a call back from Finn about the the legality of the situation - I think it is worth waiting until tomorrow to see if it keeps going. In which case maybe we do some background briefing.

Cheers

Merita

Merita Tabain | Director- Media & Corporate Communications Department | Victoria Police

email: [REDACTED]
 phone: (03) [REDACTED] | mob: [REDACTED] | fax: (03) [REDACTED]
 address: | Victoria Police Centre, Concourse Level, 637 Flinders Street Melbourne VIC 3005 | DX210096
 web address: www.vicpolicenews.com.au

P Please consider the environment before printing this email

-----Original Message-----

From: Ashton, Graham
Sent: Tuesday, 1 April 2014 1:55 PM
To: Tabain, Merita; Morton, Charles; McRae, Findlay; Fontana, Stephen; Clegg, Robert; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Allen, Catherine
Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Sary re Lawyer X

Thanks Merita. In that case what is your view about back grounding him so he is disabused of some of the facts he has obviously been told by the legal profession.?

Graham Ashton AM
Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Operations

-----Original Message-----

From: Tabain, Merita
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 01:42 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time
To: Morton, Charles; Ashton, Graham; McRae, Findlay; Fontana, Stephen; Clegg, Robert; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Allen, Catherine
Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Sary re Lawyer X

Graham, I do think Charlie is right here.
I think we would add fuel to the issue at this point in time.
Cheers
Merita

Merita Tabain | Director- Media & Corporate Communications Department | Victoria Police

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address: www.vicpolicenews.com.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: Morton, Charles
Sent: Tuesday, 1 April 2014 1:29 PM
To: Ashton, Graham; McRae, Findlay; Fontana, Stephen; Clegg, Robert; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Tabain, Merita; Allen, Catherine
Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Sary re Lawyer X

Hi Graham.

Happy to discuss, but on balance, I think for at least the next 24 hours we dont..

First off, we're very limited in what we can say. Even our generalist answers provided to the Age yesterday have been skewed in today's paper to suggest we have confirmed the recruitment of witness x. (see final para on p3)

Dowsley has used all his best ammo already (i think.) None of the other journos have got anything different or are prepared to use it.

The Pell stuff is coming tomorrow and will knock this way off the front page.

Unless there are some serious appeals from convicted crims which might get up as a result of this, then I cant see this continuing with the same level of profile.

There will be more, but i suspect we can weather it.

Id suggest we revisit it in 24 hours and see what its looking like.

Have discussed with Fin and he agrees. He' also looking at further injunction options..

Charlie

Charlie Morton | Assistant Director- Media & Corporate Communications Department | Victoria Police

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-----Original Message-----

From: Ashton, Graham
 Sent: Tuesday, 1 April 2014 1:05 PM
 To: Morton, Charles; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Clegg, Robert; Fontana, Stephen;
 McRae, Findlay; Tabain, Merita; Allen, Catherine
 Subject: RE: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Stary re Lawyer X

Thanks Charlie should we be going on his show tomorrow ? He obviously thinks Simon has done something wrong,

Graham Ashton AM
 Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Operations

-----Original Message-----

From: Morton, Charles
 Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 11:25 AM AUS Eastern Standard Time
 To: Ashton, Graham; Cartwright, Tim; Lay, Ken (COMMISSIONER); Clegg, Robert; Fontana, Stephen;
 McRae, Findlay; Tabain, Merita; Allen, Catherine
 Subject: FW: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Stary re Lawyer X

All

In case you didnt hear it - a very strong editorial from Neil Mitchell this morning advocating for a royal commission into the Lawyer X situation.

He said, and i quote, that Vic could be on the verge of one of the 'biggest law and order scandals in its history'; he said it could result in 'crooks walking out of jail, police going to jail, lawyers being thrown out of their profession and potentially killers walking free and not being pursued when they should be pursued'

He's calling for both Ken Jones and Simon to come back and give evidence at a royal commission.

He interviewed Rob Stary who supported everything he was saying.

Links to the audio are below. For your info..

Charlie

Charlie Morton | Assistant Director- Media & Corporate Communications Department | Victoria Police

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 phone: (03) [REDACTED] | mob: [REDACTED] | fax: (03) [REDACTED] | address: | Victoria Police Centre, Concourse
 Level, 637 Flinders Street Melbourne VIC 3005 | DX210096 web address: www.vicpolice.com.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: MMU [[mailto:norepl\[REDACTED\].au](mailto:norepl[REDACTED].au)]
 Sent: Tuesday, 1 April 2014 9:55 AM
 Subject: 3AW - Mornings - 01.04.2014 - Rob Stary re Lawyer X

This email contains broadcast media clips that may be of interest to you. This email was sent from Lucy

Huppatz

Comments:

3AW, Mornings 01 Apr 2014 8:44 AM

Duration: 4 mins 37 secs â€œ Police Radio & TV â€œ ID: M00056738515 Interview with Rob Stary, Lawyer. Mitchell resumes talking about a Herald Sun story about a lawyer who was recruited to be a police informer, reiterating that a Royal Commission may be necessary. Stary says a transparent inquiry is needed to make people accountable and he says this issue could have consequences for past convictions. He also comments on police corruption, saying this too needs to be investigated.

Interviewees

Rob Stary, lawyer

3AW Mel Mornings with Neil Mitchell (01/04/2014 08:34)

- Mitchell believes that 'Victoria is on the nose'; he says it a 'smelly' state; Herald Sun today reported bikie gangs were running drugs and prostitutes for workers at the desalination plant; he asks whether the previous Labor Govt knew anything about it; he asks whether there is now reason to renegotiate the contract with the plant; he says given the timing with the CFMEU being fined for illegal protesting, Labor needs to distance itself from the union; Mitchell says Daniel Andrews needs to get rid of the CFMEU and throws out its money; he says Andrews needs to tell us what he and the fmr Govt knew about the bikie link at the desal plant

- Mitchell says Vic could be on the verge of one of the 'biggest law and order scandals in its history'; he says it could result in 'crooks walking out of jail, police going to jail, lawyers being thrown out of their profession and potentially killers free and not being pursued when they should be pursued'; Miays we need a Royal Commission into what happened and why and who was in it; Mitchell says it is too big for the Corruption Commission to run it; he says it goes back to a Herald Sun report yesterday about 'Lawyer X' being recruited by police to inform on underworld figures for 10 years, he was a registered informer; Mitchell goes into a few details of the report; he describes it as a 'hell of a mess' and says it will be one of the 'ugliest times in the State's history View Clip:

<http://mediamonitoring.vic.gov.au/emailClip.php?clipkey=66f69ef92aa2608b9043a98d64c8d1d9>

3AW Melbourne - Mornings with Neil Mitchell (01/04/2014 08:38)

- Mitchell believes as a starting point Sir Ken Jones, fmr Deputy Commissioner, needs to be brought back and give evidence under oath at a Royal Commission and the fmr chief Simon Overland needs to do the same; he says the Govt doesn't have an option and this goes to the heart of safety in Vic and the credibility of our system View Clip: <http://mediamonitoring.vic.gov.au/emailClip.php?clipkey=f232e720bb24b65927a437b099e86938>

3AW Melbourne - Mornings with Neil Mitchell (01/04/2014 08:44)

Interview: Rob Stary (lawyer)

- Mitchell asks what Stary sees as the implications for this; Stary shares Mitchell's sentiment and says we need to restore public confidence in the justice system; he agrees we need a Royal Commission and is afraid what's occurred will significantly erode public confidence in the system; he says we need a 'cathartic analysis' of everything that's happened

- Mitchell asks Stary if people who are currently in jail will come out of jail; Stary says we don't know if 'Lawyer X', when representing gangland figures, was also acting as an informer and how that would impact on their conviction and require re-trial; he says the OPP needs to undertake a review of each case; he says we need to understand the role of VicPol in this

- Mitchell asks what the police have potentially done in terms of corruption; Stary says we know there were 46 successful prosecutions of police during the period including the head of the Drug Squad; he confirms there has been widespread corruption and there were calls for a Royal Commission 10 years ago that were resisted by both sides of politics; he says we received 'watered down' ICAC reports from NSW and Qld

- Mitchell asks if we need a Royal Commission; Stary says we need to restore public confidence in the judicial process, legal system and police force and we can't afford to let that happen View Clip:

<http://mediamonitoring.vic.gov.au/emailClip.php?clipkey=600ada65d5d60b6dd8cd4812b9394290>

3AW Melbourne - Mornings with Neil Mitchell (01/04/2014 08:48) Caller Margaret agrees with Stary; she says ICAC cannot investigate this independently as they don't have the power to investigate judges or politicians as was shown in the Matthew Guy situation View Clip:

<http://mediamonitoring.vic.gov.au/emailClip.php?clipkey=68ba58475b36faf70639c80da4449ad1>

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