

[REDACTED]  
Port Melbourne, Vic. 3207

17 October 2011

Det Snr Sgt Boris Buick  
Victoria Police Crime Dept

[REDACTED]  
Melbourne 3004

Dear Boris,

**Re: Summons to give evidence against Paul DALE, 7 November 2011**

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On 24 August 2011 I met with the Commonwealth DPP and you to voice my concerns in relation to being called to give evidence against Paul Dale in his committal scheduled to commence on 7 November 2011. I explained in some detail my specific concerns as to my ongoing fears, personal security, safety and the detrimental impact of this on my health. I made it clear that leaving aside any issues as to the manner in which the request for me to give evidence came about and the parlous state of my health, that I would not give evidence unless steps were taken by Victoria Police and/or the Commonwealth DPP to alleviate my very genuine concerns for my safety and wellbeing.

To date those fears and concerns have not been addressed.

It is the view of Victoria Police based on a risk assessment (an assessment with which I cannot take issue), that Dale and me being called to give evidence against him, poses a genuine risk to me; to this end a Suppression & Non publication order were obtained at the time of his Filing hearing. Given that I have been invited to be considered (favourably) for entry into Witness Protection, Victoria Police accepts the risk posed to me to be real and genuine.

It almost goes without saying, that Victoria Police accept that it has a duty of care to me, particularly in circumstances in which it is their belief that Dale is responsible for murdering witnesses who were going to give evidence against him in another case. That being the position, I have stated on countless occasions that I am not prepared to enter such a program based on the onerous and restrictive conditions that have been repeatedly offered to me. It has been made clear to me that the program cannot and will not accommodate my current ongoing medical, health & other needs.

I suffer from severe chronic nerve pain (diagnosed with trigeminal neuralgia/thalamic pain) which is exacerbated by stress and uncertainty. My current level of pain is so severe that it is not responding to morphine & other pain medication. According to my specialist, this is directly because of the increased level of stress, fear and worry with which I am trying to cope as the committal approaches.

It staggers me that Victoria Police think it is acceptable to simply offer a person (upon whom it relies to prosecute a former police officer it views as a dangerous corrupt individual), entry into Witsec on its traditional terms knowing full well that I can't be accommodated and absent that being accepted by me (arguably knowing it would not ever be accepted based on my previous dealings with Victoria Police), no alternative assistance has been offered.

I have expressed my frustration about this on numerous occasions to you and I can't be any clearer in saying that by Victoria Police offering me nothing as an alternative to Witsec, it is

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simply abrogating its duty of care and ignoring its responsibility to ensure my safety & wellbeing as a witness for the Prosecution in early November.

It staggers me that no steps have been taken to provide me with some form of protection given what is at stake.

If something should happen to me, it ought not come as a surprise to your organisation, particularly given its assessment of the risk posed to me.

Please confirm whether Victoria Police are prepared to take steps to ensure my safety during the lead-up to and during the committal against Dale.

Yours faithfully,

Nicola Gobbo