

**From:** Walsh, Therese  
**Sent:** Wed, 14 May 2014 07:43:42 +1000  
**To:** Buick, Boris  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing for F on inquest

Boris

John is loathe to undertake this task as he is not across the inquest. Is this something you could do ie give her a ring and read the script from Dave Ryan below?

Thanks

Tess

**Tess Walsh**

**Detective Superintendent**  
Serious Crime Division | Crime Command  
Level 14, 412 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

Phone: [REDACTED]

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**From:** McRae, Findlay  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 May 2014 7:39 PM  
**To:** Walsh, Therese  
**Cc:** Potter, John [Inspector]  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing for F on inquest

Thanks Tess and John.

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

**From:** Walsh, Therese  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 06:58 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** McRae, Findlay  
**Cc:** Potter, John [Inspector]  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing for F on inquest

Thanks Finn

This week it is John Potter (ccd) who has had a conversation with the witness yesterday so he can call her. I spoke to her psych today and let her know we would be applying for the order.

Thanks

Tess

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

**From:** McRae, Findlay  
**Sent:** Monday, May 12, 2014 09:38 AM AUS Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** Walsh, Therese  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing for F on inquest

Tess

I suggest that Derek Lamb from Civil litigation keeps the liaison officer briefed on progress of the suppression issue. Otherwise too much can be lost in the translation. Who should Derek contact?

fin

**Findlay McRae | Victoria Police**  
Director | Legal Services  
Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders St Docklands 3008 | DX 210096  
T: 03 [REDACTED] | F: 03 [REDACTED]

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**From:** Ryan, David  
**Sent:** Sunday, 11 May 2014 2:23 PM  
**To:** McRae, Findlay  
**Subject:** Re: Briefing for F on inquest

Hi Fin

I'm not sure that it's a good idea to be providing any letters to the witness at this stage. It's all still a bit uncertain as to how things will evolve at the commencement of the inquest. We can say with certainty that we will be seeking a suppression order in relation to the witness's identity (if the State Coroner does not make one of his own motion).

Dave

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**From:** Findlay McRae  
**Sent:** 10/05/2014 07:06 PM ZE10  
**To:** David Ryan  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing for F on inquest

Dave

Can I have a form of words that our civil lit can provide to the witness please. I understand the situation has changed since the last briefing.

Fin

Findlay McRae : Victoria Police  
Director, Legal Services  
Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders St, Docklands 3008 : DX 210096  
T: 03 [REDACTED] F: [REDACTED]

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

**From:** Walsh, Therese  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 08, 2014 05:39 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** McRae, Findlay  
**Subject:** RE: Briefing for F on inquest

Thanks Finn

Happy for the guidance but just to confirm this will come to me as a formal correspondence to forward to the witness.

Thanks

Tess

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

**From:** McRae, Findlay  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 08, 2014 02:03 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** Walsh, Therese  
**Subject:** FW: Briefing for F on inquest

Please use the suggested words for briefing the witness.

Fin

Findlay McRae : Victoria Police  
Director, Legal Services  
Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders St, Docklands 3008 : DX 210096  
T: [REDACTED] F: [REDACTED]

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

**From:** Ryan, David  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 08, 2014 01:55 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time  
**To:** McRae, Findlay  
**Cc:** Pekevaska, Monika  
**Subject:** Re: Briefing for F on inquest

Hi Fin

I think we should only advise Witness F in relation to issues which involve them. I don't think we should provide any information which discloses the CCP's general strategy in relation to the inquest. I suggest the following:

**The inquest into the death of the Hodsons commences in the Coroners Court before the State Coroner Judge Gray on Monday 19 May 2014. The interested parties are the Hodson family, Paul Dale and the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner's legal team is lead by Rachel Doyle SC.**

**The inquest brief includes a statement from Witness F. The State Coroner has made a suppression order prohibiting publication of the contents of the inquest brief.**

**The Coroners Court circulated a witness list some time ago which included Witness F. The Chief Commissioner submitted that Witness F ought not be called as a witness at the inquest due to concerns for their safety. Mr Dale's representatives have submitted that Witness F ought to be called to give evidence. The State Coroner is yet to formally rule on this point but we consider that it is unlikely that Witness F will be called as a witness.**

**The Chief Commissioner will be seeking a suppression order under the *Open Courts Act 2013* in relation to the identity of Witness F prior to the commencement of the inquest.**

regards

Dave

David Ryan

Managing Principal Solicitor

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

**Victorian Government Solicitor's Office**

Level 25, 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

t +61 [REDACTED] f + [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[www.vgso.vic.gov.au](http://www.vgso.vic.gov.au)



Think Green before printing this email.

From: Findlay McRae/MELCENTRAL/VICPOLICE@POL

To: David Ryan/Users/VGSO@VGSO,

Date: 08/05/2014 12:16 PM

Subject: Briefing for F on inquest

Please send me some words to advise theWitness via the liaison officer as discuss.

Fin

Findlay McRae : Victoria Police

Director, Legal Services

Victoria Police Centre

637 Flinders St, Docklands 3008 : DX 210096

T: [REDACTED] F: [REDACTED]

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