



VICTORIA POLICE

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**FILE COPY**Graham Ashton, AM  
Assistant Commissioner Crime  
Level 14, 412 St Kilda Road  
Melbourne 3004

DX: 210094

Mr Shane Kirne  
Deputy Director  
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions  
GPO Box 21  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Shane,

Thank you for your time this morning to allow Superintendent Fryer and I to explain our concerns regarding witness "F". I thought it prudent to formalize our discussion and my request in the form of a letter.

Witness "F" is a significant witness in the charges against ex police member Paul Dale, which is being prosecuted by your office.

Whilst I was generally aware of the circumstances around witness "F" it was not until yesterday that I became fully aware of the potential risk to witness "F" if they were to continue as a prosecution witness.

Witness "F" has been formally [redacted] on a number of occasions as fitting the [redacted] for [redacted] in the [redacted]; however the [redacted] of such a [redacted] cannot be agreed upon. These discussions have taken place over several years and remain unresolved. I've been advised Victoria Police cannot acquiesce to "F's" specific requirements due to [redacted] and [redacted] risk issues.

As a witness "F" is classified in our formal [redacted] as [redacted]

This risk cannot be mitigated by Victoria Police and I believe that it is not appropriate to continue to expose the witness, knowing [redacted] is required, but not possible.

Apropos to our conversation this morning I am seeking your support in withdrawing "F" as a prosecution witness.

Yours sincerely,

  
Graham Ashton, AM  
Assistant Commissioner Crime

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