



## VICTORIA POLICE

**Simon Overland** <sup>APM</sup>  
Chief Commissioner of Police

Victoria Police Centre  
637 Flinders Street  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria Australia  
Telephone [61 3] 9247 6890  
Facsimile [61 3] 9247 6863

P.O. Box 415  
Melbourne 3005  
Victoria Australia

The Hon. Bob Cameron MP  
Minister for Police & Emergency Services  
Level 26,  
121 Exhibition Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Minister,

I am writing in response to your letter of 11 August 2010 and our recent discussion in regard to the matter of Gobbo v State of Victoria and Ors.

I understand your concern that Victoria Police and the State of Victoria is in a position where such a settlement was reached. There is a complex history to this matter and due to operational and security concerns you will appreciate that I am unable to briefly you fully as to the detail. I do however give you my undertaking that I will do everything possible to ensure that there is no repeat of such a claim against Victoria Police.

As you know, I have appointed an Assistant Commissioner into a new role in charge of the Intelligence and Covert Support Department. Since that appointment some 12 months ago, Assistant Commissioner Pope is progressively working through reviewing all the processes and procedures surrounding Victoria Police's positioning in these high risk undertakings. This includes a review of the management of such witnesses. In addition, I have given immediate directions in regard to the management of any further dealings with Ms Gobbo.

The primary intention at all times has been to ensure the safety of Ms Gobbo. Initially this was for the purpose of assisting in a very serious and significant criminal prosecution, but now relates exclusively to her safety. Regrettably she has persisted in refusing to accept our best advice, but none the less we continue to do all we can to have her appreciate the seriousness of our concerns and to act accordingly.

In regard to your request that your Department be kept informed as to progress of this matter. My Chief of Staff has already made contact and will continue to liaise until the review is completed.

Yours sincerely

Simon Overland APM  
Chief Commissioner

16/08/2010

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