

	 VICTORIA POLICE	JOINT AGENCY AGREEMENT
Taskforce Briars	File No: AC HP 121	

1. Background

- 1.1 This agreement is confined to the joint investigation between the Office of Police Integrity (OPI) and Victoria Police into the murder of 28 year old Shane CHARTRES-ABBOTT on 4 June 2003. CHARTRES-ABBOTT was shot dead in the drive way of his house when he was on his way the County Court to stand trial for rape and assault. His murder remains unsolved. Recently received information links one serving and one former member of the Victoria Police to the shooting.
- 1.2 This investigation is being undertaken as a joint investigation between the Victoria Police Ethical Standards Department (ESD), and the Office of Police Integrity (OPI). The nature of the information makes its relevant to the OPI emphasis in 2006-2007 on improper relationships and it rates as a priority under the ESD Prioritisation Model. This investigation will also draw expertise from Victoria Police Homicide Squad.
- 1.3 The joint investigation will come under the command of Victoria Police Superintendent Rod Wilson.

2. Operations Management Group

- 2.1 The Operations Management Group (OMG) will consist of:
 - Deputy Commissioner Simon Overland APM (Victoria Police);
 - Assistant Commissioner Luke Cornelius (Victoria Police).
 - Assistant Director Graham Ashton AM (Office of Police Integrity)
- 2.2 The OMG will:
 - maintain coordination of the operation and enhance cooperation and information sharing between participating agencies;
 - monitor results of the operation against its aims/scope;
 - ensure the efficient collection and timely dissemination of information and intelligence;
 - perform a dispute resolution function as required to resolve issues identified during the course of this investigation.

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3. OPI/Victoria Police Liaison

- 3.1 This operation draws on information from a human source and, as such, the communication of information regarding the operation will be strictly controlled.
- 3.2 No information shall be communicated within or between the agencies outside of the official lines of communication.

4. Role of Agencies

This investigation will carry the status of a joint investigation. ESD will provide the majority of the investigative staff and OPI will provide the majority of the operational support capacity. The contribution of each agency can be generally quantified as follows:

- 4.1 Victoria Police – to provide:
- Majority of investigative staff (9 proposed)
 - 4 Vehicles
 - Interpose Case Management System
 - Witness protection arrangements and liaison if necessary
 - Human source management in respect of primary human source
- 4.2 Office of Police Integrity – to provide:
- Premises (7th floor, South Tower 459 Collins Street)
 - Physical surveillance
 - Covert technical support
 - Listening device support
 - Telecommunications interception support
 - Hearing room
 - Information technology (support)
 - Physical security (Alarms, Door Access etc)
 - Secure parking (OPI Secure Car Park 5 Bays)
 - Interview rooms (Video interview compliant)
 - Property room
 - Two investigators
 - One intelligence analyst
 - Miscellaneous administrative support staff as required
- 4.3 Australian Crime Commission may also provide some assistance which is yet to be defined.

5. Aim / Scope

- 5.1 The Taskforce will rigorously and fully investigate the murder of Chartres-Abbott at Reservoir on 4 June 2003, to identify and prosecute those responsible. Particular emphasis should be placed on the information from [REDACTED] alleging involvement of former and serving members of Victoria Police in this murder.

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5.2 It is likely that in the course of this investigation other offences will be detected, or further information regarding corrupt activities of former or current members of Victoria Police may be forthcoming. These offences or information should be appropriately documented but the scope of the Taskforce's terms of reference is not to change without the prior written approval of the OMG.

5.3 All aspects of the on-going management of [REDACTED] will remain the responsibility of Detective Inspector O'Brien, who will also be the conduit for all communications between the Taskforce and [REDACTED]

5.4 The objective of this joint investigation is to determine the veracity of the aforementioned allegations and, if they are found to be substantiated, to gather evidence and proceed to overt action and resolution (Arrests, Briefs of Evidence etc).

6. Execution

- 6.1 The joint investigation will come under the command of Victoria Police Superintendent Rod Wilson.
- 6.2 The OMG will oversee progress and determine when the operation has been finalised.
- 6.3 The OPI and Victoria Police will supply the necessary resources to meet the aim/scope of the operation.
- 6.4 Estimated duration - 12 months.

7. Administration and Logistics

- 7.1 *Reporting*
- OMG to keep Agency Heads informed of progress.
- 7.2 *Operation/Investigation Costs*
- Each agency to meet own costs.
- 7.3 *Location*
- This operation will be conducted from the OPI offices at Level 7 South Tower, 459 Collins Street, Melbourne.

8. Command and Communication

- 8.1 *OMG will consist of:*
- Deputy Commissioner Simon Overland APM(Victoria Police);
 - Assistant Commissioner Luke Cornelius (ESD).
 - Assistant Director Graham Ashton AM (Office of Police Integrity)
- 8.2 *Administrative Communication*
- The OMG will meet weekly to evaluate progress. Each meeting will be informed by a written briefing paper received prior to the meeting, which shall be authored by the Operations

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Commander. The briefing paper should describe progress made against planned objectives and those forecast.

- 8.3 The Operations Commander may also liaise with the OPI Manager Operations, Mr. John Nolan, to the extent necessary to allow Mr. Nolan to facilitate operational support arrangements and promote effective support from OPI staff.
- 8.4 OPI and Victoria Police recognize the importance of the contributions and technical expertise made by each agency. The OMG will ensure that a consultative approach will be adopted during the course of this operation.
- 8.5 *Operational Communication*
To be determined by the OMG and in accordance with the operational circumstances and each agency's Communication Policies.
- 8.6 *Risk Assessment*
- Risk assessments on police informers and police members will be completed as required by the joint investigation team.
- 8.7 *Security*
Each agency will employ a high level of security measures to ensure:
- the physical safety of all officers and informers involved in the operation; and
 - the security of relevant information.
- 8.8 *Media*
- This is covert investigation. No media release will take place until both agencies agree for the need, and can activate agreed media policies. Any media release will acknowledge each agency's role in the operation.

Signed: 

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Luke Cornelius
Assistant Commissioner
Ethical Standards Department

Victoria Police

Date: 22.3.7

Signed: 

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Graham Ashton
Assistant Director, Police Integrity

Office of Police Integrity

Date: 22.3.07

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