

Mr Jon Bell  
Committee Secretary  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity  
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Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2066

By EMAIL: [aclei.committee@aph.gov.au](mailto:aclei.committee@aph.gov.au)

Dear Mr Bell

**RE: Submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Inquiry into Integrity Testing**

The Parliamentary Joint Committee (PJC) on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) has recommended that the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006* (Act) be amended to establish a 'second tier' to the Act of which the CrimTrac Agency (CrimTrac) should be included<sup>1</sup>.

In this context, CrimTrac is pleased to make a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee (PJC) on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) for the purposes of its Inquiry into Integrity Testing (Inquiry).

Our submission focuses on the extent to which an integrity testing regime could apply to CrimTrac as a 'second tier' agency.

We have included a summary overview of our governance, security and anti-corruption measures. We would welcome the PJC contacting us to obtain further information of our practices for consideration in connection with the Inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Doug Smith APM

10 August 2011

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendation 1 and 2 of the Final Report (July 2011) of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity on the inquiry into the operation of the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006*

## **CrimTrac submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Inquiry into Integrity Testing**

- 1 CrimTrac would have no objections should the PJC recommend second tier agencies be subject to an integrity testing regime. CrimTrac partners closely with all Australian police agencies and is an integral part of the policing community for the purposes of information sharing.
- 1.1 Should the PJC recommend 'second tier' agencies be subject to an integrity testing regime, the regime must be flexible to allow scalability according to the level of risk of corruption or misconduct of a particular agency's staff identified using evidence based principles and consideration of demonstrated incidences of corruption or misconduct within that agency.
- 2 CrimTrac supports a risk based approach to supervision, monitoring, investigation and reporting corruption and misconduct of staff.
- 2.1 Whilst CrimTrac must acknowledge the view that CrimTrac may be vulnerable to corruption, as an agency with no operational law enforcement functions (CrimTrac staff do not investigate crimes, do not provide direction to police on investigations and do not analyse the information that CrimTrac holds) CrimTrac considers the risk of corruption or misconduct by staff as low.
- 2.2 CrimTrac has robust governance, security and anti corruption measures in place. A summary overview of these measures is provided for the benefit of the PJC:
  - (i) CrimTrac adheres to the Commonwealth Protective Security Manual. All staff are subject to a security clearance appropriate to their particular role and responsibility. All staff (not limited to only those staff involved in the provision of CrimTrac's capabilities<sup>2</sup>) are required to maintain current security clearance to the 'protected' level.
  - (ii) It is a condition of employment with CrimTrac that staff conduct themselves in accordance with the high standards of behaviour required by CrimTrac's Code of Conduct and the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct. These require staff to behave honestly and with integrity<sup>3</sup>. Staff are informed of these requirements at commencement of their employment with CrimTrac and reminded of these requirements throughout the calendar year. Staff identified as not acting in accordance with these standards are subject to appropriate disciplinary action.
  - (iii) CrimTrac monitors staff behaviour on a proactive and reactive basis. CrimTrac has the ability to monitor and investigate any access to its systems. CrimTrac also employs sophisticated audit tools for effective tracking of access to systems. Access is audited, analysed and reported. Unusual or unexplained access is investigated.
  - (iv) CrimTrac has an active Risk and Audit Committee which receives regular reports and oversees external audits conducted into aspects of our business. A focus of these audits is aimed at ensuring the integrity and security of our systems and processes to strengthen our defence to corruption.

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<sup>2</sup> The national information systems and services CrimTrac facilitates access.

<sup>3</sup> Principal 1 CrimTrac Code of Conduct, Rule (1) APS Code of Conduct, section 13 *Public Service Act 1999*