

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Mr Hamish Hansford Committee Secretary Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee S161 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Hansford,

Inquiry into Telecommunications Interception and Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2010

I refer to your correspondence dated 8 October 2010 inviting comment from the NSW Police Force on the *Telecommunications Interception and Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2010* (the Bill).

The NSW Police Force supports in principle and in substance the objectives of the Bill, as it will allow law enforcement agencies to investigate serious criminal activity more effectively.

Although the Schedule 3 amendments will significantly enhance capacity to locate missing persons where no criminality is involved, they would benefit from the addition of provisions enabling law enforcement agencies to gain authorised prospective access to telecommunications data pursuant to Section 180 of the *Telecommunications Interception and Access Act 1979*. Prospective access to this kind of information will allow police to use *real-time information* to ascertain the current whereabouts of missing persons as opposed to having to rely on data available only up until the time at which the missing person notification was made.

Yours sincerely,

A P Scipione APM Commissioner of Police

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