



**House of Representatives  
Standing Committee on Communications**

Chair: Ms Belinda Neal MP  
Deputy Chair: Mrs Kay Hull MP

## **Australian Institute of Criminology experts at cyber crime hearing**

Experts on computer-related crime from the Australian Institute of Criminology will appear at House of Representatives Communications Committee's first public hearing for its Inquiry into Cyber Crime on Wednesday, 19 August.

Two of Australia's leading research experts in the field of high tech crime, Dr Russell Smith and Dr Raymond Choo, will both present key findings to the committee.

The Australian Institute of Criminology is the national centre for research into crime and justice, and provides high quality information for policy and law makers. The presentation will cover areas such as cyber bullying and stalking, hacking, scams, future directions in high tech crime and obstacles to investigating international cyber crime.

"The Institute is playing a key role in the investigation of the nature and incidence of cyber crime," Committee Chair Belinda Neal said.

"They have a wealth of research expertise so it is important the Institute is one of the first witnesses to give evidence to the Inquiry. We need to identify the obstacles to combating new forms of high tech crime and have reliable research on which to base our response.

"Australian consumers are certainly being exposed to the threat of cyber crime and E-security is something we should all be concerned about. The difficulty with the detection of cyber crime is that it can be carried out with anonymity and from a remote location and can affect a large number of victims in many different countries."

The committee is interested in hearing the views of consumers, businesses and experts in the field, as well as federal, state and territory governments.

The Committee's first public hearing will be held **Wednesday, 19 August 2009 12.30 pm to 2 pm in Committee Room 1R4**. The hearing will be audio webcast on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

Further information on the inquiry, including the terms of reference can be obtained from the Committee's web site: [www.aph.gov.au/coms](http://www.aph.gov.au/coms) or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4601.

The Australian Institute of Criminology publications on cyber crime can be obtained from the Institute's website: <http://www.aic.gov.au/>

### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**Media comment: please contact Committee Chair Ms Belinda Neal MP on (02) 6277 4971**

**Background: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2300**