Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

TREASURY

Australian Taxation Office

(Additional Estimates 15 February 2006)

Topic: Referrals to DPP

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Senator Sherry asked:

Do you have statistics on an annual basis of the number of cases that you have referred to the DPP, let us say, for an amount over \$1 million, a significant amount?

Mr D'Ascenzo—I am sure we would have that information.

Senator SHERRY—Then of that referral, how many the DPP chose to prosecute and how many were prosecuted successfully?

Mr D'Ascenzo—The first part is certainly within my bailiwick. I am just wondering perhaps whether the second part might be more in the public prosecutor's bailiwick.

Senator SHERRY—We will deal with the DPP. If you could give us the data on that number, say over the last five years, a quantum more than \$1 million.

Mr D'Ascenzo—I know we have that information. It is quite appropriate to provide that to you.

Answer:

The numbers of briefs referred to the DPP over the last five financial years with a quantum over \$1 million are:

2000/01 - 4

2001/02 - 2

2002/03 - 4

2003/04 - 9

2004/05 - 6

Note: The above numbers of briefs relate to the offence charge amounts. That is, the instances where the Tax Office believes it has established sufficient evidence for criminal charges to be laid against a defendant. These charges relate to either an actual loss, or a prevented loss.