

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Sub Program 1.1.1

Question No. 27

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

Since the *Lane v Morrison* decision:

- a. How many official meetings have occurred since the first meeting until now about the military justice system?
- b. When has each meeting occurred?
- c. Who were the participants in each meeting?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Attorney-General's Department has been working very closely with the Department of Defence on this issue. A number of ad hoc meetings and telephone discussions have taken place between Ministers, Ministers' staff, CEOs of Departments at deputy secretary level and various other Departmental officers and stakeholders. It is not possible to identify accurately the number of discussions held and the participants in every discussion. However, the following meetings were held:

- 15 September 2009 – Officers of the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Defence
- 22 September 2009 and 4 February 2010 – Officers of the Attorney-General's Department, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Defence and the Department of Finance and Deregulation
- 30 September 2009 and 11 November 2009 – Officers of the Attorney-General's Department, Department of Defence and the Department of Finance and Deregulation
- 6 October 2009 – Joint meeting between Attorney-General's Office and Minister for Defence's Office (Officers of the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Defence also attended)
- 2 November 2009 – Officers of the Attorney-General's Department, Department of Defence and the Law Council of Australia
- 16 December 2009 – Officers of the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Defence attended a meeting with the Solicitor-General and Chief of the Defence Forces
- 22 December 2009 - Joint meeting between Attorney-General's Office and Minister for Defence's Office (Officers of the Attorney-General's Department and Department of Defence also attended)
- 4 February 2010 – Meeting of officers of the Attorney-General's Department, Department of Defence and the Registrar of the Federal Court of Australia.