

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

Question No. 9

Senator Ronaldson asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:

Senator RONALDSON: Mr Pezzullo, I want to take you back to our discussion before about these officers who were involved in the Christmas party who have not been stood down. Is the union involved in discussions about the nature and extent of disciplinary action?

Mr Pezzullo: Senator, I did not say that they had not been stood down. What I have said is that all actions with a disciplinary consequence are being synchronised and coordinated with the Federal Police and ACLEI. In some cases officers are the subject of ongoing code of conduct proceedings. In other cases—

Senator RONALDSON: Have they been stood down?

Mr Pezzullo: No.

Senator RONALDSON: Okay, thank you. Now can I get back to my question—

Mr Pezzullo: I'm sorry, Senator, there were lots of people at the party. Have all the officers who attended the party? No. Have some of them been dismissed, terminated or dealt with for other matters—

Senator RONALDSON: Has anyone who was at the party, particularly those who had invited the crime figure, been stood down?

Mr Pezzullo: I will have to take that on notice.

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

At this stage, no officer has been suspended or excluded from the workplace by reason of their attendance at this party or for inviting the 'crime figure'. There are staff who attended the party who have been suspended or excluded from the workplace for other alleged misconduct. The officer who invited the crime figure to the party is no longer employed by the Service and is currently facing serious criminal charges before the courts.

