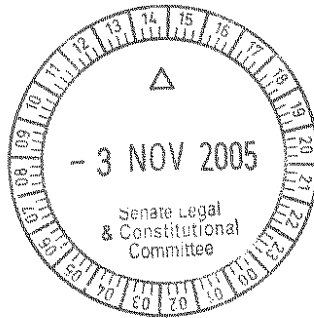




Australian Government  
Attorney-General's Department

Indigenous Justice and  
Legal Assistance Division



2 November 2005

## CONFIRMATION OF FAX

Mr Owen Walsh  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Walsh

### Supplementary Budget Estimates

At the hearing on 31 October 2005, in response to a question asked by Senator Ludwig, I said:

There is a reporting regime for each legal aid commission and we also visit each commission, or they visit us, three times a year. (Proof Hansard, page 38)

This was incorrect, though it was the case under the previous agreements. Under clause 9.5 of the new legal aid agreements, officers of the Department and of each of the legal aid commissions 'will meet as necessary, and at least twice a year' to discuss the operation of the new agreement.

Later, Senator Ludwig asked me:

Which states have been visited?

I replied:

We have visited all of them since the new agreements have been put in place.

Although we have met with all the legal aid commissions under clause 9.5, our meetings with the New South Wales, Victorian and Tasmanian legal aid commissions took place in Canberra.

Yours sincerely

James Popple  
First Assistant Secretary

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E-mail: james.popple@ag.gov.au



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

**Criminal Justice Division**

05/11384

3 November 2005

Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee  
Department of the Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA



Dear Committee Secretary

**Clarification of responses provided in the Senate Estimates hearing on 31 October 2005**

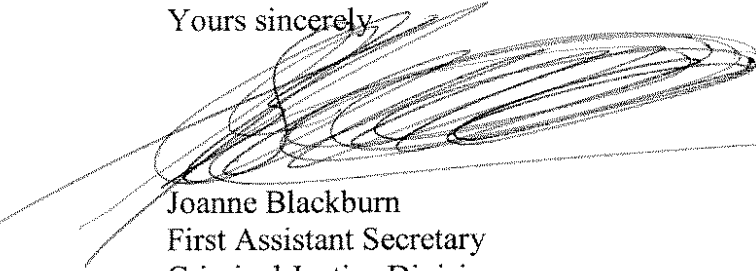
On 31 October 2005, I provided a response to questions from Senator Ludwig in Senate Estimates about mutual assistance which I would like to supplement. My response is set out at page 47 of the Hansard proof of 31 October 2005.

2. Senator Ludwig asked me to provide a definition of the term "special circumstances" as it is used in subsection 8(1A) of the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987*. In my response I stated that to date there have been two categories of circumstance that have been regarded as "special circumstances" for the purposes of subsection 8(1A). These categories are (a) where an undertaking has been given in relation to the imposition or carrying out of the death penalty, and (b) where the evidence or information to be provided would be or could be exculpatory.

3. For completeness, I wish to advise that there is a third category of circumstance that has been regarded as "special circumstances" for the purposes of subsection 8(1A). This category is where the information to be provided goes to the impact of a crime on its victim or victims.

The action officer for this matter is Andrew Walter who can be contacted on (02) 6250 5737.

Yours sincerely,



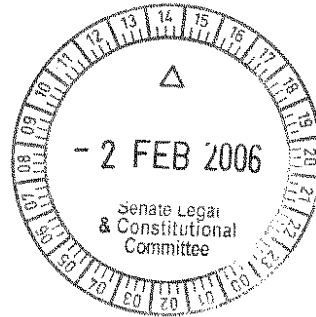
Joanne Blackburn  
First Assistant Secretary  
Criminal Justice Division

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Facsimile: + 61 2 6273 0075



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

**Protective Security  
Coordination Centre**



05/14992

19 January 2006

Senator Marise Payne  
Chair  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Payne

At the Senate Estimates hearings of 31 October 2005, in response to Senator Crossin's question "Do you keep any information on the workload of calls per staff member?" (L&C p. 62 -64), Ms Moss and I at various times both answered that we do not keep that information.

It has been brought to my attention that, while the National Security Hotline does not routinely keep records of the number of calls taken by each operator, it is possible to request our Information Technology staff to interrogate the call centre software to determine operator work loads per shift. Calls received at the National Security Hotline are allocated by the call centre software in a cascading manner to available operators. The number of calls taken by each operator during any one shift can vary significantly due to differing call length. Shift supervisors monitor work loads of the operators to ensure that occupational health and safety requirements are adhered to, particularly during peak call periods.

Yours sincerely

E Tyrie  
Executive Director

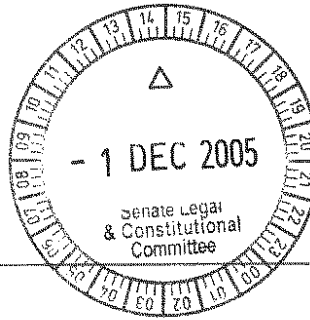
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**CrimTrac**



Mr Owen Walsh  
Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Walsh

**RE: Correction to Hansard – Senate Estimates Committee 31 October 2005**

I refer to our Senate Estimates hearing of 31 October 2005 and, in particular, to page 78 of the Hansard Transcript regarding the Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR).

Senator Ludwig enquired as to the original budgeted amount for ANCOR:

**Senator LUDWIG**—Is ANCOR on time and on budget?

**Mr Burns**—The current allocated money will allow us to complete the built of ANCOR 2.2, which is scheduled to commence in January next year and be completed in July next year. That is for a firm price model, so it will come in on budget.

**Senator LUDWIG**—What is the total?

**Mr Burns**—The last piece of development was \$997,558.

**Senator LUDWIG**—Is that the original budgeted amount?

**Mr Burns**—No, that is the last piece. The original budgeted amount was \$3.140 million.

The original ANCOR budget (excluding GST) was \$2 987 110.

Mr Burns' response of \$3.140 million included a spend of \$152 890 on early work on the National Child Sex Offender System specified in the CrimTrac Inter-Governmental Agreement.

This correction should be published as part of the Committee's volumes of additional information following estimates hearings.

Please note that the first line in Mr Burn's above quotation should read 'complete build' rather than 'complete the built'.

Please contact our Strategic Support and Communications section on 02 6245 7749 if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Oliver'.

**Richard Oliver**  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**

22 November 2005