



MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES; COMMUNITY SAFETY

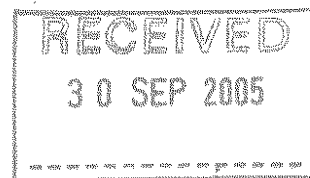
PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON
THE AUSTRALIAN CRIME COMMISSION

RECD:

FROM: *WA Minister for Police*

AUTHORISED FOR PUBLICATION:

SECRETARY: *W.A.J.A.S.*



Our ref: 1672

Mr Jonathan Curtis
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Curtis

Thank you for your letter dated 27 July 2005 inviting a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission's "Review of the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002*". Further to my previous submission dated 23 August 2005, the Western Australia Police have raised the following issue that they would like the Committee to examine.

1. The Commissioner of Police (Commissioner) in Western Australia holds a voting position on the Board of the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) under the provisions of s. 7B of the Act. Additionally, the Commissioner has a number of other statutory functions and duties which require his attention on an ongoing basis. Occasionally, there are times when the Commissioner is required to forgo an important role or commitment of his office in Western Australia to attend a Board of the ACC meeting in Canberra, Sydney or Melbourne. Clearly it is not desirable for the Commissioner to forgo any role he is obliged to fulfill by virtue of his office.

It would be of great assistance to the Commissioner if provision could be made to allow for a suitable proxy to be nominated to replace the Commissioner at Board of the ACC meetings where his absence is unavoidable. It is the view of the Western Australia Police that a person of a rank such as Deputy Commissioner could adequately fulfill the role of the Commissioner on the Board of the ACC without any loss to the importance placed upon the Board's role under the existing Act.

RECOMMENDATION 1: Insert in the ACC Act, a power of delegation or proxy provisions for another, suitably senior officer to attend in a Board member's place and vote at a Board of the ACC meeting.

I trust the above is of assistance to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission in reviewing the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002*.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Roberts".

**HON MICHELLE ROBERTS MLA
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

28 SEP 2005