

Ms Julie Dennett
Acting Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee
legcon.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Dennett

Inquiry into the Crimes Amendment (Bail and Sentencing) Bill 2006

Thank you for your letter dated 15 September 2006. I am pleased to be able to make a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee inquiry into the Crimes Amendment (Bail and Sentencing) Bill 2006.

Victoria Police acknowledges that all Australians should be treated equally under the law. We support the rejection of the concept that criminal behaviour can be excused, justified, authorised required or rendered less serious because of a customary law or cultural practice.

As such, the Bill should contribute to the increased safety and security of the general community. Family violence and child abuse within Indigenous communities is viewed by Victoria Police within the broader context of community safety.

Victoria Police supports the Bill based upon its global application.

If you require any further information on the matter, please contact Inspector Richard Koo, Legal & Corporate Policy (☎03 9247 6723).

Yours sincerely

Christine Nixon APM
Chief Commissioner

/ /2006