Dear Superintendent Crandell (Tony),

I write as a courtesy to let you know how things are progressing.

We have almost finished agreeing on our codings. This was a much more laborious process than first envisaged [and required unqualified quality control at our end]. Dr Tyson is reviewing some cases so that the 3 of us can reach absolute agreement about what we think. (Like the NSW police, we have ultimately decided that we have to force ourselves to "agree" and reach a consensus. Otherwise the report will be potentially confusing).

We are busy working on a draft of our report. Some 4500 words exist and Willem is working on 4 major sections.

I am finalising dealing with the ACON data (a bit problematic for various reasons – along with the detectives we too have "issues" with its soundness and reliability. We will probably be somewhat dismissive of it [in the most polite and diplomatic way of course] in the report.

A further complication is that Craig tells me that 3 cases released from UNSOLVED Homicides will need to be processed at your end. This was mooted as a possibility from day 1 but is a slight problem for us as they will have to be accounted for (and we wanted to be in pure "analysis" mode by now – not accommodating new data). This can't be helped and we will just have to accommodate it.

My request is that NSW police process these 3 cases ASAP. The sooner we get the files the better (although I appreciate this may take a good month or so).

All this progress augurs well. Revising the draft report will be take a lot of time but hopefully in a few months we will be ready to share the draft and start negotiating the final version with your team (a somewhat delicate *dance* of inclusion and exclusion I imagine,

but one that is necessary as part of this process).

Regards

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