

## Fwd: Representations Scott Johnson investigation [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

**From:** "michael\_willing/[REDACTED]/staff/nswpolice", "michael\_willing/[REDACTED]/staff/nswpolice"  
**To:** "christopher\_olen/[REDACTED]/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice", "christopher\_olen/[REDACTED]/staff/nswpolice%nswpolice"  
**Date:** Thu, 07 Apr 2016 17:16:14 +1000

My reply.

Michael Willing  
 Detective Superintendent  
 Commander  
 Homicide Squad  
 NSW Police Force

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Michael Willing" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** April 7, 2016 at 3:24:22 PM GMT+10  
**To:** "[Louise.Mallon](#)[REDACTED]"  
**Cc:** "Jason P Dickinson" <[REDACTED]>, "Penelope Brown" <[REDACTED]>, "Stuart Robinson" <[REDACTED]>, "[John.Pavlakis](#)[REDACTED]"  
**Subject:** Re: Representations Scott Johnson investigation [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Thanks Louise.

A couple of points which might assist Sarah this afternoon;

Firstly - the Unsolved Homicide Team (UHT) is actively involvement in reinvestigating a number of alleged gay-hate deaths (those referred to as the Taradale matters - deaths of Mattiani, Russell and Warren). That reinvestigation was self-initiated by the UHT based on its view that further inquiries may be required and lines of inquiry not fully explored. I would submit that the UHT doing that quite clearly shows that there is no homophobic bias (otherwise it wouldn't have occurred).

Secondly - it should be remembered that it was the Commander of the Homicide Squad (i.e.; me) who first brought the Scott Johnson matter to the State Coroners' attention and requested that his office re-examine it - NOT the Johnson family. That was done for the express purpose of ensuring an independent objective review of the matter via Coronial processes.

Thirdly - persons within the UHT who have worked on this investigation are themselves gay - of course we need to ensure those officers maintain their privacy but in general terms I don't mind it being raised.

Feel free to call me in you need to.

Regards

Mick

Michael Willing  
 Detective Superintendent  
 Commander  
 Homicide Squad  
 NSW Police Force

On Apr 7, 2016, at 3:04 PM, [Louise.Mallon](#)[REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Mick

The letter attached, which Naomi forwarded in her email below, is from Alex Greenwich and David Shoebridge to the Minister (cc'd to the A-G and the Coroner).

They cite a perception of homophobia and bias on the part of the Unsolved Homicide Squad and request the Coroner to appoint a new team.

If the letter is raised during the directions hearing we will strenuously refute the assertion (noting that the Homicide Unit is involved in this investigation, not just the Unsolved Homicide team), in accordance with the instructions you provided on Tuesday.

Please let me know if you wish us to make any other submissions in response to the letter.

Kind regards

Louise

**Louise Mallon**

Counsel

[REDACTED]

**Ashurst**

D: [REDACTED]

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**From:** [Naomi Malhotra](#) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, 7 April 2016 1:57 PM

**To:** Mallon, Louise [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Fw: Representations Scott Johnson investigation

Dear Louise,

The attached letter has been sent to the State Coroner's Court, which I am forwarding to you for your reference.

Kind regards,  
Naomi

Naomi Malhotra  
Senior Solicitor  
**for Crown Solicitor**

**NSW Crown Solicitor's Office** | Level 5, 60-70 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
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NSW Crown Solicitor's Office

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<Johnson case re-investigation REP 160406.rbl.pdf>