

From: Siobhan_Mcmahon/[REDACTED]/Staff/NSWPolice
To: [Blake Clifton/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#); [Blake Clifton/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#)
Cc: [Strath Gordon/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#);
[Georgina Wells/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#);
[Strath Gordon/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#);
[Georgina Wells/\[REDACTED\]Staff/NSWPolice%NSWPolice](#)
Subject: Scott Johnson backgrounder - MLO asked not to attend
Date: Friday, 10 April 2015 10:11:20

Blake,

As you're probably aware, Dan Box from "The Australian" is coming to State Crime today for an off-the-record backgrounder with Det Insp Pam Young (Unsolved Homicide) in relation to the Scott Johnson matter. This is ahead of a Coroner's Court directions hearing on Monday to determine whether or not a third inquest into Mr Johnson's death is warranted. Det Insp Young has prepared NSWPF's statement, which I believe is to be presented at Monday's hearing. This statement is the subject of the backgrounder with Dan Box.

Georgie asked me to sit in on the meeting with Det Insp Young and Mr Box; this is normal MLO protocol, and I had certainly planned to do so when Mr Box arrives at noon today.

Det Insp Young has called this morning to request that I not attend the briefing with Mr Box. The reason Det Insp Young has given is that she wants to have a free and frank discussion with Mr Box about the investigation, and this would be hindered by the presence of an MLO. Det Insp Young added her decision is also designed to protect me (or any MLO) from possible repercussions over her comments.

While I understand this reasoning, it still puts me in a difficult position. If today's meeting eventually leads to the publication of controversial comments, questions will be asked about why I was not present.

The purpose of this email, therefore, is to let you (and Strath and Georgie) know ahead of time that I was asked not to attend.

Det Insp Young is quite adamant in her position on this, and I believe there would be no point in me trying to convince her otherwise. If there's a strong feeling in town that an MLO should be present, any further discussion with Det Insp Young would need to come from above my humble rank.

Kind regards,

Siobhan

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