



## Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

25 November 2022

Patrick Hodgetts  
Senior Lawyer  
Office of the General Counsel, NSW Police Force  
Locked Bag 5102  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Hodgetts,

### Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

As you are aware, the Inquiry is considering the death of Gerald Leslie Cuthbert on or about 18 October 1981.

I refer to my letter of 23 September 2022 making enquiries as to the whereabouts of the exhibits in that matter, and your email reply of 6 October 2022 advising that searches undertaken by the NSW Police Force (“NSWPF”) for those exhibits had been unsuccessful. In that reply, you advised that it was possible the Forensic & Analytical Scientific Services (“FASS”) may hold more information as to the location of the exhibits, although initial enquiries suggested their microfiche files on this matter had been corrupted.

The Inquiry has since held a conference with FASS in which this matter was discussed. FASS have advised that it no longer hold the exhibits, but that its records disclose the exhibits were provided in two batches, both of which were returned to the Coroners Court on 4 March 1982.

Given the above information, the Inquiry requests that the NSWPF undertake one more effort to trace the missing exhibits.

I note that FASS have advised that there are significant opportunities for the further testing of several items, including a handkerchief, sock and cigarette butts found at the scene. In the absence of any suspects, locating those exhibits and recovering a DNA profile presents the best opportunity for the identification of the perpetrator of the homicide. In that context, the Inquiry urges the NSWPF to redouble its efforts to locate those items.

The Inquiry would be grateful for a summary of the outcome of those further searches by **5 December 2022**.

Please do not hesitate to contact Enzo Camporeale at [REDACTED] if you have any queries in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Enzo Camporeale  
Director, Legal  
**Solicitor Assisting the Inquiry**