



Police Federation of Australia

The National Voice of Policing

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Inquiry into the Defence Amendment (Call Out of the Australian Defence Force) Bill 2018

The Police Federation of Australia (PFA) thanks the Committee for the opportunity to make a submission in response to the afore mentioned inquiry on behalf of more than 62,000 police officers across the country that make up our membership

The PFA supports the general thrust of the Bill however feedback from members raises the following issues –

- The legislation will need to be underpinned by strong Guidelines or Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) developed in consultation with Law Enforcement Agencies across the country. Such Guidelines/SOP's need to be in a framework that is clear and concise with no room for misunderstandings.
- There needs to be clear consideration of Critical Incident Investigation policies and guidelines.

It is assumed that each police force across the country would be responsible for the investigation of any critical incident that arose from the use of this legislation?

Should the ADF use force or conduct an operation resulting in death or serious injury, what inhibitors would there be to the conducting of such an investigation?

What access will a state Coroner, or investigators have in relation to access to any or all ADF personnel involved in such incidents and what powers will state Coroners have to compel ADF personnel to appear at any subsequent Inquiry?

What protections would be afforded ADF personnel who are subject to such investigations/inquiries?

At what point are state agencies part of the operation for the purposes of "during a police operation" when the incident has been taken over by the ADF and police are only playing a support role?

Whilst there are a range of issues being raised by others in the 'civil liberties' space, the PFA does not intend to touch on such matters, except to indicate that we would anticipate that ADF personnel would only ever be deployed on home soil as a last resort and as a means to support and assist state and territory police and other authorities when it is believed that such support is absolutely necessary in the protection of life and property.

The PFA reserves the right to provide a supplementary submission should further information on the above issues come to light.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Burgess". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark Burgess APM
Chief Executive Officer
31 July 2018