



# Police Federation of Australia

The National Voice of Policing

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Claude Choplin  
Secrétaire Général Fédéral  
FPIP  
19, rue du Borrégo  
75020 PARIS

Dear Mr Choplin

I write in my capacity as president of both the Police Federation of Australia and the Police Association of South Australia.

The PFA represents almost 60,000 police union members across Australia.

On their behalf, I offer you – and all FPIP members – sincere condolences for the loss of officers Ahmed Merabet and Franck Brinsolaro in the *Charlie Hebdo* massacre of January 7.

And for the loss of officer Clarissa Jean-Philippe in Montrouge on January 8, I also extend our deepest sympathy.

We salute all three officers for their bravery and condemn the cowardice of their killers.

Australian police have a particularly strong sense of the global police family and are, in that context, deeply saddened.

Just as the great war history we share with France is precious to all Australians, so too are these French police lives lost in the line of duty.

To us, these three officers were as much our brothers and sister as they were yours. We did not need to know them on a personal level to regard them this way.

Australia knows the pain of losing police officers to acts of murder; and we, too, have suffered the scourge of extremism.

Just last month, an extremist gunman took hostages in a Sydney café and, after a 16-hour siege, a team of our New South Wales members had to storm the building.

So we in Australia can identify with the grief which has no doubt beset your fallen officers' families and colleagues.

As a visitor to France, I have seen the pride with which your members carry themselves and the excellent service they deliver their community.

Please be aware that, as your members undertake the healing process, they have the rock-solid support of Australia's state, territory and national police unions.

If the Police Federation of Australia can in any way assist the FPIP through this tragedy, please feel free to contact me through our Canberra office.

And, if possible, please extend our deepest sympathy to the families and colleagues of Ahmed, Franck and Clarissa.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Carroll". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'M' and 'C'.

Mark Carroll  
President