



POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PO Box A1097, Sydney South, NSW 1232

PHONE: (02) 9265 6777 FAX: (02) 9265 6789

EAGLENET 57070

Tuesday 14th July 2015

No privileges for Ebony Simpson's killer

The Police Association of NSW today welcomed the tough stance by NSW Corrective Services Minister, David Elliott in quickly revoking the downgrading of prisoner status granted to child killer, Andrew Peter Garforth.

Police Association President, Scott Weber, said, "Like most people this morning I was appalled to read the killer of Ebony Simpson would be eligible to apply for work and rehabilitation courses.

"Downgrading Garforth's sentence from an 'A2' to a 'B' meant he would have been moved out of maximum security to a prison that comes with greater luxuries; the chance to work, study and have a toaster.

"It is hard to fathom the reasoning behind the Serious Offenders Review Council's decision which left the public and police shaking their heads.

"This offender was found guilty and sentenced for a heinous crime and we reiterate the Minister's comments that he should die in jail.

"Ebony's mother, Christine Simpson has suffered more than can be imagined and to have to read her daughter's killer was being given privileges would have been galling.

"Quite rightly she called for Garforth to have his sentence applied as was given when he was found guilty, and that was the judge found there should be no mercy and sentenced Garforth to life in prison, never to be released.

"When he was caught, Andrew Garforth showed no remorse or regret when he recounted his actions to police.

"Further, the decision to reclassify Garforth may have set a precedent that other serious offenders could take advantage of.

"Reversing the council's decision and stripping away any existing privileges that Garforth enjoyed at Goulburn jail shows strong leadership from the government and reinforces what the people and police of NSW expect out of the judicial system."

PRESS RELEASE

Media contact: Alison McLaughlin – 0414 918 470