



POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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HOLDING STATEMENT:

Operation Prospect Report

The release of the Ombudsman report today again highlights the inherent unfairness and lack of natural justice for members of the NSWPF. This has been an ongoing saga that has dragged on since 2000 and has destroyed the careers and reputations of police officers.

This has caused officers to leave the job they love, and untold stress on numerous others. For the PANSW the welfare of officers is paramount, and we have received numerous complaints from members in relation to the manner of this investigation.

The oversight bodies, in recent times, have demonstrated a complete lack of procedural fairness and natural justice. We just need to look at decisions of late, of oversight bodies such as ICAC and PIC, where matters have been overturned, officers exonerated and exculpatory evidence has been hidden.

We do not welcome this report and it would be inappropriate to draw any decisions at the moment. We will review this comprehensive report and ensure our members' legal rights are protected.

This matter has gone on for far too long, but despite this, our members continue to go out every day and every night putting their lives on the line, protecting the community, and we have seen those results just in the recent crime figures, where most crime categories are at a 20 year low.