



## POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PO Box A1097, Sydney South, NSW 1232

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

EAGLENET 57070

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017

# POLICE SLAM LINDT CAFÉ CORONIAL WITCH-HUNT

PRESS RELEASE

A senior Police Association of NSW (PANSW) executive member has slammed the conduct of the Coronial Inquest into the Lindt Café siege for targeting police officers.

In a piece posted today on the Medium publishing platform, executive member Tony King has described the Coronial process as a 'witch-hunt.'

In 'The True Story of the Lindt Café Siege' Police Association Acting President King criticises the adversarial targeting of police officers and questions the Coroner's decision to publicly pursue police tactics and methodology whilst shielding the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and bail decisions from public scrutiny.

In a show of support for all police officers involved, Tony King has sent the piece to the state's 16,500 serving police officers this morning.

"The real story of the Lindt Café is that scores of brave police officers put their lives on the line to protect the public.

"The 14 officers who entered the café did so on the assumption there was a bomb that was likely to explode.

"Our members are devastated by the tragic loss of innocent lives but to suggest they are to blame is an absolute disgrace.

"The reason these people died was that Man Monis was out on bail – for reasons that still haven't been explained.

"He was armed with a shotgun and presumed to be in possession of a bomb.

"Police officers risked their lives - they acted professionally in an environment of extreme danger.

"Those are the facts.

"This inquest has failed the community by becoming a witch-hunt into policing rather than a sober, level-headed search for the truth."

To see the story go to: < [https://medium.com/@tony\\_king/the-true-story-of-the-lindt-cafe-506e4a6c5e3a](https://medium.com/@tony_king/the-true-story-of-the-lindt-cafe-506e4a6c5e3a) >

Tony King will be available for comment at 11am, Monday 22 May at the Police Association offices, Level 3, 154 Elizabeth Street, Sydney

**Media Contact Darren Rodrigo: 0414783405**