



**PANSW**  
Police Association of NSW

**Media  
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## **Ministers commended for taking mandatory blood testing forward**

The Police Association of New South Wales (PANSW) has welcomed the decision taken by the Government today to move ahead with legislation to introduce mandatory blood testing of people who attack police officers and other frontline workers.

“It is a real credit to the Ministers and the Government for taking this step, and we commend the Minister for Police and Emergency Services David Elliott, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections Anthony Roberts and Attorney General Mark Speakman for today’s announcement,” said Tony King, President of PANSW.

“This will be a major relief to those officers who are adversely affected by violent and dangerous assaults. They currently have to experience huge amounts of distress that impact on themselves, other colleagues and family through long waiting periods to be cleared of any risks of disease from the transfer of bodily fluids and blood.

“Legislation such as this is all about maximising the information available. In terms of safety and protection it’s all about delivering vital peace of mind and better mental health and wellbeing for our members. At the same time it also sends a strong message of deterrence.

“At the Police Association we have been advocating for this law on behalf of our members for several years. We now look forward to participating in the legislative process when it commences early next year, so that we can have the best possible law in place”.

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