



Office of the  
Attorney-General

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28 JAN 2016

Mr Douglas and [REDACTED] Sheridan  
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr and Mrs Sheridan

I refer to your emails of 19 July 2015, to the Deputy Premier, the Hon James Merlino MP, and of 3 August 2015, to the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence, the Hon Fiona Richardson MP, regarding a complaint about the coronial process following the death of your daughter, [REDACTED]. Your emails were referred to the Attorney-General, the Hon Martin Pakula MP, as the matters you raised fall within his portfolio responsibilities. The Attorney-General has asked me to respond on his behalf, and I apologise for the delay in doing so.

I would like to extend my sincere sympathies to you and your family on the loss of your daughter, [REDACTED]. I am sorry to hear that the coronial process has caused you further distress.

As you have been advised previously, the Courts act independently of the Government, and for that reason, it would not be appropriate for the Attorney-General, or his office, to intervene in a specific case. The appropriate course of action if a person disagrees with the decision of a coroner, is to appeal the matter to the Supreme Court of Victoria.

If you wish to seek independent legal advice about the appeal process, you may wish to contact the Law Institute of Victoria's Find Your Lawyer Referral Service. You can find out more information about this service online at [liv.asn.au/referral](http://liv.asn.au/referral) or by contacting [REDACTED].

I hope that this information is of assistance to you, and again, I offer my condolences to you and your family.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
**ANDREA DAVID**  
Acting Chief of Staff