

From: Yates, Heidi
Sent: Wed, 4 Aug 2021 09:36:39 +1000
To: Brittany Mae; David Sharaz
Cc: Moller, Scott; [REDACTED]
Subject: HIGGINS - 9am Call Tomorrow (Thu 5.8.21)
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Brittany and David,
Thank you for your call just now.

Scott, Brittany has proposed that we have a conversation at **9am tomorrow (Thursday)?**

If suitable, I can come to Winchester at 8.45am, ready for us to call Brittany on speaker on my mobile for 9am?

Regards,

Heidi Yates
Victims of Crime Commissioner
ACT Human Rights Commission
5 Constitution Avenue
Canberra City ACT 2601
Tel (02) 6205 2222



From: Yates, Heidi
Sent: Wednesday, 4 August 2021 9:28 AM
To: David Sharaz [REDACTED]
Cc: Moller, Scott <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Higgins - FW: News Story
Importance: High

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi David, Marcus and Scott,

David – good to talk just now following your email below, and to confirm that you and Brittany have just received my message from yesterday, indicating that Scott would like to identify a time to meet with Brittany – by phone or online – tomorrow or Friday.

As discussed, as soon as Brittany can confirm her availability, I will liaise with Scott to lock-in arrangements.

Regards,

Heidi Yates

Victims of Crime Commissioner
ACT Human Rights Commission
5 Constitution Avenue
Canberra City ACT 2601
Tel (02) 6205 2222



From: David Sharaz <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 August 2021 9:24 AM
To: Yates, Heidi [REDACTED]
Cc: Moller, Scott [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Higgins - FW: News Story

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Good Morning Marcus,

I'm just writing to seek some guidance on my correspondence with you made via text message on Monday (2/8) and Tuesday (3/8) about the next steps in Brittany's case.

It's been indicated a decision will be made before COB this Friday (6/8) – a week later than planned - and I wanted to advice that such a decision should not be delayed due to the ongoing border closures in Queensland.

Brittany stresses that the direction can be passed onto Heidi Yates, the ACT Victims of Crime Commissioner, or made to her via a telephone call or video conference with Ms Yates also present.

Brittany has waited a long time for this – initially feeling threatened to pursue any investigation, as you know, more than two years ago – and doesn't want any further delay in next steps.

An open line of communication is always appreciated.

Kind regards,

David Sharaz

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [David Sharaz](#)
Sent: Friday, 30 July 2021 11:20 AM
To: [Yates, Heidi](#); [REDACTED]
Cc: [Moller, Scott](#)
Subject: Re: Higgins - FW: News Story

Hi Marcus and Scott,

I trust you're both well. Thank you for your time on the phone this morning Marcus.

Just confirming the desire of Brittany to have this process resolved sooner rather than later, and her expectation for a direction to be given as to what the next step is.

She expects that direction by the end of the day, as indicated by you both when you flew up to Brisbane.

As always, happy to discuss over the phone.

Thanks,

David

From: Yates, Heidi [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 29 July 2021 12:20 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: Moller, Scott <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Higgins - FW: News Story

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Marcus,

Please see below article from David Sharaz in the Higgins matter. I expect you and the team have been hard at work trying to finalise the brief, following the productive conversations with Ms Higgins that I attended in Brisbane on 12 July. I note at that time, you were hopeful that the brief would be finalised by end of the month (tomorrow).

I note the further media engagement today, highlighting potential inconsistencies between the Commissioner's comments and information previously on the public record regarding the fact that the DPP had already provided advice. This seems unfortunate given how close the matter may be to next steps. It is certainly unhelpful for Ms Higgins and her family for these things to continue to pop up in the media.

I'm stepping into a meeting now but please let me know if there's anything I can do in terms of next steps, noting Ms Higgins has confirmed that she remains anxious to proceed if that pathway is available based on your investigations.

Regards,

Heidi Yates
Victims of Crime Commissioner
ACT Human Rights Commission
5 Constitution Avenue
Canberra City ACT 2601

Tel (02) 6205 2222



From: David Sharaz [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 29 July 2021 12:09 PM
To: Yates, Heidi <[REDACTED]>
Subject: News Story

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Heidi,

I hope you're well.

I wanted to highlight this article that has just popped up on News.com.au:
<https://www.news.com.au/national/politics/director-of-public-prosecutions-denies-karen-andrews-brittany-higgins-claims/news-story/1d92670977890a0b7727bcbfe55afd8c>

I wanted to stress how much of an impact this political back and forth has on Brittany, while she places her life on hold, and awaits a step forward from the police.

We have both remained silent, as per the direction of the police, and have asked them to keep us in the loop on any media commentary they plan to make.

I notice AFP Commissioner Kershaw did indeed comment at the Press Club yesterday, despite me asking in good faith from ACT Policing if comments would be made.

No guidance was provided to us, and it appears Reece Kershaw decided to attempt to pick a fight with the DPP.

I was hoping we could once again seek guidance on whether we can expect an outcome, as indicated, by the end of the month?

We will continue to abide by the no public commentary direction in place.

Thanks,

David

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