

# RE: Operation Covina [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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**From:** "Madders, Trent" [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
**To:** "Moller, Scott" [redacted]@afp.gov.au>, "O'Meagher, Hall" [redacted]@afp.gov.au>, "Boorman, Marcus" [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "Frizzell, Emma" [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
**Date:** Fri, 02 Dec 2022 11:36:36 +1100

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OFFICIAL  
Thanks Boss

DLSC TRENT MADDERS  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS - JACET  
ACT POLICING

[redacted]  
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[Australian Federal Police]<<http://www.afp.gov.au/>>

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From: Moller, Scott [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
 Sent: Friday, 2 December 2022 10:29 AM  
 To: Madders, Trent [redacted]@afp.gov.au>; O'Meagher, Hall [redacted]@afp.gov.au>; Boorman, Marcus [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
 Cc: Frizzell, Emma [redacted]@afp.gov.au>  
 Subject: RE: Operation Covina [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL  
I agree Trent, not to mention the emotional toll it has had on all of us. Take care mate and I will raise it with the Executive.

Cheers.

DETECTIVE SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT MOLLER  
UNSOLVED HOMICIDE

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[redacted]  
[www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)<<http://www.afp.gov.au>>

[Australian Federal Police]<<http://www.afp.gov.au/>>

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From: Madders, Trent [redacted]@afp.gov.au<[mailto:\[redacted\]@afp.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@afp.gov.au)>>  
 Sent: Friday, 2 Dec 2022 9:10 AM  
 To: [redacted]@afp.gov.au>; [redacted]@afp.gov.au>; O'Meagher, Hall [redacted]@afp.gov.au>>; Boorman, Marcus [redacted]@afp.gov.au>>  
 Cc: Frizzell, Emma [redacted]@afp.gov.au<[mailto:\[redacted\]@afp.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@afp.gov.au)>>  
 Subject: Operation Covina [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL  
Morning Bosses,

I would request that someone at an executive level questions the ACT-DPP about their lack of professional courtesy during this investigation. I am specifically pointing out the following sections from the AFP/DPP Collaborative Agreement, dated 26/09/2019, in which it states:

### 1.1 Relationships

The parties agree that this arrangement will be undertaken in the spirit of goodwill and in a manner that:

- \* Promotes a mutually professional relationship;

- \* Encourages regular discussions and communication;
- \* Seeks to resolve issues in a timely fashion and at the lowest level;
- \* Promotes the administration of justice; and
- \* Enables them to further fulfil their obligations under this CA.

#### 4.3 Consideration by the DPP

Where the DPP is considering discontinuing a prosecution it will, if practicable, contact the informant to seek the informant's views. If the DPP decides to discontinue a matter it will advise JFVO.

#### 5.3 Communication and Notification in Prosecution matters

The DPP will keep the AFP informed, in a timely manner, of the progress of all matters through the Court process including all relevant information about the matter such as the next Court date, the purpose of the Court listing and any action required. For Supreme Court matters, the DPP will provide a Failed/Withdrawn Prosecution Report to the AFP in a timely manner.

I would like to draw your attention to one of the multiple media reports that states the matter is being withdrawn.

<https://www.news.com.au/national/nsw-act/courts-law/sexual-assault-charge-against-bruce-lehrmann-expected-to-be-dropped/news-story/b1f0db58baaf00feace7be64a6b8245d>

Last week we became aware there was closed Court hearing on 2/12/2022, again through media reporting.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-11-24/closed-hearing-december-application-bruce-lehrmann-rape-trial/101693666>

On 24/11/2022 I sent an email to our DPP contact for this matter requesting information about the upcoming hearing and whether we could attend. On 24/11/2022 the DPP replied with the message stating that the Director said no and if there are any updates regarding the matter I would be advised so I can brief our management.

Clearly we have not been consulted or updated regarding any developments in this matter. For the members of the investigation team to find out about the latest development through media reporting, again, and not from the DPP is highly insulting and I believe unprofessional from the ACT-DPP. It appears they had the time to notify the media about the upcoming media statement but have not bothered to inform the investigations team.

As part of the investigations team for this matter since the start in 2021 there has been a highly combative relationship with the DPP during this investigation and this is just another example of their perceived disdain towards the investigations team.

Regards,  
Trent  
DLSC TRENT MADDERS  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS - JACET

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