

CONFIDENTIAL
Anti Corruption Branch - Investigation Plan

Supervisor's Initials
Date: / /

Officer in Charge
ANTI CORRUPTION BRANCH

SUBJECT: Watkins C – allegations of misconduct

REFERENCE: ACB Prelim 02/01/58

ADMINISTRATOR: Superintendent Symons

CASE OFFICER¹: S/Sgt Parry Jones

PRIMARY TEAM: S/Sgt Parry Jones
 Det SC O'Rielley

PRIMARY EXHIBITS OFFICER: Det SC O'Rielley

TARGET/S:

Primary:

Colin Watkins
 Former Assistant Commissioner of Police

OFFENCE/S:

Abuse of Public Office

LIMITATION

The conduct of police will be such that it will not encourage the suspect or persons acting in concert with him/her into serious criminal behaviour that he/she/they would otherwise have avoided.

SITUATION

1. Watkins is allegedly involved in Abuse of Public Office
SOURCES: Information from serving police officers re direction to cease investigating alleged sex offender.

2. Alleged that Watkins directed police to stop an active investigation.
SOURCES: As above

- 1 The Case Officer for the purpose of investigations conducted under this format is the same as the Team Leader under the Task Force Policing Plan. This person has the overall responsibility to conduct the investigation. S/he will be the *leader* of the investigation team. S/he will develop the investigation strategy and coordinate all resources required. The Case Officer is also required to ensure that the matter is presented before the Courts in the correct fashion, and that all policies and procedures are adhered to. S/he is in control of the investigation from the beginning to the end.

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ASSESSMENT

The information from the serving officers indicates that Watkins issued a direction via C/Insp Peter Simons that they were to stop investigating a matter. There is a need to ascertain the reasons for such a direction as there is the potential for the offence of "abuse of public office".

MISSION

To determine if former Assistant Commissioner Colin Watkins committed the offence of "abuse of public office" by allegedly interfering in a police investigation in 1993.

OBJECTIVES

- 1 To determine whether former Assistant Commissioner Colin Watkins issued instructions to police officers to stop investigating alleged sexual acts involving students at the St Ann's Special School.
2. If he did issue instructions, then to determine why these instructions were issued.
3. To determine if any criminal offences were committed if these instructions were issued.

POTENTIAL ASSET RECOVERY

Not applicable

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**Personnel**

Investigation contained within ACB

Equipment

Nil extraordinary items of equipment

Exhibit handling

No difficulties envisaged in handling of exhibits.

Cost

No extra costs anticipated.

TIME FRAME

Investigation to commence on 7/3/02. Anticipated completion date 31/3/02.
This investigation to be conducted in tandem with special Task Force being run by Drug and Organised Crime Task Force.

Phase 1**Intelligence phase**

To be completed by 16/3/02 – interview police officers involved.

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Phase 2.**Investigation phase**

If the information provided in the intelligence phase supports the involvement of former Assistant Commissioner Watkins then there will be a need to interview him. This should be done no later than 28/3/02.

Phase 3.**Arrest/Report phase.**

This is dependent on Phase 2.

Phase 4**Prosecution phase.**

Liaison will commence with the DPP if any potential offences are identified.

MEDIA POLICY

The following guidelines will apply to all media contact in relation to this operation.

There will be no disclosure of information that may:

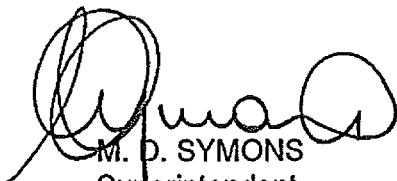
- compromise the safety of any person.
- prejudice this operation.
- prejudice any court proceedings instituted as a result of this operation.
- prejudice the reputation of any individual person.
- prejudice the reputation of any ethnic group or other organised group of persons.
- prejudice any organisation.

As such:

The disclosure of any information to any media source will not occur unless specifically authorised by the Officer in Charge of the Anti Corruption Branch or his nominee after due discussion with the Case Officer.

OUTCOMES

- Resolve whether or not former Assistant Commissioner Watkins engaged in any inappropriate or illegal acts in the course of an investigation into alleged sexual acts involving students from the St Ann's Special School.



M. D. SYMONS
Superintendent
Officer-in-Charge
Anti Corruption Branch

6 March 2002