



Government of South Australia
Director of Public Prosecutions

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Memorandum

To: Ian Press
From: Vanessa Burrows
Date: 22 June 2011
Subject: Answer Charge 26 July 2011
File:

Thank you for agreeing to review this matter, which is listed to answer the charge at the Christies Beach Magistrates Court on 26 July 2011.

I prepared a memo to Dominic Petraccaro recommending that four charges should be laid in the above matter. My instructions are that there is no reasonable prospect of conviction on any charge. Having considered Dom's instructions, I agree with that position. Please see the memo and instructions, flagged on the correspondence pin.

I met with each of the parents of the complainants on 17 June 2011 to advise that my instructions are to tender no evidence (see my notes flagged on the correspondence pin). About half of the parents I met with requested that the decision be reviewed by another manager.

On 21 June 2011 I appeared on the answer charge date to seek an adjournment. All that I said was that the adjournment was to allow the DPP to consider the charges in the matter. The answer charge date was therefore adjourned to 26 July 2011.

Please be aware that there is media interest in this matter and that the families of the complainants have been in contact with "Today Tonight". Members of that media agency, together with other media agencies, attended at the answer charge date yesterday and I expect they will attend on 26 July 2011. The attached report from ABC News is the only report I am aware of about the proceedings yesterday. From my meetings with the parents, I understand that their issues are more with how the Department of Education should protect children, rather than any issue with the police investigation or with the decision made by the DPP.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards

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Vanessa Burrows

N.B. The DVDs of The CPS interviews are in The file .