

Green, Dennis AIRCDRE 1

From: Green, Dennis AIRCDRE 1
Sent: Wednesday, 31 July 2013 8:54 AM
To: Courtney, Barbara GPCAPT
Cc: Hatch, Jacqueline SQNLDR
Subject: FW: COMCARE INTERVENTION - AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADET STAFF MEMBER [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Categories: UNCLASSIFIED
Attachments: EVE00218608-0001 DoD Cadet.pdf; CB-AF_OUT_2013_014 Letter Response to Comcare s155.pdf

UNCLASSIFIED

Barbara

The email below and attachments are to make you aware of the recent interaction with COMCARE. For the moment I am hopeful COMCARE are satisfied.

For info of DCAF and CAF.

We are also preparing an update on the recent activities related to LAC (AAFC) Adams.

Dennis

From: Green, Dennis AIRCDRE 1
Sent: Wednesday, 31 July 2013 08:50
To: Kranz, Lindsay MR
Subject: COMCARE INTERVENTION - AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADET STAFF MEMBER [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Lindsay

For your information.

I discussed with you last Friday the formal request for information which had come from COMCARE in relation to an Australian Air Force Cadet staff member having consensual sexual relations with a 17 year old cadet.

Attached is the COMCARE Section 155 request for information.

Of note the COMCARE title is "DOD Cadet". I suspect COMCARE were not aware of the distinction between the ADFA Officer Cadets who are full time employees of Defence, and the cadets and cadet staff who are volunteers and attend parades three hours a week. Given the recent publicity about inappropriate sexual behaviour in Defence, the COMCARE interest is perhaps understandable. The COMCARE paperwork also refers to sexual assault. The allegations involve consensual sex.

Attached is my response to COMCARE which attempts to clarify the facts and provide them with the information they required.

Below is a subsequent follow up email request from COMCARE and the response.

COMCARE had obviously talked with the complainant (a young AAFC Pilot Officer) and the mother. They had concerns that the AAFC staff member (who they knew had been suspended from all AAFC duties and activities) was also a member of Defence, and that he could continue to have interaction with cadets. This is not the case as he has been prohibited from all cadet activities and all interaction with cadets.

8/06/2016

The response below from the COMCARE inspector "terrific" hopefully means that the COMCARE concerns have been resolved.

The mother of the cadet is a consultant in Workplace Risk and Environmental Management, and is obviously very upset that this incident has occurred. This may explain why this matter has been elevated to COMCARE.

At the moment the matter is with the NSW Police for their investigation, and until they complete their action, any administrative action by the Australian Air Force Cadets is suspended.

I don't think that there is any further action required by you at this time.

Dennis

From: Berenice Devlin [mailto:Devlin.Berenice@comcare.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 July 2013 11:45
To: Ballard, Jeff MR
Cc: Green, Dennis AIRCDRE 1; Topp, Daryll WGCDR
Subject: RE: EVE00218608-0001 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Terrific thank you Jeff:

Berenice

From: Ballard, Jeff MR [mailto:jeff.ballard@defence.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 July 2013 11:08 AM
To: Berenice Devlin
Cc: Green, Dennis AIRCDRE 1; Topp, Daryll WGCDR
Subject: EVE00218608-0001 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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Good morning Berenice,

The trainer, LAC (AAFC) Adams, was suspended from all AAFC activities and prohibited from contact with cadets.

The matter was referred to NSW police to determine if there were charges to be made. All internal AAFC processes were suspended pending the outcome/determination of the NSW police assessment.

Once that determination has been made, and the matter brought to conclusion, the AAFC will proceed with the internal process. The inappropriate relationship of an adult staff member and a cadet is a gross breach of AAFC policy. The AAFC process is that a 'show cause' will be issued to LAC (AAFC) Adams as to why he should not be immediately and permanently terminated as an adult staff member.

Defence employees, Defence civilians, Defence members and members of the public do not have direct access to cadets. During AAFC parade nights and other activities, cadets are in the care of, and supervised by, approved staff and civilian instructors who have had appropriate training, education and assessments in accordance with applicable state and territory child protection legislation. Despite having access to a Defence site, the trainer will not have access to cadets.

Kind regards

8/06/2016

Jeff

Jeff Ballard

National Safety Advisor
Cadet Branch - Air Force

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Canberra BC ACT 2610

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Email: jeff.ballard@defence.gov.au

From: Berenice Devlin [<mailto:Devlin.Berenice@comcare.gov.au>]

Sent: Tuesday, 30 July 2013 08:04

To: Ballard, Jeff MR

Subject: RE: EVE00218608-0001 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks again Jeff,

I have considered all of the information provided, thank you. I note that the allegation is not of a sexual assault but of an inappropriate sexual relationship between a cadet and a trainer.

Just one point, the cadets mother is of the view that the male involved (the trainer), was suspended from his role with cadets, but is also employed by defence at another site, where he has access to cadets. Can you shed any light on this perception please as I need to respond to her on this point.

Thanks again

Berenice

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