

Senator Mark Bishop Chair Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade PO Box 6100 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Bishop

I seek to make corrections to Veterans' Affairs Portfolio evidence given to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, Supplementary Budget Estimates, 21 October 2009.

On page 93 of the Proof Committee Hansard, Senator Johnston asked details regarding a Departmental contract for \$24,905 to HorizonOne Recruitment Pty Ltd and the name of the Department's Chief Finance Officer was mentioned by Senator Johnston. In that context I said that I assumed that it was a contract to assist in the recruitment of the Chief Finance Officer. In fact it was for the recruitment of an Executive Level 2 position under the Chief Finance Officer.

As you are aware, during the course of the questioning I was receiving advice from some of my Officers. For the sake of clarity I would like to point out that on page 100 of the Proof Committee Hansard where I refer to two written requests, that both these written requests were for data, not for a further meeting. These two letters were tabled at the Hearing. The letter of 12 November 2008 suggested further discussions take place but this did not occur.

On page 100 of the Proof Committee Hansard, in relation to Foxtel subscription within the Department, I advised Senator Johnston 'We have 12 licences that are mainly used in the ACT within our national office in Woden.' I would like to advise that we have a contract for 11 licences. Currently nine only are active, all within the ACT offices in Woden. We were trying to be helpful to the Committee and relied on the recollection of an officer contacted late at night.

Yours sincerely

Ian Campbell Secretary

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