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25 May 2012

Senator Trish Crossin
Chair
Senate Standing Committees on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Canberra
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Melbourne
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Dear Senator

Budget Estimates 2012-13 – Australian Government Solicitor

On 24 May 2012, the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) appeared before the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee in relation to the 2012-13 Budget Estimates. I would like to correct one aspect of my evidence regarding the scope of AGS's instructions concerning litigation arising out of the investigations of Fair Work Australia (FWA) into the Health Services Union (HSU).

I believe that I inadvertently informed the Committee that AGS had received instructions to commence Federal Court proceedings in respect of matters arising from FWA's investigation into the National Office of the HSU.

In fact, AGS has received instructions from FWA to commence Federal Court proceedings in respect of matters arising out of its investigation into the Victoria No 1 Branch of the HSU, not its National Office. The proceedings relating to the Victoria No 1 Branch of the HSU were commenced by the filing of an Originating Application and Statement of Claim in the Federal Court on 23 May 2012.

Yours sincerely

Ian Govey
Chief Executive Officer