

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000123

Senator McKenzie asked on 11 February 2016 on proof Hansard page 141

Question

FWC - AFP Investigator

Mr Enright: The update is that we are still in the hands of the Australian Federal Police. We referred the matter to the Australian Federal Police—

CHAIR: When did you refer that, Mr Enright?

Mr Enright: On 24 March 2015 information was referred to the Australian Federal Police and on 27 April 2015, as a result of a further request from the Australian Federal Police, further documents and materials, all of the application and the declarations that were made that were associated with the application by Mr Collier were forwarded to the Australian Federal Police. Subsequent to that, I received advice that the matter had been allocated to an investigator from the Australian Federal Police, but I have received no contact from the Australian Federal Police subsequent to that. So, unfortunately, I cannot advise you on any more. We are in the hands of the AFP. That is a matter for the AFP.

CHAIR: So for over eight months the AFP has had this particular matter and you have heard nothing.

Mr Enright: That is so, Senator, yes.

CHAIR: Have you rung them to see what is happening?

Mr Enright: I made inquiries subsequent to the provision of further documents about when—

CHAIR: When you say you 'made inquiries', what did you actually do?

Mr Enright: The Fair Work Commission is engaging with other agencies, other police agencies, in relation to the trade union royal commission and they have—

CHAIR: When you say 'other agencies'—

Mr Enright: The Victoria police taskforce, Taskforce Heracles, are making similar inquiries. Whilst they were making inquiries about other matters, I made an inquiry with them to see if they could ascertain what was going on with that matter. That is how I was advised—

CHAIR: What was their advice to you?

Mr Enright: that the matter had been allocated to an investigator in Queensland. That was as far as they could take it and that was as far as I could take it. That is as much as—

CHAIR: Do you know who the investigator is?

Mr Enright: I was told the investigator's name at that point, but I do not have the name of the AFP investigator with me.

CHAIR: Maybe you could take that on notice.

Mr Enright: Certainly. I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer

Case Officer Thoro Dimitriou.