

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-15**

**Finance Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Australian Electoral Commission

**Outcome/Program:** General

**Topic:** Numbers of investigations and referral to law enforcement agencies

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number:** F163

**Type of question:** Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 113-114, 20 November 2014

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Wednesday, 31 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

**Senator LUDWIG:** For obvious reasons! You have hung them already! Yes. So, if I want to ask the question, I should ask it here, and then you can take on notice: what is the number of investigations that are currently on foot, or how many have been referred to the AFP or other law enforcement agencies?

**Mr Rogers:** I am happy to take the question, and we will consider what information we can give you back that does not—

**Senator LUDWIG:** Yes, I was not asking for it now. I thought you might want to do exactly that and consider how much you can answer ...

**Answer:**

The AEC is currently conducting 12 investigations under the authority of s.316(2A) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Electoral Act). These investigations seek to verify the accuracy of annual disclosure returns lodged for political parties and associated entities.

There are currently no investigations being conducted under s.316(3) and s.316(3A) of the Electoral Act.