SENATE ESTIMATES AUGUST 2017
OPENING STATEMENT

- Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee. Just over one year ago on 1 July 2016 the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) was formed to strengthen Australia's ability to respond to crime affecting our nation. I will briefly outline the role and work of the ACIC for those Senators unfamiliar with the agency.

- The ACIC is Australia's national criminal intelligence agency, uniquely equipped with intelligence, investigative and information delivery functions.

- Our role includes reducing serious and organised crime threats of most harm to Australians and the national interest, and providing national policing information systems and services.

- The ACIC's current work priorities are designed to disrupt and deter criminal groups.

- The ACIC continues to deliver results benefiting the broader Australian community and assisting our national and international law enforcement partners. Whilst I cannot publicly discuss all of the work undertaken by ACIC due to ongoing law enforcement investigations, I would like to highlight the following activities:

- In the first 12 months the ACIC has:

  o disseminated over 2,000 intelligence products

  o worked with our partners to seize nearly $900million in drugs and over $11 million in cash

  o identified 118 new money laundering targets

  o facilitated a record five million background checks

  o assisted state, territory and commonwealth law enforcement partners to conduct more than 40 million National Police Reference System searches

  o released, via the Australian Institute of Criminology, 31 research reports

  o released the second National Wastewater Drug Monitoring Report, and

  o through joint operations with state, territory and federal partners, the ACIC contributed to:

    - limiting tax evasion
    - significant drugs, tobacco, firearms and cash seizures
    - advanced the understanding of licit and illicit drug usage in Australia, and
    - numerous OMGC members arrests.

- Thank you, I am happy to take questions.