

3. Senator Rhiannon asked for details of breaches of the Filming and Photography Guidelines over the last two years.

The following breaches of the Filming and Photography Guidelines have been handled by the Usher of the Black Rod and involved formal correspondence to the Press Gallery or to the individual concerned:

- November 2011: A tweet was published which referred to footage taken of some senators in a private area of the building. A complaint was received from the Senators concerned. The Usher of the Black Rod prepared a letter for the President to send to the Bureau Chief of the media organisation concerned, outlining how this incident breached the Guidelines and directing the agency not to use the footage. This material was forwarded to the Broadcasting Committee and the Usher also informed the President of the Press Gallery of this incident.
- 24 March 2011: A senator's staff member in the advisers' box took a photo in the chamber. The issue was brought to the attention of the President by another senator and dealt with at the time it occurred.
- 23 September 2010: Following the publication of a photograph of the Speaker at Aussies café, the Usher of the Black Rod and Serjeant-at-Arms wrote to all Press Gallery members and (separately) to Senators and Members restating the guidelines and stating that further breaches may result in sanctions such as removal from the building and the suspension of further access to the building.

Other breaches in relation to the House of Representatives' side of the building have been handled by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Senator Rhiannon also asked for details regarding the most recent sanction imposed. This occurred on 8 February 2006 after a newspaper published a photograph of senators without the call in the chamber, which was in breach of the guidelines. The President barred the photographer from access to the Senate Chamber galleries 8 and 9 February 2006 and for Estimates hearings the following Wednesday.