

: Your Ref.

HQ2009/0796

: Our Ref.

Ms Jackie Wilson
First Assistant Secretary
Community and Detention Services Division
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Dear Jackie

Re: Northern Territory Police investigation into the explosion on board Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessel (SIEV) 36 that occurred on 16 April 2009

I refer to our discussion this morning, 7 October 2009 regarding visa options for the surviving passengers on board Suspect Illegal Entrant Vessel (SIEV) 36.

The criminal investigation is now complete although the Coronial process may draw out further information and subsequently create further lines of enquiry.

I can confirm that the NT Police supports the granting of permanent visas for the passengers. And as discussed I accept your offer of assistance from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship in locating clients to allow the service of subpoenas for the Coronial Inquiry.

In addition, I understand the following statement may have been misinterpreted by your department.

The criminal investigation has revealed information that suggests that a person or persons had intended to set a fire on board the vessel. It is unknown whether the person or persons responsible for the fire intended to cause the explosion that resulted in the loss of five lives.

The statement means that we can confirm the fire was a deliberate act but we are unable to identify person or persons responsible.

I hope this sufficiently clarifies matters. Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

Colleen Gwynne

Commander

Crime & Specialist Support Command

7 October 2009