

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 10

Senator Parry asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2011:

Senator PARRY: ... I now move to some issues about ACLEI. The relationship with ACLEI no doubt remains strong. The tables on page 120 of the annual report—I will get you the number in a moment—indicate that, of the corruption issues which are handled by ACLEI, there were a total of 30 for the 2010-11 year. That is table B1. Table B3, on the following page, indicates that of corruption issues there are 70 outstanding and 15 finalised. I realise that some of those 70 are from the previous financial year, 2009-10. Can you give us a breakdown of which are 2009-10 ones, or can you take that on notice if you have not got that at your fingertips.

Mr Negus: Yes, we would have to take that on notice to give you the accurate figures....

....

Senator PARRY: Can you indicate whether any prosecutions have resulted from the 30 corruption complaints or the 15 finalised ones.

Mr Negus: We are just testing our memory. Obviously these are things we would be briefed upon. There are a range of things, and they do go over a number of years. I should say, just to clarify this for the record, that where an allegation of corruption comes in, even from an anonymous source, those must under the act be referred to ACLEI in the first instance for them to make their own assessment. They regularly refer things that they see as less serious matters back to the AFP to investigate, with their supervision. We then notify them of the outcomes of that. I will take it on notice.

The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

The 70 outstanding corruption issues were referred to the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) as follows:

- 2006-07, the AFP referred 1 matter to ACLEI
- 2007-08, the AFP referred 7 matters to ACLEI
- 2008-09, the AFP referred 12 matters to ACLEI
- 2009-10, the AFP referred 20 matters to ACLEI
- 2010-11, the AFP referred 30 matters to ACLEI

No prosecutions have been initiated in relation to the 30 corruption complaints referred to ACLEI in 2010-11, or the 15 finalised during that period.

Noting the broadness of the definition of Corruption under the *Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006* and the relatively recent creation of ACLEI, the AFP has over the past few years been reviewing its referral practices based on on-going dialogue with ACLEI. This has resulted in an expansion of the type of matters referred to ACLEI and accounts for the progressive increase in referrals since the inception of ACLEI.