

# Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence

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PO Box 12264, George Street Qld 4003

## Media protocols

### Overview

1. The independent Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence (Commission of Inquiry) recognises the media has an important role to play in informing the community about the Inquiry.
2. These guidelines provide details of the arrangements for media access and reporting at hearings.
3. The Commission of Inquiry may vary or depart from these guidelines.

### Background

1. The Commission of Inquiry seeks to work cooperatively with news media organisations to facilitate fair and accurate reporting of the work of the Inquiry.
2. The Commission of Inquiry may release information it holds subject to legal and privacy considerations, confidentiality obligations and non-publication orders made by The Commissioner.

### Hearings

1. The Inquiry's hearings will generally be open to the public and live streamed via its website.
2. Hearings will be conducted in court buildings, as indicated in the hearing schedule. Established protocols for media working at Queensland courts should be observed.
3. Representatives of news media organisations attending hearings are to ensure their work is unobtrusive and without interruption to the proceedings.

### Use of electronic devices

1. During hearings, representatives of news media organisations may use electronic devices for the purposes of reporting on proceedings, subject to the conditions below. This includes laptop computers, tablets and mobile telephones, used for note-taking, text messaging, tweeting, and filing or publishing reports from the hearing room.

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## 2. Electronic devices may not be used in hearings:

- in a manner that interferes with the decorum of proceedings or with the recording system;
- to make or receive audio or video calls; or
- to take photographs or video footage.

## Live streaming

1. Hearings will be live streamed through the Inquiry's website.
2. Live streaming is provided on condition that it not be recorded, rebroadcast, published or shared in any form. Due to the nature of the content being presented, footage and audio from the hearings cannot be broadcast.
3. The Commission of Inquiry has power to direct that evidence not be published, if it is satisfied it is proper to make that direction. In that event, the live stream may be muted or suspended by order of The Commissioner.

## Filming and photography

1. Media representatives are not to film or photograph the proceedings.

## For journalists covering hearings

1. If the live stream is suspended, in the interests of non-publication of that part of proceedings, the media is to comply with any directions made by The Commissioner.
2. The Commission of Inquiry will manage confidential information and documents in accordance with relevant practice guidelines.
3. Contact with witnesses, legal representatives or members of the public will not be facilitated by the Commission of Inquiry.

## Media relations contact

1. For media enquiries, please contact [media@qpsdfvinquiry.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@qpsdfvinquiry.qld.gov.au)

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