



**COVID-19  
Hotel Quarantine Inquiry**

No. ORD-0046

**BOARD OF INQUIRY INTO THE COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE PROGRAM**

**RESTRICTED PUBLICATION ORDER**

**BACKGROUND**

1. The Board has received the telephone logs (**Telephone Logs**) listed in clause 1 of the Interim Restricted Publication Order made by the Board on 16 November 2020 (**Interim Order**).
2. Publication of the Telephone Logs was restricted in the manner, and for the reasons set out, in the Interim Order.
3. Since making the Interim Order, the Board has received further written Submissions from Counsel Assisting the Board addressing matters including the question of how the decision to engage private security contractors in the Hotel Quarantine Program came to be made (**Relevant Matter**).
4. The further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting have been provided to Parties with Leave to Appear and, as contemplated by clause 5 of the Interim Order, Parties with Leave to Appear have been invited to make further written Submissions in respect of:
  - a. the Relevant Matter and other matters raised since the close of evidence on 25 September 2020; and
  - b. the Interim Order.
5. The Board has since received:
  - a. further written Submissions from three Parties with Leave to Appear, being Victoria Police, the Hon. Lisa Neville MP, and the Department of Health and Human Services, in respect of the Relevant Matter and other matters raised since the close of evidence on 25 September 2020; and
  - b. no Submissions in respect of the Interim Order.
6. The time for making Submissions has closed and, in accordance with clause 7 of the Interim Orders, the Board now makes these further Orders regarding the matters set out in the Interim Order.



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7. The Board has considered the further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting, the further written Submissions of Parties with Leave to Appear and the supplementary evidence referred to in clause 3 of the Interim Orders (**Supplementary Evidence**). Having regard to those matters, the Board:
- a. is satisfied that the Telephone Logs contain telephone records that are not relevant to the Relevant Matter or any other matter that will assist the Board in its Inquiry;
  - b. is satisfied that the publication of such irrelevant telephone records may cause hardship to those involved in the telephone calls to which those records relate, including harm to their safety;
  - c. is satisfied that the nature and subject matter of such irrelevant telephone records is sensitive;
  - d. otherwise considers it appropriate to restrict publication of the Telephone Logs as specified in this Order;
  - e. has determined that only those telephone records contained in the Telephone Logs that are referred to in the further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting, the further written Submissions of Parties with Leave to Appear, the Supplementary Evidence, and/or evidence produced to the Board before the close of evidence on 27 November 2020 are relevant to the Board's Inquiry (**Relevant Telephone Records**); and
  - f. has determined that the remaining Telephone Logs, and telephone records contained within them, should not be published on this basis.

### Relevant Telephone Records

8. The Relevant Telephone Records are the following redacted Telephone Logs as published on the Board's website:
- a. Redacted call logs of Kate Houghton, Deputy Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet: HQI.0001.0059.0001\_R;
  - b. Redacted call logs of Chris Eccles, former Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet: HQI.0001.0060.0001\_R;
  - c. Redacted call logs of Tim Ada, Deputy Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet: HQI.0001.0061.0001\_R;



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- d. Redacted call logs of Lissie Ratcliffe, Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier:  
HQI.0001.0063.0001\_R;
  - e. Redacted call logs of Senior Adviser, Office of the Premier:  
HQI.0001.0064.0001\_R;
  - f. Redacted call logs of Cameron Harrison, Director of Policy, Office of the Premier:  
HQI.0001.0065.0001\_R; and
  - g. Redacted call logs of Graham Ashton, former Chief Commissioner of Police:  
TELS.0001.0001.0006\_R.
9. The telephone records contained in the call logs of the Hon. Daniel Andrews MP, Premier of Victoria (HQI.0001.0066.0001) were not referred to in the further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting, the further written Submissions of Parties with Leave to Appear, the Supplementary Evidence, or any other evidence produced to the Board before the close of evidence on 27 November 2020. Having regard to these matters, and having considered these telephone logs, the Board does not consider these telephone logs are relevant to the Relevant Matter or any other matter that will assist the Board in its Inquiry.

### ORDERS

1. The Interim Order is revoked and replaced by these Orders.
2. Pursuant to section 73 of the *Inquiries Act 2014*, publication of the Telephone Logs and any information contained therein is prohibited, except:
  - a. as contained in the Relevant Telephone Records listed in clause 8(a)–(g) above, the further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting, the further written Submissions of Parties with Leave to Appear, any other Submissions made to the Board by Counsel Assisting or Parties with Leave to Appear, the Supplementary Evidence, or any other evidence produced to the Board before the close of evidence on 27 November 2020;
  - b. by the Board or its staff (including Counsel Assisting) for the purposes of the Board's Inquiry;
  - c. with the consent of the person holding the telephone account to which the Telephone Logs relate; or
  - d. as required by law or Court Order.



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3. These Orders are subject to any further orders the Board may make.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020

**The Honourable Jennifer Coate AO**

**Board of Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program**

The Board notes: the Relevant Telephone Records listed in clause 8(a)–(g) above contain some telephone records that are not considered relevant to the Relevant Matter but are published for completeness because they are referred to in the further written Submissions of Counsel Assisting, the further written Submissions of Parties with Leave to Appear, the Supplementary Evidence, and/or evidence produced to the Board before the close of evidence on 27 November 2020.