From: NOSSC

To: NOSSC-CANBERRA

Cc: Media

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Date:** Thursday, 20 March 2025 2:00:00 PM

Attachments: image007.png image002.gif

image003.gif image004.gif image005.gif image006.gif image001.gif

#### **OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon.

Can you please review the below request and provide assistance and/or advice on which team would be best suited to assist.

Kind regards,

#### **PS SGT** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL OPERATIONS STATE SERVICE CENTRE

INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES
Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Australian Federal Police



The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:52 PM **To:** NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au>

Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### His 22(1)(a)(ii)

I think I might have used the wrong word – I think it's a report of crime made to the AFP against the eSafety Commissioner.

Happy to discuss.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)



The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.









From: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au> Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:47 PM

To: Media < <a href="Media@afp.gov.au">Media@afp.gov.au</a>>
Cc: NOSSC < <a href="Media@afp.gov.au">NOSSC@afp.gov.au</a>>

Subject: RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### Hs 22(1)(a)(ii)

If the matter relates to a complaint I would suggest reaching out to the Workplace Issues and Complaints Resolution (WICR) team s 47E(d) @afp.gov.au or depending on the nature of the complaint - Professional Standards s 47E(d) @afp.gov.au

Best regards,

#### **PS SGT** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL OPERATIONS STATE SERVICE CENTRE INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Australian Federal Police

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From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au > Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:38 PM

To: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au > Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

**Subject:** Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### Hi team.

We've had the below media request from an online outlet named Rebel News, regarding a complaint made to the AFP (they have given us a submission ID of 282714).

Apologies for not knowing how this works, but is that number genuine? Did it come through the Report a Commonwealth Crime Portal? And if it did, can we confirm what is being done with the complaint, and which AFP Command is dealing with it?

Would it be possible to get this information by 3pm today?

For your information, we strongly suspect the person asking us the questions below is also the person who says they lodged a complaint.

Happy to discuss or clarify.

Kind regards.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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Ηi,

This is a media request for comment regarding a federal police complaint reported online at 9:38 AM on March 20, 2025 (Submission ID: 282714), concerning eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant's use of WhatsApp's "disappearing messages" feature.

On March 18, 2025, at approximately 3:20 PM, a media request was sent via WhatsApp to the Commissioner. The app had "disappearing messages" enabled, displaying the notice: "New messages will disappear from this chat 24 hours after they're sent, except when kept." The message, which pertained to government business, was not "kept" and was deleted after 24 hours. A screenshot of the chat was retained as evidence.

Legal advice indicates that public servants, including the eSafety Commissioner, are required to preserve WhatsApp messages related to government business, as these are Commonwealth records under the Archives Act. Section 24(1) of the Act classifies the destruction of such records as an offense. The National Archives of Australia (NAA) guidance reinforces this, stating that social media and instant messaging content created or received during government business constitutes Commonwealth records (see: <a href="https://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-assets/types-information/managing-social-media-and-instant-messaging-im">https://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-assets/types-information/managing-social-media-and-instant-messaging-im</a>).

The AFP is requested to address the following for a news report:
Is this matter currently under investigation by the AFP?
Is the AFP treating this complaint with seriousness?
Will the eSafety Commissioner receive any special treatment during this process?

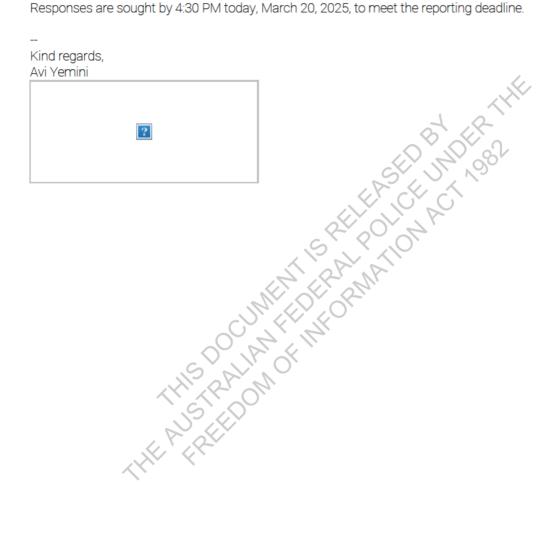
In AFP experience, is the use of "disappearing messages" a common practice among criminals? Does the AFP suspect this behavior might be widespread among Canberra public servants, potentially concealing other unlawful conduct?

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To what extent does the use of "disappearing messages" hinder or obstruct AFP investigations? As a Commonwealth statutory agency, similar to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, what is the AFP's internal policy regarding its employees' use of "disappearing messages"? How does this policy compare to the approach adopted by the eSafety Commissioner?

Has the AFP previously received any complaints regarding the eSafety Commissioner's use of "disappearing messages"?

Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.



From: <u>Media</u>

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Subject:** FW: Media enquiry - Avi Yemini from Rebel News [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Date:** Thursday, 20 March 2025 6:28:26 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.gif</u>

image002.gif image003.gif image004.gif image005.gif image006.gif image007.png

#### **OFFICIAL**

From: Media OeSC <media@esafety.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 3:21 PM

To: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** Re: Media enquiry - Avi Yemini from Rebel News [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you s 22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Get Outlook for iOS

From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2025 5:20:16 PM

**To:** Media OeSC < media@esafety.gov.au >

Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

Subject: Media enquiry - Avi Yemini from Rebel News [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Hi team,

For your awareness, the AFP has received the below media enquiry from Rebel News and is replying with the following response:

• The AFP has no comment.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Federal Police



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Hi.

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The AFP is requested to address the following for a news report: Is this matter currently under investigation by the AFP?

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Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.

Kind regards,		
Avi Yemini		
	?	

#### WARNING

This email message and any attached files may contain information that is confidential and subject of legal privilege intended only for use by the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient be advised that you have received this message in error and that any use, copying, circulation, forwarding, printing or publication of this message or attached files is strictly forbidden, as is the disclosure of the information contained therein. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your inbox.

AFP Web site: <a href="http://www.afp.gov.au">http://www.afp.gov.au</a>

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Any If you be a second to the and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all

copies of the original message.

From: Media

To: s 47E(d) @ag.gov.au; ag.gov.au

Cc: Media; s 47E(d) Viellaris, Renee; Sella, Andrew; s 22(1)(a)(ii) s 47E(d)ag.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Subject: Media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025 5:16:34 PM

Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025 5:16:34 F

image001.gif image002.gif image003.gif image004.gif image005.gif image006.gif

#### **OFFICIAL**

Hi everyone,

For your awareness, the AFP has received the below media enquiry from Rebel News and will reply shortly with the following response:

The AFP has no comment.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Federal Police

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(see: https://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-assets/types-

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Is the AFP treating this complaint with seriousness?

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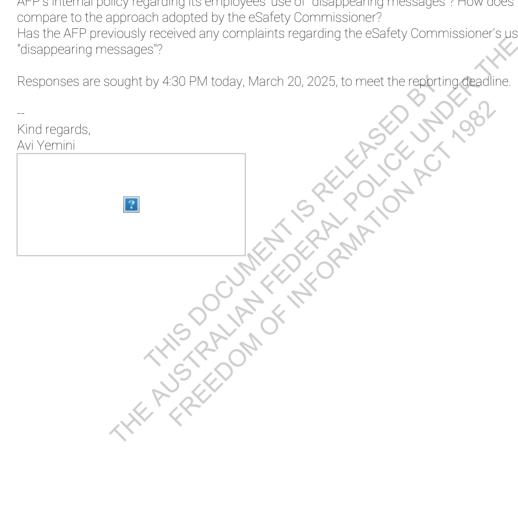
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Has the AFP previously received any complaints regarding the eSafety Commissioner's use of "disappearing messages"?

Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline



From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

To: Media

**Cc:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Subject:** RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Date:** Thursday, 20 March 2025 5:06:57 PM

Attachments: image007.png image001.qif

image002.gif image003.gif image004.gif image005.gif image006.gif

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### s 22(1)(a)(ii)

As discussed, I think The AFP has no comment is an appropriate response.

#### s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Writing to you from Ngunnawal Country COORDINATOR AFP NATIONAL MEDIA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Tel: +61 (0)2

#### Australian Federal Police



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.











From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 4:48 PM

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @afp.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii)

< s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au>
Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### s 22(1)(a)(ii) 22(1)(a)(ii)

In relation to the query below, we have received advice from the NOSCC that a complaint was received at 9.38am today. (Advice in attached email) It has yet to be investigated/assessed because it only just came in.

s 47C(1)

"The AFP has no comment"

Seeking your approval and happy to discuss.

Kind regards.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Australian Federal Police



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Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.



THE ALEREN ON OF THE ALER PROPERTY.

From: Media

s 47E(d) ; NOSSC-CANBERRA To:

Subject: RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025 4:32:00 PM

image001.gif Attachments:

image002.gif image003.gif image004.gif image005.gif image006.gif image007.png

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### lsi22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks for this

Cheers,

#### s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: afp.gov.au> s 47E(d)

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 3:23 PM

To: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>;

s 47E(d) afp.gov.au>; Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoons 22(1)(a)(ii)ns 22(1)(a)(iii)Media)

Given the matter was referred to the AFP at 09:38 y, there is not adequate information to form a clear view on this matter.

LAISTER ON OF HE s 47C(1) Cheers.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**DETECTIVE A/INSPECTOR** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

WATCHFLOOR OIC

INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

#### Australian Federal Police



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**From:** NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 2:57 PM

To: s 47E(d) @afp.gov.au>
Cc: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon NOSSC Inspectors,

See below enguiry from Rebel News to AFP media team.

#### Background Information:

Report of crime #282714 was received by NOSSC Canberra today at 9:38am. This report has not yet been investigated by the team due to only receiving today. We are not in a position to provide a response to the questions asked.

#### Response:

For consideration whether media should provide a no comment response to the Rebel News enquiry. The complainant in the Report of Crime appears to be the same person as the media reporter from Rebel News.

A response to this enquiry is being sought by 3pm today.

Regards

#### s 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/TEAM LEADER NOSSC CANBERRA

INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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To: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au >

Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon.

Can you please review the below request and provide assistance and/or advice on which team would be best suited to assist.

Kind regards,

**PS SGT** s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL OPERATIONS STATE SERVICE CENTRE

INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES
Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)



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From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:52 PM

To: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au>
Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### Hs 22(1)(a)(ii)

I think I might have used the wrong word – I think it's a report of crime made to the AFP against the eSafety Commissioner.

Happy to discuss.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Federal Police

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Cc: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Best regards,

PS SGT s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES
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To: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au > Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

Subject: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi team,

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Apologies for not knowing how this works, but is that number genuine? Did it come through the Report a Commonwealth Crime Portal? And if it did, can we confirm what is being done with the complaint, and which AFP Command is dealing with it?

Would it be possible to get this information by 3pm today?

For your information, we strongly suspect the person asking us the questions below is also the person who says they lodged a complaint.

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TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Federal Police			
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Is the AFP treating this complaint with seriousness?

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What might the AFP infer as the motive behind the eSafety Commissioner deleting these records? Beyond legality, does the AFP view it as morally concerning that Australia's online safety chief is deleting records?

To what extent does the use of "disappearing messages" hinder or obstruct AFP investigations? As a Commonwealth statutory agency, similar to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, what is the AFP's internal policy regarding its employees' use of "disappearing messages"? How does this policy compare to the approach adopted by the eSafety Commissioner?

Has the AFP previously received any complaints regarding the eSafety Commissioner's use of "disappearing messages"?

Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.

--

Kind regards, Avi Yemini



THE PREFERENCE ON OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

 From:
 Media

 To:
 Avi Yemini

 Cc:
 Media

Subject: RE: Media Request: AFP Investigation into eSafety Commissioner's WhatsApp Practices – Deadline 4:30 PM,

March 20, 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Date:** Thursday, 20 March 2025 5:20:44 PM

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png

#### **OFFICIAL**

Hi Avi,

Sorry for the delay. The below is a response you can attribute to an AFP spokesperson.

The AFP has no comment.

Kind regards, Nathan.

From: Avi Yemini <avi@rebelnews.com> Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 12:26 PM

To: Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

Subject: Media Request: AFP Investigation into eSafety Commissioner's WhatsApp Practices –

Deadline 4:30 PM, March 20, 2025

Hi,

This is a media request for comment regarding a federal police complaint reported online at 9:38 AM on March 20, 2025 (Submission ID: 282714), concerning eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant's use of WhatsApp's "disappearing messages" feature.

On March 18, 2025, at approximately 3:20 PM, a media request was sent via WhatsApp to the Commissioner. The app had "disappearing messages" enabled, displaying the notice: "New messages will disappear from this chat 24 hours after they're sent, except when kept." The message, which pertained to government business, was not "kept" and was deleted after 24 hours. A screenshot of the chat was retained as evidence.

Legal advice indicates that public servants, including the eSafety Commissioner, are required to preserve WhatsApp messages related to government business, as these are Commonwealth records under the Archives Act. Section 24(1) of the Act classifies the destruction of such records as an offense. The National Archives of Australia (NAA) guidance reinforces this, stating that social media and instant messaging content created or received during government business constitutes Commonwealth records (see: <a href="https://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-assets/types-information/managing-social-media-and-instant-messaging-im">https://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-assets/types-information/managing-social-media-and-instant-messaging-im</a>).

#### The AFP is requested to address the following for a news report:

- 1. Is this matter currently under investigation by the AFP?
- 2. Is the AFP treating this complaint with seriousness?
- 3. Will the eSafety Commissioner receive any special treatment during this

process?

- 4. In AFP experience, is the use of "disappearing messages" a common practice among criminals?
- 5. Does the AFP suspect this behavior might be widespread among Canberra public servants, potentially concealing other unlawful conduct?
- 6. What might the AFP infer as the motive behind the eSafety Commissioner deleting these records?
- 7. Beyond legality, does the AFP view it as morally concerning that Australia's online safety chief is deleting records?
- 8. To what extent does the use of "disappearing messages" hinder or obstruct AFP investigations?
- 9. As a Commonwealth statutory agency, similar to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, what is the AFP's internal policy regarding its employees' use of "disappearing messages"? How does this policy compare to the approach adopted by the eSafety Commissioner?
- 10. Has the AFP previously received any complaints regarding the eSafety Commissioner's use of "disappearing messages"?

Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.



s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From:

Media

Sent:

Thursday, 20 March 2025 4:32 PM

To:

s 47E(d)

**NOSSC-CANBERRA** 

Subject:

RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL** 

His 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks for this.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: @afp.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 3:23 PM

To: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>;

s 47E(

afp.gov.au>;

Media < Media@afp.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL** 

Good afternoons 22(1)(a)(iiands 22(1)(a)(ii(Media)

Given the matter was referred to the AFP at 09:38hrs today, there is not adequate information to form a clear view on this matter.

The Media enquiry is asking leading question regarding person opinion and trying to draw the inference the AFP gives special treatment to certain people in investigations.

Can I please suggest the following:

"The AFP is aware of a referral referenced in your enquiry. Referrals into the agency are carefully considered inline with our Operational Prioritisation Model. This referral is being evaluated and the AFP will not comment on operational matters."

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

**DETECTIVE A/INSPECTOR** 

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

WATCHFLOOR OIC

**INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES** 

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.

From: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 2:57 PM

To: s 22(1)(a)(ii) afp.gov.au> Cc: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au >

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Good afternoon NOSSC Inspectors,

See below enquiry from Rebel News to AFP media team.

#### **Background Information:**

Report of crime #282714 was received by NOSSC Canberra today at 9:38am. This report has not yet been investigated by the team due to only receiving today. We are not in a position to provide a response to the questions asked.

#### Response:

For consideration whether media should provide a no comment response to the Rebel News enquiry. The complainant in the Report of Crime appears to be the same person as the media reporter from Rebel News.

A response to this enquiry is being sought by **3pm today**.

Regards

s 22(1)(a)(ii) A/TEAM LEADER NOSSC CANBERRA

**INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES** Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





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From: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au> Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 2:00 PM

To: NOSSC-CANBERRA < NOSSC-CANBERRA@afp.gov.au>

Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

**Subject:** FW: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL** 

Good afternoon,

Can you please review the below request and provide assistance and/or advice on which team would be best suited to assist.

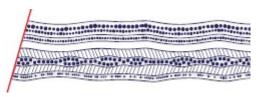
Kind regards,

PS SGT s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL OPERATIONS STATE SERVICE CENTRE **INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES** 

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au> Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:52 PM

To: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au > Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

**Subject:** RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I think I might have used the wrong word - I think it's a report of crime made to the AFP against the eSafety Commissioner.

Happy to discuss.

Cheers,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





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From: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au > Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:47 PM

To: Media < Media@afp.gov.au > Cc: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

#### **OFFICIAL**

His 22(1)(a)(ii)

If the matter relates to a complaint I would suggest reaching out to the Workplace Issues and Complaints Resolution @afp.gov.au or depending on the nature of the complaint - Professional Standards (WICR) team s 47E(d) s 47E(d) @afp.gov.au

Best regards,

PS SGT

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL OPERATIONS STATE SERVICE CENTRE INTELLIGENCE & COVERT SERVICES

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





The Australian Federal Police acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to First Nations people, culture and Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Media < Media@afp.gov.au > Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 1:38 PM

To: NOSSC < NOSSC@afp.gov.au > Cc: Media < Media@afp.gov.au >

Subject: Advice needed on media enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL** 

Hi team,

We've had the below media request from an online outlet named Rebel News, regarding a complaint made to the AFP (they have given us a submission ID of  $\frac{1}{5}$  47E(d).

Apologies for not knowing how this works, but is that number genuine? Did it come through the Report a Commonwealth Crime Portal? And if it did, can we confirm what is being done with the complaint, and which AFP Command is dealing with it?

Would it be possible to get this information by 3pm today?

For your information, we strongly suspect the person asking us the questions below is also the person who says they lodged a complaint.

Happy to discuss or clarify

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TEAM LEADER - AFP NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Tel: +61 (0)2 s 22(1)(a)(ii)





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Has the AFP previously received any complaints regarding the eSafety Commissioner's use of "disappearing messages"?

Responses are sought by 4:30 PM today, March 20, 2025, to meet the reporting deadline.

Kind regards, Avi Yemini



#### s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: do-not-reply@afp.gov.au

Sent: Thursday, 20 March 2025 9:39 AM

NOSSC-CANBERRA To:

Subject: Report a Commonwealth crime - form submission ID #282714 (ACT)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

The following details were submitted via the AFP's online forms platform (forms.afp.gov.au):

Form Information

Site Name: AFP Site Id: 71

Folder Name: Online forms

Folder Id: 93

Page Custom Form Name: Report a Commonwealth crime Page Custom Form Id: 139714 Url:

https://forms.afp.gov.au/online\_forms/report-commonwealth-crime

Submission Id: 282714

Submission Time: 20 Mar 2025 9:38 am Submission IP Address: 167.179.142.171

Which Commonwealth crime would you like to report?: Cybercrime committed against Commonwealth Government departments or information systems of national significance Details of the crime: At around 3:20 PM on March 18, I sent a media request via WhatsApp to eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant, noting that the federal public servant had enabled "disappearing messages" on the app. I captured a screenshot of the chat, which displayed the notice: "New messages will disappear from this chat 24 hours after they're sent, except when kept." The Commissioner did not "keep" my message, which pertained to government business, and it was deleted 24 hours later. After seeking legal advice, I learned that public servants, including the eSafety Commissioner, are obligated to retain WhatsApp messages related to government activities. Under Section 24(1) of the Archives Act, destroying a Commonwealth record is an offense. The National Archives of Australia (NAA) guidance further clarifies that social media and instant messaging content-such as posts, messages, and comments-created or received during Australian Government business constitute Commonwealth records (see NAA: https://www.naa.gov.au/informationmanagement/managing-information-assets/types-information/managing-social-media-and-instant-messaging-im). User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh, Intel Mac OS X 10\_15\_7) AppleWebKit/605.1.15 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/17.6 Safari/605.1.15 IP / Port number: 167.179.142.171 / Do you require a response?: Yes - I want to have my report assessed by the AFP.

\*\* Acceptance of AFP's Privacy Statement \*\*

Privacy Statement Acceptance: Yes, I understand and accept the AFP's Privacy Statement

\*\* Your contact details \*\*

Surname: Yemini Given names: Avraham Date of birth: s 47F(1)

Email address: avi@rebelnews.com

Confirm email address: avi@rebelnews.com Phone number: \$47F(1)

State/Territory where the crime was committed?: ACT Report Type Selected: a Commonwealth crime

\*\* Offenders details \*\*

Surname: Inman Grant Given names: Julie Date of birth: Email address:

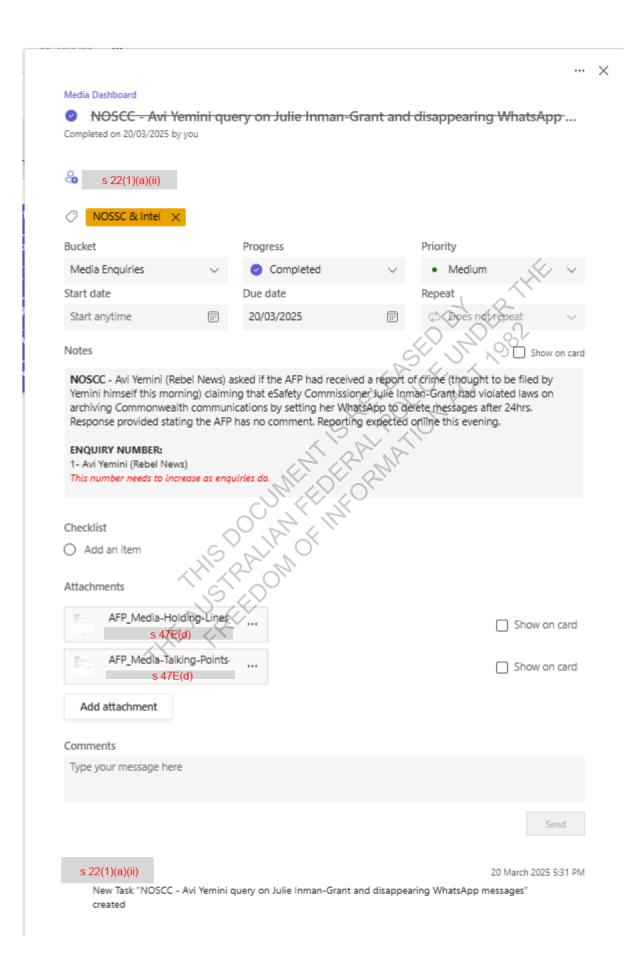
Phone number: s 47F(1)

Postal address:

Report Type Selected: a Commonwealth crime



#### OFFICIAL





# Better Practice Guide on AFP Managed Mobile Devices & Social Media Date of initial endorsement: 14 August 2024

14 August 2024 Date of initial endorsement:

24 January 2025 Date of last review:

Endorsed by: Chief Information Security Officer

Cyber Security & Risk Branch Owner:

Contact: Cyber Security Governance and Outreach

Identifier: **CISO006** 

IPS status: Exempt

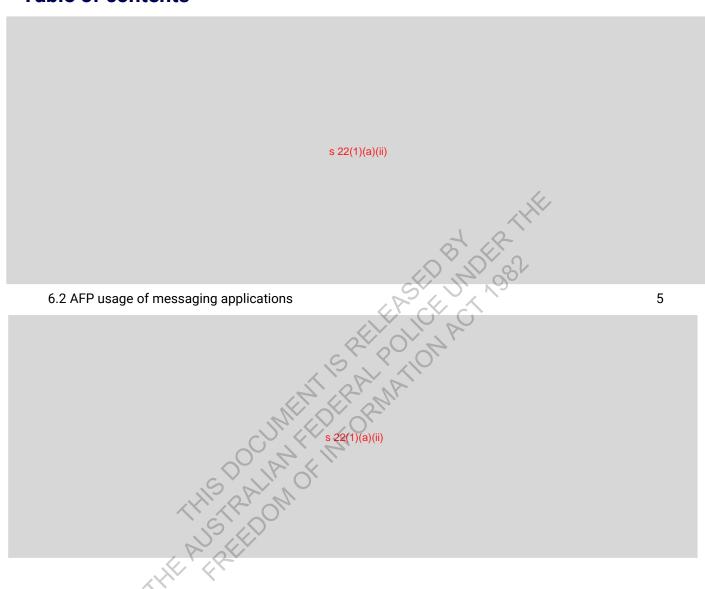
Disclosure and classification: This document is classified OFFICIAL and is intended for internal AFP use. Disclosing any content must comply with Commonwealth law and the AFP National Guideline on information management.

Compliance: This instrument forms part of the AFP Governance Instrument Framework (GIF) as defined in the AFP Commissioner's Order on governance (CO1). The <u>AFP Commissioner's Order on professional standards (CO2)</u> and <u>AFP</u> Commissioner's Order on security (CO9) set the framework for the conduct expected of AFP appointees through obligations and best practice to help maintain the safety and security of AFP information, operations, assets and people. Inappropriate departures from the provisions outlined within AFP governance instruments may constitute a breach and be dealt with under Part V of the Australian Federal Police Act 1979 (Cth).

afp.gov.au



#### **Table of contents**





Pages 31 through 32 redacted for the following reasons:
----s 22(1)(a)(ii)

THE ALEREN ON OF INTERNATION ACT OF THE PROBLEM OF

Mobile Devices & Social Media





### 6. Social media

#### 6.2. AFP usage of messaging applications

Any official information shared on these platforms is to be rated no higher than OFFICIAL, unless specified below.

**OFFICIAL** 

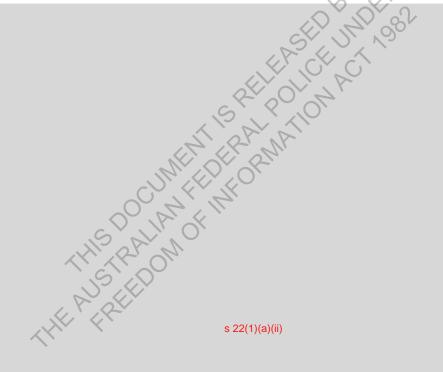




- Any decisions made on these platforms must also be recorded into AFP ICT systems (exception
  of AFP Teams), i.e. PROMIS or Outlook, refer to <u>National Guideline information management.</u>
- AFP Microsoft Teams is approved for use up to **PROTECTED**.
- Apple Messages and Signal are approved for use no higher than OFFICIAL.
- For a complete list of approved and unapproved apps see, <u>AFP iPhone Apps.</u>

Note: when considering the installation of any application users should be aware of:

- · Security considerations such as data privacy and application access requirements, and
- Business need or reasonable personal use restrictions for the application on an enterprise mobile.
- If any formal decision making of an official nature is made on messaging applications, a copy
  must be made to an official AFP system for recordkeeping purposes. The use of disappearing
  messages is prohibited.



Page 35 redacted for the following reason:
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

THE ALEREN ON OF INTERNATION ACT OF THE PROBLEM OF