

Inquest into the death of Corey James Christensen and Thomas Ian Davy

Corey James Christensen and Thomas Ian Davy were stabbed by Mr Dean Webber when they forced entry into Mr Webber's house.

The Deputy State Coroner delivered her findings of inquest on 6 October 2021.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating to the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 1

It is a concerning interpretation that the *Operational procedures manual* which requires officers to wear accoutrements whilst 'rostered on duty' does not apply to officers who may be called in on overtime to perform policing duties. Such an interpretation has the potential to impact upon future police responses to serious situations. I recommend that consideration be given by the Queensland Police Service to amending the *Operational procedures manual* to remove any such ambiguity.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 23 June 2022 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:

The Queensland Police Service reviewed and amended section 14.4 of the *Operational procedures manual* (the wearing of firearms and accoutrements), in consultation with key stakeholders, to remove any ambiguity regarding officers wearing their firearms and accoutrements. The term 'rostered duty' (with respect to wearing firearms and accoutrements) has been expanded to include being recalled to duty while on call or on overtime.

The updates to section 14.4 of the *Operational procedures manual* were approved and published on 11 February 2022.

Comment 1

In circumstances where Queensland Police Service represents an increasingly critical role in ambulance functions, and the ICEMS shared platform has Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance Service and the Queensland Fire and Emergency Service interacting with each on high volume, real-time information, I find there is a need for ongoing and further education to police officers, particularly those working in communications centres, regarding the roles and responsibilities of each agency and how they interact.

Response and action: implementation of the recommendation is in progress.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 23 June 2022 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:

The Queensland Police Service Communications Group reviewed the training materials associated with the use of the Inter CAD Emergency Messaging System (ICEMS) for inter-agency communications for calls for service to ensure adequate information is provided to police officers, particularly those working in communications centres regarding the roles and responsibilities of each agency and how they interact.

The Queensland Police Service is in the process of implementing training to support the Police Communications Centre new user training guides. The Queensland Police Service is also working closely with the Queensland Ambulance Service to better understand processes, expectations and demands with a view to improving multi-agency coordination, communication and interactions when jointly responding to calls for service.

This has resulted in a new initiative being trialled from June 2021 involving a Queensland Ambulance Service Supervisor being co-located in the Brisbane Police Communications Centre to improve the levels of communication and responsiveness to calls for service between Queensland Police Service and Queensland Ambulance Service. Since the trial commenced in June 2021, the initiative expanded to also allow a Queensland Police Service supervisor to be deployed, on occasion, to the Queensland Ambulance Service Operations Centre. The scope for this initiative included:

- understanding the decision-making processes from the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland Ambulance Service
- demand
- delays and impacts experienced by each agency and best ways to move forward
- mental health
- scene safety
- staging and alternative options.

Due to operational requirements of both Queensland Police Service and Queensland Ambulance Service, this initiative was suspended in January 2022 and will recommence at a later stage.

The ICEMS Technical User Group will continue to meet and support additional capabilities and awareness and will expand the membership to include employees from Police Communications Statewide Corporate Support Unit.