

OCEAN BEACH HOTEL — DEFENESTRATION FATALITY

315. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

I have a supplementary question. Why does the minister allow the shutting of hotels when funerals are being held, yet he will not shut a hotel when a life is taken?

Mr T.K. WALDRON replied:

I do not allow the shutting of hotels when funerals take place; that is usually arranged by local accords with the hotel or by the hotel itself. In Narrogin, where I am based, in the cases that I have been involved with, the police, local leaders of the Indigenous community and also the hotel's accord do that. They do that; I do not come in over the top and say, "You'll shut because there's a funeral coming." I am not the police minister, but the police have the authority to close a licensed premises if they think it is necessary for public safety reasons and I support them in that.