



Attorney General; Minister for Electoral Affairs

Our Ref: 67-26933/1

The Hon Peter Foster MLC
Chair, Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace WEST PERTH WA 6005

By email: env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Chair

PETITION NO. 091 – MURDER OF STACEY THORNE

Thank you for your letter dated 22 June 2023 regarding a petition requesting an inquiry into the murder of Ms Stacey Thorne.

The petition tabled on 16 May 2023 by the Hon Martin Aldridge MLC recommended the following:

1. WA Police to re-open and review the Stacey Thorne case.
2. Request WA Police re-examine and complete forensic testing on all exhibits.
3. Request WA Police obtain an internationally recognised knife wound expert to review the findings made by Dr Margolius.
4. Request a full coronial inquest.
5. Disclosure of any Corruption and Crime Commission findings in relation to this matter.

Issues related to operations and decisions of the WA Police Force are a matter for the Minister for Police and the Police Commissioner and I understand that they have made a separate reply in relation to the petition.

As to the request for an inquest, I note that pursuant to section 24 of the *Coroners Act 1996* (WA), any person may ask a coroner to hold an inquest into a death by making a formal application to the coroner in writing, containing the reasons for the request. I am not aware of any such application having been made for an inquest into the death of Ms Thorne.

The Corruption and Crime Commission Report to the Attorney General on aspects arising out of the trial of Scott Austic was tabled in Parliament on 17 May 2023. An electronic copy of the Report can be accessed here:

[https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/publications/taledpapers.nsf/displaypaper/4111951a3beacca0587ca082482589b300032d0d/\\$file/tp+1951+\(2023\)+report+to+attorney+general+on+aspects+arising+out+of+the+trial+of+scott+austic.pdf](https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/publications/taledpapers.nsf/displaypaper/4111951a3beacca0587ca082482589b300032d0d/$file/tp+1951+(2023)+report+to+attorney+general+on+aspects+arising+out+of+the+trial+of+scott+austic.pdf)

I am hopeful that the recent announcement of a million-dollar reward for information relating to the tragic death of Ms Thorne will lead to the discovery of new evidence which will allow for closure of the case.



Hon. John Quigley MLA

ATTORNEY GENERAL; MINISTER FOR ELECTORAL AFFAIRS