

Opi

Office of Police Integrity
Victoria

Michael Strong
Director, Police Integrity
Victoria, Australia

Greetings from down under!



Melbourne, Victoria



Victoria, Australia

Australia's second most populous State:

- Population 5.3 million
- 11,500 sworn police officers



Office of Police Integrity

(established November 2004)

Objects:

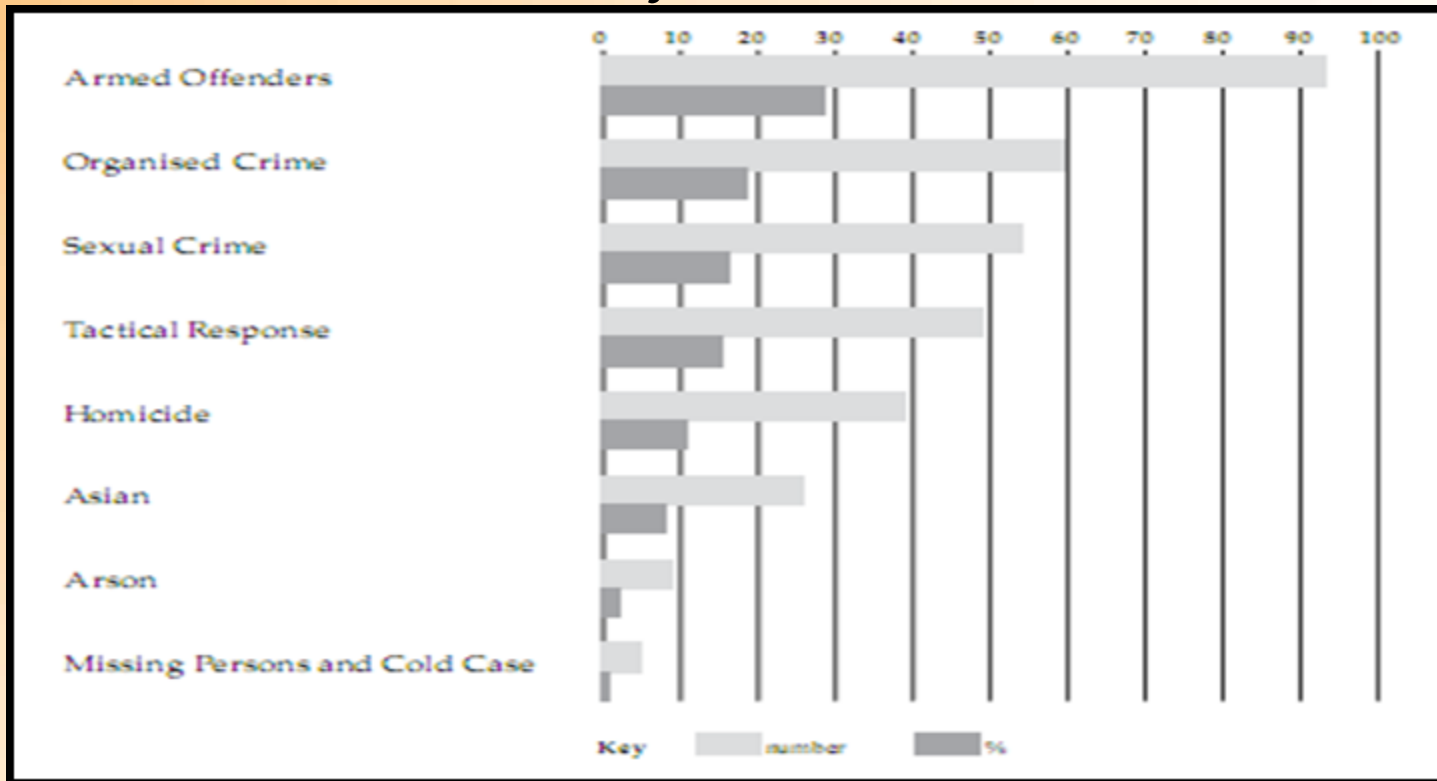
- Maintaining ethical and professional standards in Victoria Police
- Investigating and exposing police corruption and serious misconduct
- Developing strategies to prevent police corruption and serious misconduct
- Ensuring that police have regard to the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

OPI powers and capabilities

- Staff of 120
- Equivalent to Standing Royal Commissioner
- Coercive public and private hearings
- Search and seizure
- Telephone intercepts and surveillance devices
- Covert, counter-surveillance and hi-tech crime capability
- Tactical and strategic intelligence capability

Armed Offenders Squad

Number of Squad members against whom complaints were made, July 1 1999 – June 30 2006



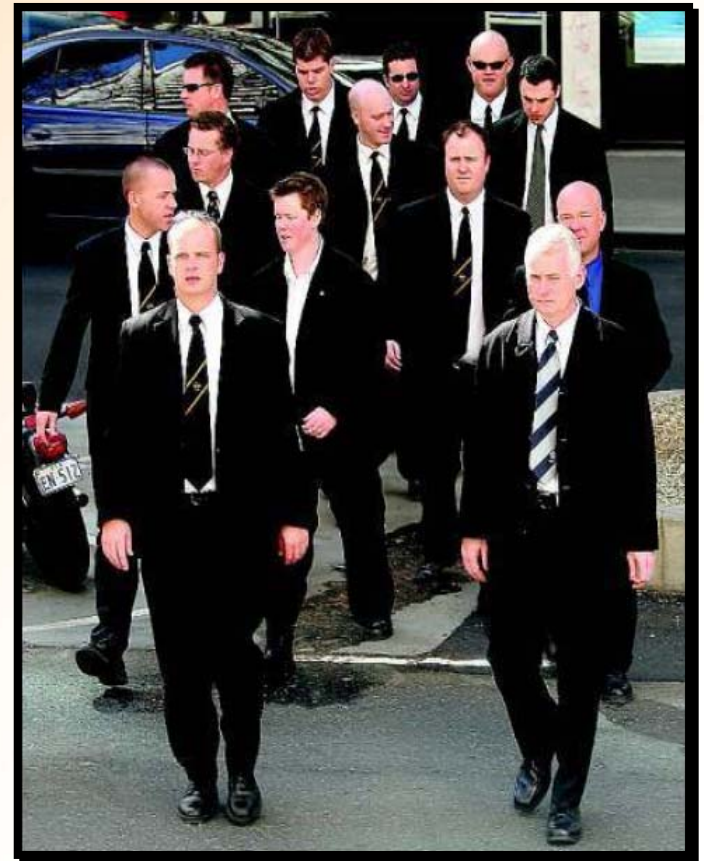
Operation Air (Armed Offenders Squad)

Interview - 10 May 2006. Surveillance product shows witness A100 being assaulted by Dabb, Butterfield and Franc



Armed Offenders Squad

Organisational Culture



Armed Offenders Squad

News footage – public/media opinion
22 September 2006



Armed Offenders Squad

Court result
25 February 2008



Armed Offenders Squad

Own crest: a force within a force



“ Do you know who we are? Yeah, the police. Wrong answer. We are the armed robbery squad. A second later, Chris claims, his nose was broken. ”

“The Strong Arm of the Law.” *The Age*, 9 September, 2006.

Operation Diana



Operation Diana

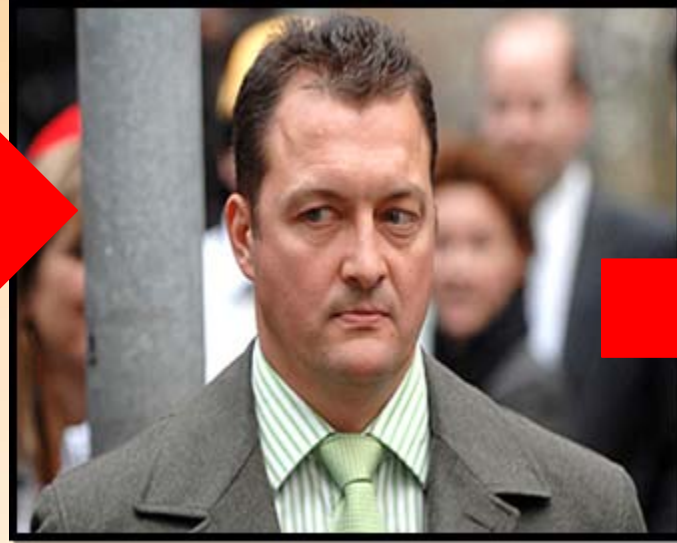
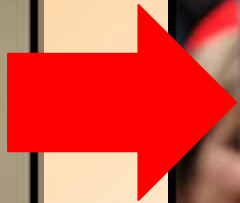
News footage of public hearings, 9 November 2007



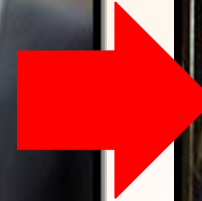
Operation Oboe



Miechel



Dale



Christine & Terrence
Hodson

Operation Oboe

News footage of public hearings, 10 June 2008



Our Work

Loyalty 'shields police corruption

Watchdog cites culture of covering up for colleagues

OPI warns of police mixing with criminals

The Office of Police Integrity has found that corrupt police with intimate criminal connections are endangering lives and undermining the work of honest investigators.

Bent cops 'operating in cells', OPI warns

Information trading weakening law enforcement: OPI

OPI alleges cops tried to thwart kill cases

CROOKED COPS

Key OPI report findings

- Cells of corrupt police continue to "fester" inside the force
- Lives are being put at risk by corrupt officers who sell or trade confidential information about criminal investigations for favours
- Corrupt police are being protected by a "code of silence" and other officers closing ranks



I'M SO SORRY

Nixon admits breaking rules with free flight

Keith Moor

CHIEF Commissioner Christine Nixon yesterday admitted breaching her own guidelines by accepting a controversial free luxury trip to Los Angeles.

Ms Nixon apologised and said she very much regretted conduct that had set a bad example to the thousands of officers she has lead.

In a further major embarrassment, she also conceded Qantas's invitation was extended to her as police chief



Christine Nixon

Ms Nixon said yesterday she'd been under the impression the free flight was offered because of her husband's past connection with Qantas.

But she now accepted her position influenced Qantas's decision to invite them to join the inaugural A380 super jumbo flight to LA.

"I have come to understand that Qantas regarded me as a guest in my own right and not merely as the partner of my husband," Ms Nixon said. "I should have given the offer more careful consideration."

Ms Nixon has agreed to pay

Investigation of Police Chief Commissioner

Watchdog forces Nixon to
own up to junket blunder

**Nixon admits breaking
rules with free flight**

Police chief admits breaking code on junket

WHAT THE COMMISSIONER SAID

OCTOBER 24:

“At no stage was this travel undertaken by me as part of my role as Chief Commissioner, nor was I representing Victoria Police.”

NOVEMBER 14:

“I now accept that my position as Chief Commissioner influenced Qantas' decision to make the offer, and also influenced aspects of the flight arrangements made thereafter.”



“We’ve heard of some outlandish wasting of money, but this really takes the cake,” secretary Sen-Sgt Greg Davies said.

“I’ve never seen anything like it. If this has come from their allocated government budget, it’s disgraceful.”

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