

Chief Commissioner Graham Ashton  
GPO Box 913  
Melbourne, Vic 3001

## Firestick Estate Inc.

4 Felicia Rise, Diamond Creek, 3089  
secretary@firestickestate.com

1 March 2019

Dear Chief Commissioner,

### Investigation into involuntary manslaughter through negligence (D18/059101)

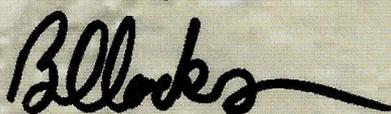
As a courtesy, please see the Victorian Opposition Leader's response to our letter to you <sup>1</sup>.

The Prime Minister has called the State **'negligent'** regarding the Queensland bushfires. We believe negligence that kills many people is a serious crime. Indeed, serious enough for the former barrister, Opposition Leader and potentially Victoria's next Premier, to encourage us to take this matter further.

The Cardinal Pell conviction and a British prosecution about the deaths of 96 people, 30 years ago <sup>2</sup>, suggests to us, some crimes committed with impunity today are pursued with a vengeance tomorrow. These cases send a clear message to State leaders, who we believe will be accountable for foreseeable and easily preventable future disasters, to act responsibly or be prepared to go to jail in their later years.

With respect, this issue was sent to you 20 weeks ago. Would you please review and respond in a timely manner <sup>3</sup>.

Yours faithfully,



Belinda Clarkson (Secretary)  
[www.firestickestate.com](http://www.firestickestate.com)

<sup>1</sup> *Victoria's Leader of the Opposition*, letter from The Hon Michael O'Brien to Firestick Estate, 22 February 2019

<sup>2</sup> *"Six people charged over the Hillsborough stadium disaster in 1989, including former police chiefs"* Herald Sun, 29 June 2017

CC: Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Opposition Leader Bill Shorten, Cabinet Ministers & Others

**State:**

Australian Capital Territory  
New South Wales  
Northern Territory  
Queensland  
South Australia  
Tasmania  
Victoria  
Western Australia

**Leaders:**

Chief Minister Andrew Barr  
Premier Gladys Berejiklian  
Chief Minister Michael Gunner  
Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk  
Premier Steven Marshall  
Premier Will Hodgman  
Premier Daniel Andrews  
Premier Mark McGowan

**Opposition Leaders:**

Alistair Coe  
Michael Daley  
Gary Higgs  
Deb Frecklington  
Peter Malinauskas  
Rebecca White  
Michael O'Brien  
Mike Nathan

**Emergency Management Commissioners:**

Executive Director Feargus O'Conner  
Commissioner Katarina Carroll  
Chief Executive Officer Malcolm Jackman  
Director Simon Roberts  
Commissioner Andrew Crisp  
Commissioner Darren Klemm

**State Police Commissioners:**

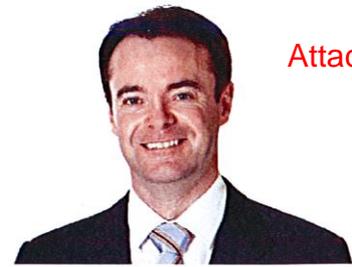
Commissioner Michael Fuller  
Commissioner Ian Stewart  
Commissioner Grant Stevens  
Commissioner Darren Hine  
Commissioner Chris Dawson

*"...trying to set fires, rather than prevent them" - Bill Gammage 2012*



# HON. Michael O'Brien MP

Leader of the Opposition  
Leader of the Liberal Party  
Shadow Minister for Small Business  
Member for Malvern



Attachment 1

Ms Belinda Clarkson  
Secretary  
Firestick Estate

via email: [secretary@firestickestate.com](mailto:secretary@firestickestate.com)

Dear Ms Clarkson,

Thank you for your email and attached correspondence. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I note the serious nature of your allegations relating to involuntary manslaughter through negligence offences and that your request for an investigation by Victoria Police has been declined.

If you are unhappy with Victoria Police's response to your request for an investigation, other police actions or behaviour, you have the right to make a complaint in the first instance, to Victoria Police's police integrity unit, Professional Standards Command, and/or directly to IBAC, contact details which are as follows:

**1. Professional Standards Command (PSC)**

m| PO Box 415  
637 Flinders Street MELBOURNE VIC 3005  
p| 1300 363 101 (Police Conduct Unit)  
w| [police.vic.gov.au](http://police.vic.gov.au) (*Victoria Police – Compliments and Complaints*)

**2. Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC)**

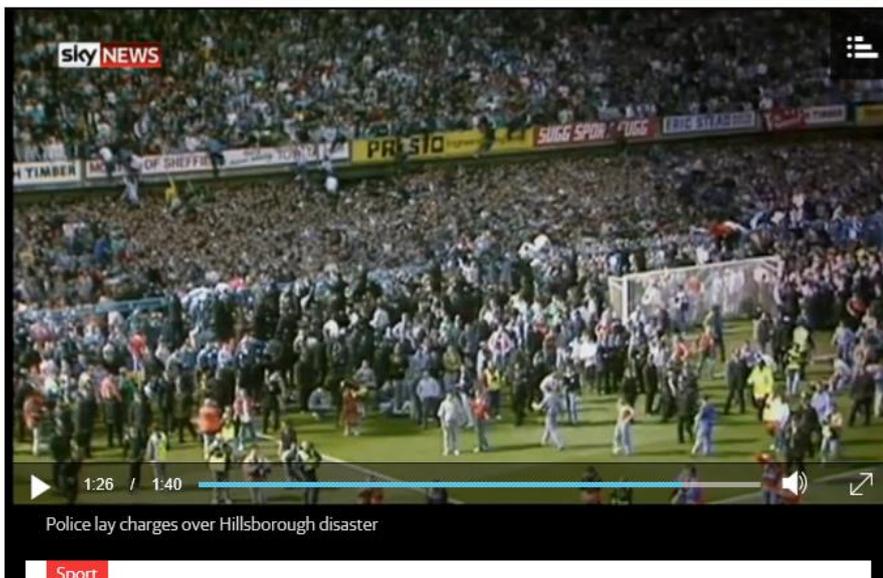
m| GPO Box 24234, MELBOURNE VIC 3000  
p| 1300 735 135 (*request a form to be sent*)  
e| [submit@ibac.vic.gov.au](mailto:submit@ibac.vic.gov.au)  
w| [ibac.vic.gov.au/report-corruption-or-misconduct/online-form](http://ibac.vic.gov.au/report-corruption-or-misconduct/online-form) (*Using IBAC's secure online form*)

Thank you again for writing to me with your concerns.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Michael O'Brien MP  
Leader of the Opposition  
Leader of the Liberal Party  
Shadow Minister for Small Business  
Member for Malvern

22 / 2 / 2019



## Six people charged over Hillsborough stadium disaster in 1989, including former police chiefs

AP

June 29, 2017 8:56am

BRITISH prosecutors charged six people Wednesday in the 1989 Hillsborough stadium disaster where 96 football fans were crushed to death. Those charged include the police commander on the day, David Duckenfield, who is accused of gross negligence manslaughter. The former chief of South Yorkshire Police, Norman Bettison, is charged with misconduct in public office for lying about the disaster and its aftermath. The attorney for the South Yorkshire Police was charged with acting “with intent to pervert the course of public justice” relating to changes in witness statements during an inquiry into the tragedy.

“Criminal proceedings have now commenced and the defendants have a right to a fair trial,” said Sue Hemming, the head prosecutor for special crime and counter terror.

The tragedy at the Hillsborough stadium in Sheffield unfolded when more than 2000 Liverpool soccer fans flooded into a standing-room section behind a goal, with the 54,000-capacity stadium already nearly full for the match against Nottingham Forest. The victims were smashed against metal anti-riot fences or trampled underfoot. Many suffocated in the crush.

At the time, hooliganism was common, and there were immediate attempts to defend the police operation and assign blame to the Liverpool fans. A false narrative circulated that blamed ticketless and rowdy Liverpool fans — a narrative that their families have challenged for decades.

Chairman of Hillsborough Family Support Group Margaret Aspinall said relatives had suffered “hell on earth” in their search for the truth.

“To me now this is the beginning of the end, definitely the beginning of the end,” Mrs Aspinall, whose 18-year-old son James died in the tragedy, said, per [The Telegraph](#).

“No one should have to go through what the families have gone through for 28 years to try and get to the truth and to get **accountability**.”