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Our Reference: AD-23-0710; 25/133355

Contact Officer: Jen O'Farrell

12 August 2025

The Hon. Mark Furner MP Chair Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: pccc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Furner

RE: ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE POLICE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2000

The Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) is required to furnish a number of compliance reports after the end of the financial year to the chair of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee.

The compliance report in relation to section 358 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* (PPRA), which requires the chairperson of the CCC to report about surveillance device warrants obtained by the CCC under the PPRA, is enclosed.

Under the PPRA this report is to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly within 14 sitting days after its receipt by your office.

Please contact Ms Jen O'Farrell, Chief Executive Officer, on should you require any further information on the reports.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Barbour Chairperson

Encl.





Surveillance Device Warrants
Annual Report: 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Annual Report

Overview

This is the annual report under section 358 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act* 2000 (the Act). Section 358 (4) of the Act requires the Chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) to provide a report that includes specified information, detailed in subsection (1), concerning the use of warrants issued under Chapter 13 of the Act for each financial year.

This report contains information from 1 July 2024 until 30 June 2025.

The report must not contain information that discloses or may lead to the disclosure or the identity of any person who has been or is being investigated. Further, the report must not indicate that a particular investigation has been, is being or is to be conducted. The report is to be provided to the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee.

Section 358(1) of the Act

Section 358(1) of the Act requires the following information to be included in the report:

- a) The number of applications for warrants by and the number of warrants issued to law enforcement officers of the agency during that year;
- b) The number of applications for emergency authorisations by and the number of emergency authorisations given to law enforcement officers of the agency during that year;
- c) The number of remote applications for warrants by law enforcement officers of the agency during that year;
- d) The number of applications for warrants or emergency authorisations by law enforcement officers of the agency that were refused during that year, and the reasons for refusal, if known;
- e) The number of applications for variations or extension of warrants by law enforcement officers of the agency during that year, the number of variations or extensions granted or refused and, if refused, the reasons for refusal, if known;
- f) The number of arrests made by law enforcement officers of the agency during that year on the basis, entirely or partly, of information obtained by the use of a surveillance device under a warrant or emergency authorisation; and
- g) The number of prosecutions that were started in this jurisdiction during that year in which information obtained by the use of a surveillance device under a warrant or emergency authorisation was given in evidence and the number of those prosecutions in which a person was found guilty.



Applications for warrants

Chapter 13 of the Act authorises an officer of a law enforcement agency to apply for two different types of warrants, namely, surveillance device warrants and retrieval warrants.

Surveillance device warrants

	No. that authorised Listening Devices	No. that authorised Optical Devices	No. that authorised Tracking Devices	No. that authorised Combination Devices	Total number of applications/warrants issued
Applications for surveillance device warrants	4	3	5	4	8
Surveillance device warrants issued	4	3	5	4	8

Totals for listening, optical, tracking and combination devices are cumulative for all applications.

Retrieval warrants

In circumstances where the surveillance device is not able to be removed from the place/object it has been installed in prior to the expiration of the surveillance warrant, a law enforcement officer has to apply for a retrieval warrant to lawfully remove the surveillance device from the place/object.

Applications	Total
Number of applications for retrieval warrants	2
Number of retrieval warrants issued	2

Applications for emergency authorisations

An emergency authorisation allows a law enforcement agency officer to exercise powers ordinarily available under a surveillance device warrant without first making an application to a Supreme Court judge or a magistrate.

If a law enforcement agency officer authorises the emergency use of a surveillance device then that officer must, within 2 business days after giving the authorisation, apply to a Supreme Court judge for approval of the exercise of powers under the emergency authorisation.



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Applications	Total
Number of applications for emergency authorisations	0
Number of emergency authorisations issued	0

Remote applications for warrants

Remote applications for surveillance device warrants occur where a law enforcement agency officer applies for a warrant by telephone, facsimile, radio, email or another similar facility because of urgent circumstances or other special circumstances including the officer's remote location.

Applications	Total
Number of remote applications for warrants	0

Applications	Total
Number of refusals of applications for warrants	0
Number of refusals for emergency authorisations	0

Applications for variations or extensions to warrants

At any time prior to the expiration of a surveillance device warrant, the law enforcement agency officer who applied for the warrant may apply to extend the warrant or vary any of the other terms of the warrant.

Number of applications for variations or extensions of warrants		0
	Refused	0

The number of arrests made by law enforcement officers during the year based entirely or partially upon information obtained from a surveillance device

N	umber of arrests ¹	0

¹ For the purposes of this report the word 'arrests' includes alternative processes for commencing criminal proceedings, including the issue of a notice to appear.

There is often a significant time delay between the use of a surveillance device and the arrest of a person based upon information obtained from the use of the device. Investigations in which surveillance devices were used prior to the 2024-25 financial year may still be ongoing at the time of preparing this report. The use of a surveillance device in one financial year may not result in the arrest of an offender until a subsequent financial year.

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The number of prosecutions started in this jurisdiction in which information obtained by the use of a surveillance device was given in evidence

Number of started prosecutions ¹	1
Number of those prosecutions in which a person was found guilty	0
Number of prosecutions started in previous reporting periods in which a person was found guilty in this reporting period	

¹ The word 'prosecution' is not defined in the Act. For the purposes of this report it includes the conduct of a committal hearings as well as a trial. Number of prosecutions refers to those started in the reporting period.

The figures listed in this table should be interpreted with the following qualifications:

- 1. There is often a delay between the time when a person is charged with an offence and that person having a committal or trial. Those statistics will often appear in the following financial year
- 2. Evidence obtained from a surveillance device may prove invaluable as an investigative tool and assist in planning further overt police investigations, but may not be used by the prosecution during a committal or trial; and
- 3. A strong Crown case may lead to an offender entering a plea of guilty and therefore no evidence obtained from the use of the surveillance device need be given in a prosecution.





Contact details

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