

Jenny Allen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 4 June 2020 3:03 PM
To: 'QBCC Legal Branch'
Subject: RE: Investigation about Seven News, broadcast on Seven on 30 July 2019 and 31 July 2019
[SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Attachments: ACMA Investigation report BI-535.pdf

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

ACMA reference: BI-535

Dear Mr Barclay,

RE: Investigation about Seven News, broadcast on Seven on 30 July 2019 and 31 July 2019.

As you are aware, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA) has been investigating a complaint about the above program.

The ACMA has concluded its investigation and determined that the licensee:

- > breached clause 3.5.1 [privacy]
- > breached subclause 3.4.1(a) [present news fairly and impartially]

of the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice 2015 (revised in 2018).

A copy of the final Investigation Report, including the decision and the reasons for that decision, is attached.

In relation to the breach finding, the licensee advised that the following remedial action will be taken to ensure future compliance with the relevant provisions:

- circulate a copy of the ACMA's finding to news editorial staff within Seven Brisbane
- include the decision and its reasoning in its Code training sessions

The licensee advises that all online copies of the news reports have been removed from its websites and social media accounts.

The ACMA is of the view that this action is appropriate to address compliance issues raised in this investigation and the ACMA will not be taking further action.

The ACMA has also decided to publish the Investigation Report and details of the enforcement action that will be taken. Publication will include the full report being published on the ACMA's website at 6.00 am tomorrow, accompanied by a media release of the findings (available on the ACMA website). We ask that you treat the report and outcome as strictly confidential, until the report is published on the ACMA website. A summary of the report will also appear in the ACMA's Annual Report and other ACMA publications.

The ACMA treats all broadcasting complaints seriously and aims to investigate complaints thoroughly and impartially, and in a timely manner. However, if you have concerns about the way in which the ACMA conducted this investigation you may raise those concerns with the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman or seek independent advice about potential avenues of review.

The Ombudsman can investigate complaints about the administrative actions and decisions of Commonwealth government agencies, including the ACMA. More information about the role of the Ombudsman and how to make a complaint is on the Ombudsman's website at: www.ombudsman.gov.au/ or you can call 1300 362 072.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the ACMA's attention.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Investigations and Compliance Officer
Content Investigations Section

Australian Communications and Media Authority

T
E

www.acma.gov.au



communicating facilitating regulating

The ACMA acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet, work and live. We recognise and respect their continuing connection to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

OFFICIAL:Sensitive
OFFICIAL:Sensitive