



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

Friday, 7 September 2007

07-10

Attorney General Directs the Criminal Justice Branch to Retain Legal Counsel to Review Special Prosecutor's Analysis

Victoria - The Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Attorney General today announced that the Attorney General has directed the Branch to retain Leonard T. Doust, Q.C. to review the report of independent Special Prosecutor Richard C.C. Peck, Q.C. regarding allegations of misconduct involving individuals associated with the community of Bountiful, British Columbia.

On September 6, 2007, Robert W.G. Gillen, Q.C., the Assistant Deputy Attorney General responsible for the Criminal Justice Branch received the following written directions from the Attorney General:

Pursuant to section 5 of the Crown Counsel Act, this letter is my directive to you to retain the legal services of Leonard T. Doust, QC, to review Mr. Peck's analysis, including the case history and other factors he considered in coming to a conclusion that a prosecution was less preferable than a reference.

If Mr. Doust concludes, as a result of his review that a prosecution for offences of polygamy meets the Criminal Justice Branch's charge approval policy, I further direct that you retain Mr. Doust to conduct the prosecution arising from the related police investigation on the offences of polygamy only, and any appeals which may arise from those proceedings.

In compliance with the directions, the Branch has retained Mr. Doust and is in the process of forwarding to him Mr. Peck's report and all associated materials.

As required by the *Crown Counsel Act*, the Attorney General's written directions will be published in the September 13th, 2007 edition of the BC Gazette

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[Attachment:](#)

Criminal Justice Branch Media Statement 07-08 "*Special Prosecutor Recommends Reference Question on Constitutionality of Polygamy Law*", 1 August 2007

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