



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

Thursday, October 25, 2007

07-14

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL PROSECUTOR ANNOUNCED

VICTORIA – The Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Attorney General today announced the appointment of Terrence Robertson Q.C. as an independent Special Prosecutor concerning a recent Report to Crown Counsel received from the RCMP involving allegations of potential misconduct by Ken Dobell relating to lobbying activities. The investigation report was received by the Branch on Thursday, October 18, 2007.

Given Mr. Dobell's past working relationship with the provincial government, the Criminal Justice Branch concluded it was appropriate to appoint an independent Special Prosecutor pursuant to the Crown Counsel Act.

Mr. Robertson, a senior Vancouver lawyer, was formally appointed as an independent Special Prosecutor on October 24, 2007 by Robert W.G. Gillen, Q.C., the Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch. Mr. Robertson's mandate as the Special Prosecutor includes:

- Offering such independent legal advice as the police investigators may require in the event further investigation is required;
- Conducting an independent charge assessment based on the evidence contained in the Report to Crown Counsel or any other information police investigators may submit to him;
- Providing the Assistant Deputy Attorney General with a written report setting out his charge assessment decision; and
- If in his view a charge is warranted, conducting the prosecution and any subsequent appeal.

Criminal Justice Branch HQ
Ministry of Attorney General

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9276 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7

Office Location:
9th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7
Telephone: (250) 387-3840
Fax: (250) 387-0090

The Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch appoints Special Prosecutors pursuant to the Crown Counsel Act when there is a significant risk of real or perceived improper influence in the independent exercise of prosecutorial responsibilities.

The decisions of Special Prosecutors are final subject only to receiving written directions from the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General or Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch. In such an event, those directions must be made public by publishing them in the Gazette.

As this matter is with the Special Prosecutor, it would not be appropriate to comment any further at this time.

Media Contact: Stan T. Lowe
Communication Counsel
Criminal Justice Branch
(250) 387-3840

Terrence Robertson Q.C.
Special Prosecutor
(604) 687-0411