

Tuesday, 24 May 2016

STATEMENT FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Today I received the brief of evidence from the New South Wales Police Force with respect to the murders of Colleen Walker, Evelyn Greenup and Clinton Speedy-Duroux.

I have met their families and understand the pain and suffering they experience every day more than 25 years after the death of the children.

After careful consideration, I have decided that there should be no further delay in bringing this matter to court.

The best and most transparent way to deal with this tragic case is to make an application for retrial to the NSW Court of Criminal Appeal.

Today I have spoken with the Premier, who supports this course of action.

It will allow the arguments to be heard and tested by the highest criminal court in NSW.

The court must be satisfied that the evidence is fresh, compelling and that a retrial is in the interests of justice. As Attorney General I believe that it is in the interest of the families and in the wider public interest that the Court of Criminal Appeal rule on these questions. It will now be up to the Court to do just that.

While there can be no certainty whatsoever about the outcome, this is the course of action that promises a sense of closure for all involved.

I have engaged a former South Australian Director of Public Prosecutions Wendy Abraham QC to appear on my behalf.