

# **DARREN HALL'S STORY**

**CRIME AND CORRUPTION  
IN THE  
CRIME AND CORRUPTION COMMISSION**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### DARREN HALL'S STORY

The attached document, "Darren Hall's Story", was written by me in late 2015. It sets out what I believe to be a scandalous abuse of power for over twelve years [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) and its predecessor, the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC).

The document also demonstrates the ineffectiveness of the Queensland Parliamentary committee established to monitor the CCC's performance.

I sent the document to [REDACTED] CCC, [REDACTED] on 22 December 2015 seeking [REDACTED] response. Despite repeated requests by me, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has never responded to my serious allegations. As a consequence, I do not know if [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There are other worrying aspects of this lack of response that I will release in the near future.

The document is a disturbing indictment of the CCC and the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] indifference to their legal obligations, their mismanagement of serious complaints and their duty not to abuse their positions to destroy the lives of innocent Queensland citizens such as Darren Hall.

Can the CCC be trusted with yet more powers to obstruct the public disclosure of allegations made by whistleblowers and others? You be the judge.

[REDACTED]

Greg Williams LL.B

6 October 2016

Darren Hall's Story:  
Crime & Corruption in the  
Queensland Crime & Corruption Commission

Greg Williams LL.B

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## Introduction

### My interest in Darren Hall and the Queensland Crime & Corruption Commission

My name is Greg Williams. I am a non-practicing barrister.

Over five years ago I was invited by a Queensland MP to attend a meeting with a former deep undercover police officer [REDACTED] who was previously a Queensland detective. The meeting was about the Queensland Crime & Corruption Commission (CCC). I had more than a passing interest in this particular Queensland law enforcement agency.

My first-hand experiences with the CCC was in 1995 as a whistle-blower whilst a Queensland public servant. The CCC's total mismanagement of my matter was a farrago of incompetence and disinterest that led to my departure back to employment in the private sector. My complaint against senior government officers went unpunished. In the past twenty years I have helped many other whistle-blowers involving the CCC. The CCC has mismanaged every one of them.

The CCC was previously named the Crime & Misconduct Commission (CMC), and earlier, the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). For simplicity I will refer to these three entities as the "CCC".

### Background to my first meeting with Darren Hall

In August 2010 Mr Hall approached Queensland Independent Member of Parliament, [REDACTED], about an issue with the CCC.

Mr Hall, a decorated Queensland detective, accepted a job in early 2004 [REDACTED] as a deep undercover police officer [REDACTED]. He took his family to what was to be a new life [REDACTED].

Mr Hall's new job was not without danger and personal risk. On one undercover operation a bikie held a large calibre pistol to Mr Hall's stomach and pulled the trigger. The chamber was empty.

Mr Hall loved his job until it was taken away from him in late 2004 [REDACTED].

This is Darren Hall's story. This submission is an attempt to set out the circumstances of how two [REDACTED] agencies, [REDACTED], allegedly unlawfully conspired to destroy Mr Hall's career. It also cost him his marriage and almost his life.

You will also read how the [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] were active accomplices with these two agencies and their alleged unlawful acts.

I have worked closely with Mr Hall over the past five years seeking justice for him and explanations from government agencies that have repeatedly failed in their duty to him. In doing so, the failures by [REDACTED] of these agencies have been accompanied by alleged corrupt and criminal acts.

I have found Mr Hall to be an honest and straightforward person.

Like Watergate, the cover-ups and duplicity by our [REDACTED] law enforcement agencies should disturb every decent Australian.

I think sometimes "This story could have been about me". Pointedly therefore, it could be you.

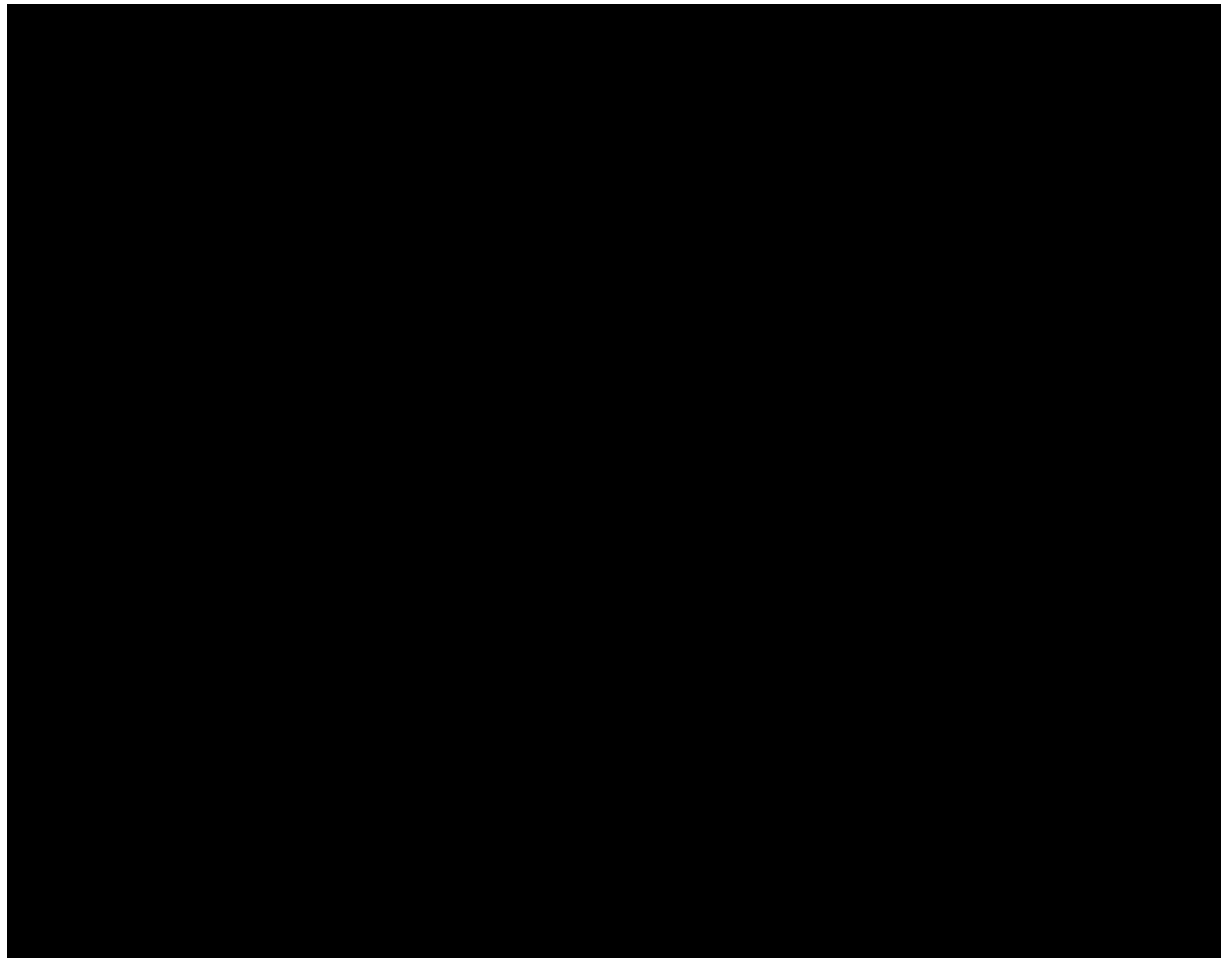
## Darren Hall is Dismissed [REDACTED] and Reinstated Three Times

### Darren Hall's dismissal

In late 2004 Mr Hall was called into the [REDACTED] HQ of the [REDACTED] and advised that his employment had been summarily terminated. He was dumbfounded. He was accused of;

- improper use of an [REDACTED] credit card to pay a bar tab, and
- giving innocuous advice to a candidate who was seeking a position [REDACTED].

These "official explanations" provided [REDACTED] to Mr Hall for his sacking were to be proven false and the truthful reasons would, as we will see, be exposed [REDACTED] at a later date.





## The CCC Kicks an “Own-Goal”


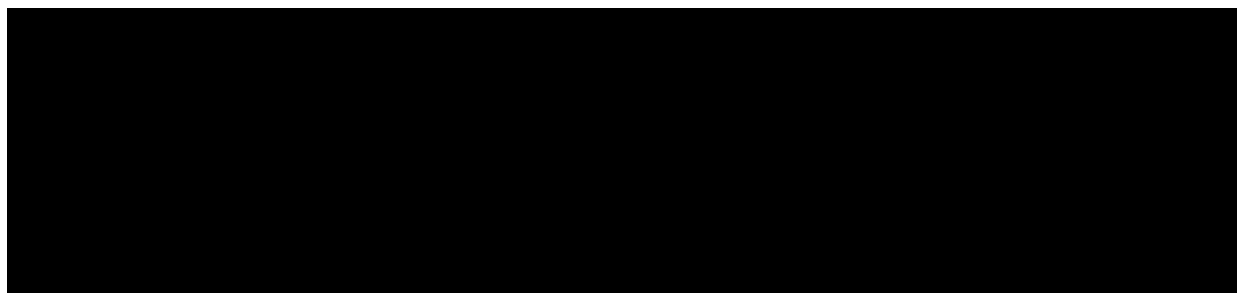
Unknown to Mr Hall, [REDACTED], the CCC had commenced an investigation in late 2003/2004 into a number of Queensland police who had allegedly dealt improperly with informants (Operation Capri). Mr Hall was one of the former police officers investigated. However he was never made aware at any stage of the CCC’s investigation or the allegations contained in the CCC’s report subsequently named “*Dangerous Liaisons*”.

The CCC published its report<sup>12</sup>, in July 2009 and it was tabled in the Queensland Parliament as a truthful and accurate document.

### The CCC allegations

Mr Hall was shocked to read in the “*Dangerous Liaisons*” report that totally unproven serious criminal allegations about him had been covertly forwarded to [REDACTED] by the CCC. He denies every allegation provided to the [REDACTED]. This was the first time Mr Hall was aware of these allegations made against him.

The allegations include:

- Accepting money from an informant, and
  - Improper registering of a firearm, and
  - Being “used” by a prison informant.
- 
- 

<sup>11</sup> Ibid page 6

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Documents/TableOffice/TabledPapers/2009/5309T489.pdf>



[REDACTED]

As will be seen, the so-called CCC “investigation” was perhaps one of the most inept in recent years.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Darren Seeks Explanations

### Queensland Police Union and the CCC’s First Explanation

Having been dismissed, Mr Hall returned to Queensland and sought the assistance of the Queensland Police Union (QPU).

The QPU contacted the CCC by letter and telephone seeking an explanation as to why unfounded allegations and alleged “evidence” against Mr Hall had been forwarded to the ACC without first interviewing him. The CCC’s [REDACTED] stated that it appears the CCC had “forgotten” to talk to Mr Hall.

This is the first of three conflicting “explanations” by the CCC (others are set out below). However, the CCC’s shocking “forgotten” admission did not result in a correction, an immediate inquiry, compensation for Mr Hall and an apology. The CCC’s response was to do nothing.

Over the next few months the QPU sought further explanations from the CCC and none were forthcoming. Indeed, the CCC’s failure to respond to QPU letters merely confirmed the CCC’s culpability and highlighted its preparedness to knowingly commit ongoing alleged crime and misconduct that offends to the present time. Any reasonable person would expect more from Queensland’s major crime fighting organisation which is obliged by law to act honestly in all its dealings.

Mr Hall then wanted to seek a civil remedy in the courts. Unfortunately, the QPU chose to withdraw its support at this crucial time. He was on his own.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MP and Greg Williams (non-practicing barrister)

As stated, Mr Hall then met with the then Queensland State MP, [REDACTED] and myself. [REDACTED] wrote to the [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] seeking reasons why the CCC repeatedly failed to respond to the [REDACTED] question: “Why did the CCC fail to accord natural justice to Mr Hall?” The response from the CCC was to again to remain evasive and to “tough it out” by responding with a single page letter which failed to address the question asked.

This failure to respond honestly to Mr Hall’s question may be a potential breach of the *Crime and Misconduct Act* and Queensland *Criminal Code* and should be investigated.

As the CCC refused to address Mr Hall’s question [REDACTED], Mr Hall then turned to the criminal law.

### Darren Hall and the CCC’s “*Dangerous Liaisons*” Report

With a callous indifference to the truth the original offending “*Dangerous Liaisons*” report is still accessible via the CCC’s web site<sup>13</sup>. The CCC continues to publish a report it has known to be false for over six years.

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<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications/police/dangerous-liaisons-a-report-arising-from-a-cmc-investigation-into-allegations-of-police-misconduct-operation-capri.pdf>

Mr Hall is described as the person [REDACTED] in the report with the pseudonym of “YZ”. However, it wasn’t long before many of Mr Hall’s colleagues and those “in the know” identified “YZ” as Mr Hall.

The CCC misleads [REDACTED] about its procedural fairness

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] alleged to have committed conspiracy and perjury [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

[REDACTED]



## The Queensland Commissioner of Police supports the CCC report

Following the publication of “Dangerous Liaisons”, the then Police Commissioner, [REDACTED] advised the media that the CCC “*Dangerous Liaisons*” report, “...*Could not have been more thorough*”<sup>17</sup> and then went on to condemn the officers concerned, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Darren Hall and the Queensland Criminal Code


The Queensland *Criminal Code* has provisions for public servants and others to face criminal sanctions when they fail in their public duty. Accordingly, as a matter of democratic right, Mr Hall sought to bring the [REDACTED] CCC to account.

## Sections 92, 92A and 200 of the Queensland Criminal Code

These sections address:

- abuse of office,
- misconduct, and
- refusal by public officer to perform duty.

It is open to suggest in respect of these sections that [REDACTED] CCC [REDACTED] may be in breach of them by repeatedly failing to remedy the serious known blunders made in relation to Mr Hall.



<sup>17</sup> <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/disown-bad-apples-commissioner-tells-police-union-20090723-due3.html>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

#### [Law enforcement officers hold no special immunity from criminal prosecution](#)

The law regarding law-enforcement officers themselves having to comply with the law is clear and long-standing. The relevant Acts, i.e. the *Police Service Administration Act 1990*, the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* and *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994* require their respective (employed) public officials to act honestly in all things done (i.e. not to knowingly advantage themselves or others in the performance of their public duties), but it also fortified in case law. For example, Mason CJ, Deane and Dawson JJ in ***Ridgeway v The Queen*** (1995) 184 CLR 19 at 44 observed:

*“If it be desired that those responsible for the investigation of crime should be freed from the restraints of some provisions of the criminal law, a legislative regime should be introduced exempting them from those requirements. In the absence of such a legislative regime, the courts have no choice but to set their face firmly against grave criminality on the part of anyone, regardless of whether he or she be government officer or ordinary citizen. To do otherwise would be to undermine the rule of law itself.”*

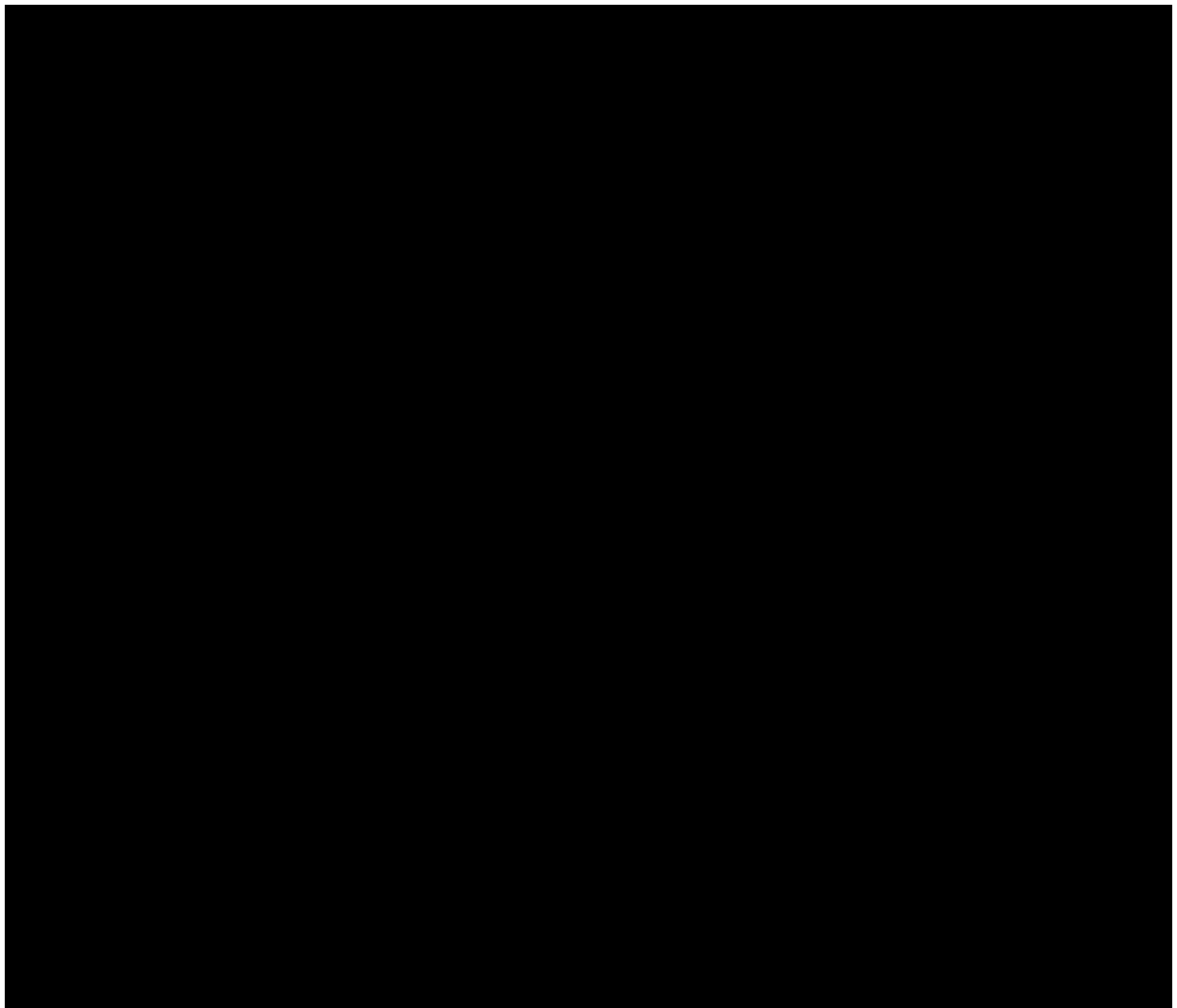
[REDACTED]

Clearly these aforesaid three sections (and others) were enacted by Parliament to ensure public officers did not abuse power in their office. Their purpose is plainly to protect and maintain public confidence in government, especially concerning the conduct of law-enforcement agencies.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

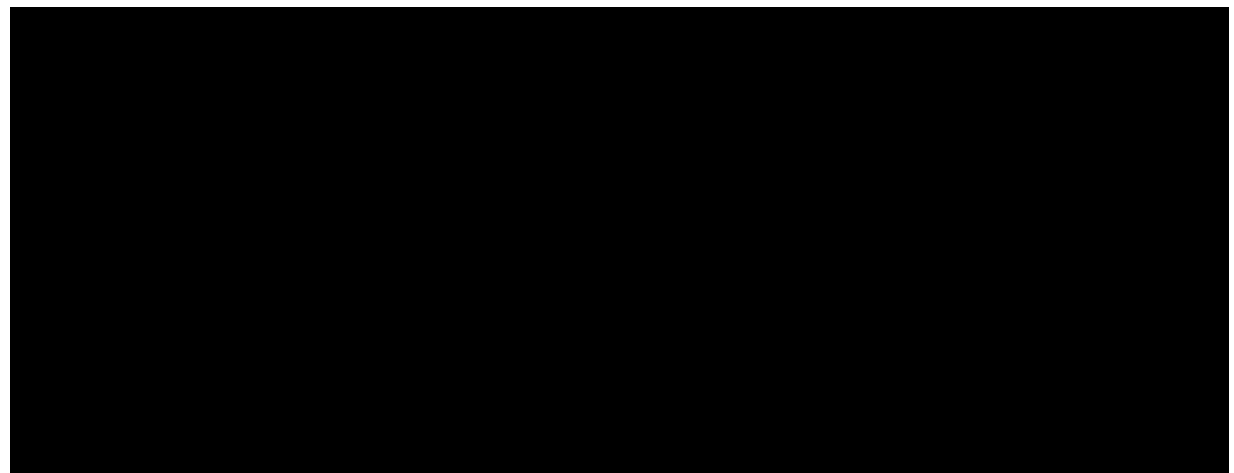
[REDACTED]



### [Back to the CCC](#)

If there is any doubt about the CCC's dishonesty it may be found in their further responses to the natural justice issue.

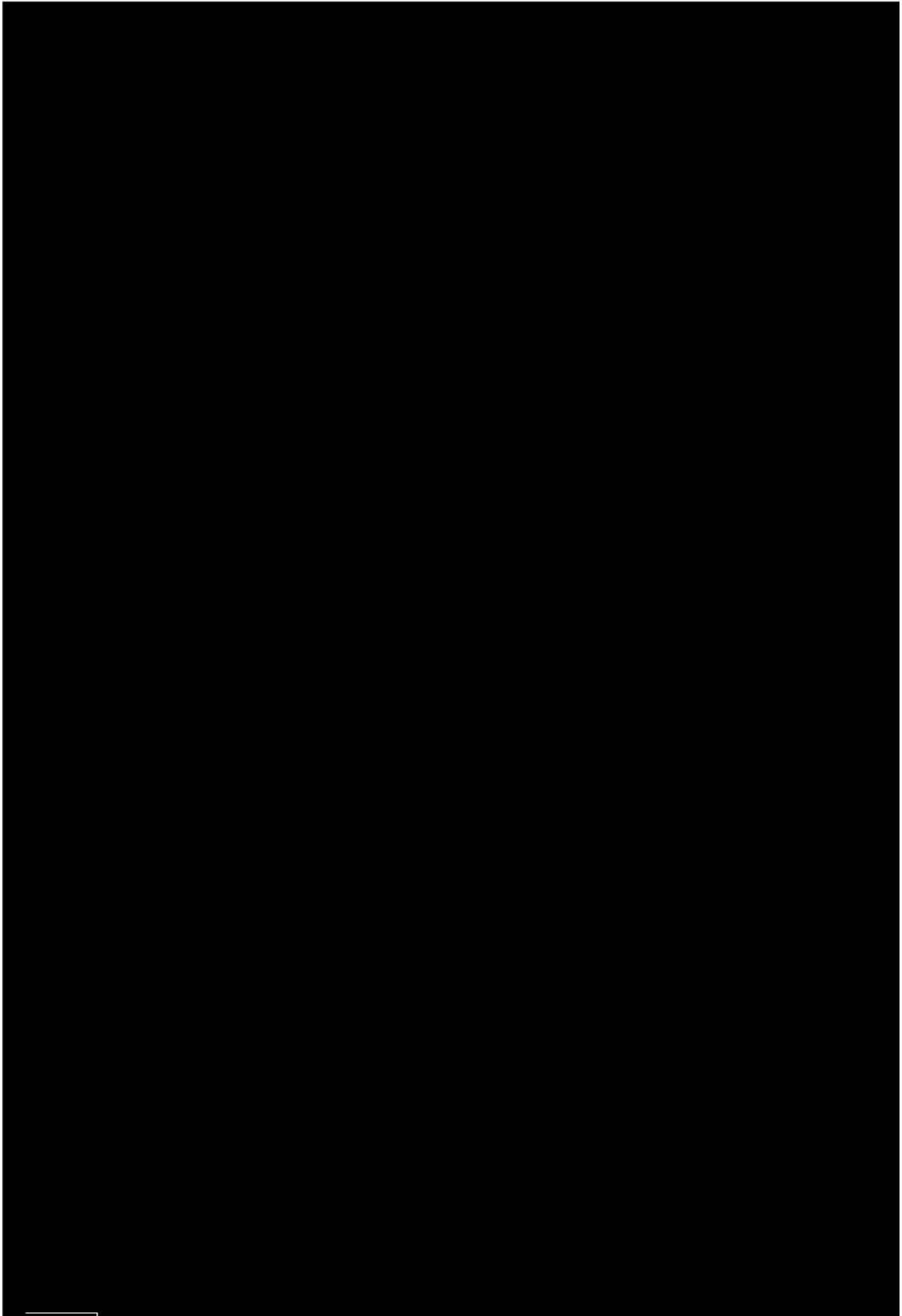
### [The CCC's Second Explanation](#)



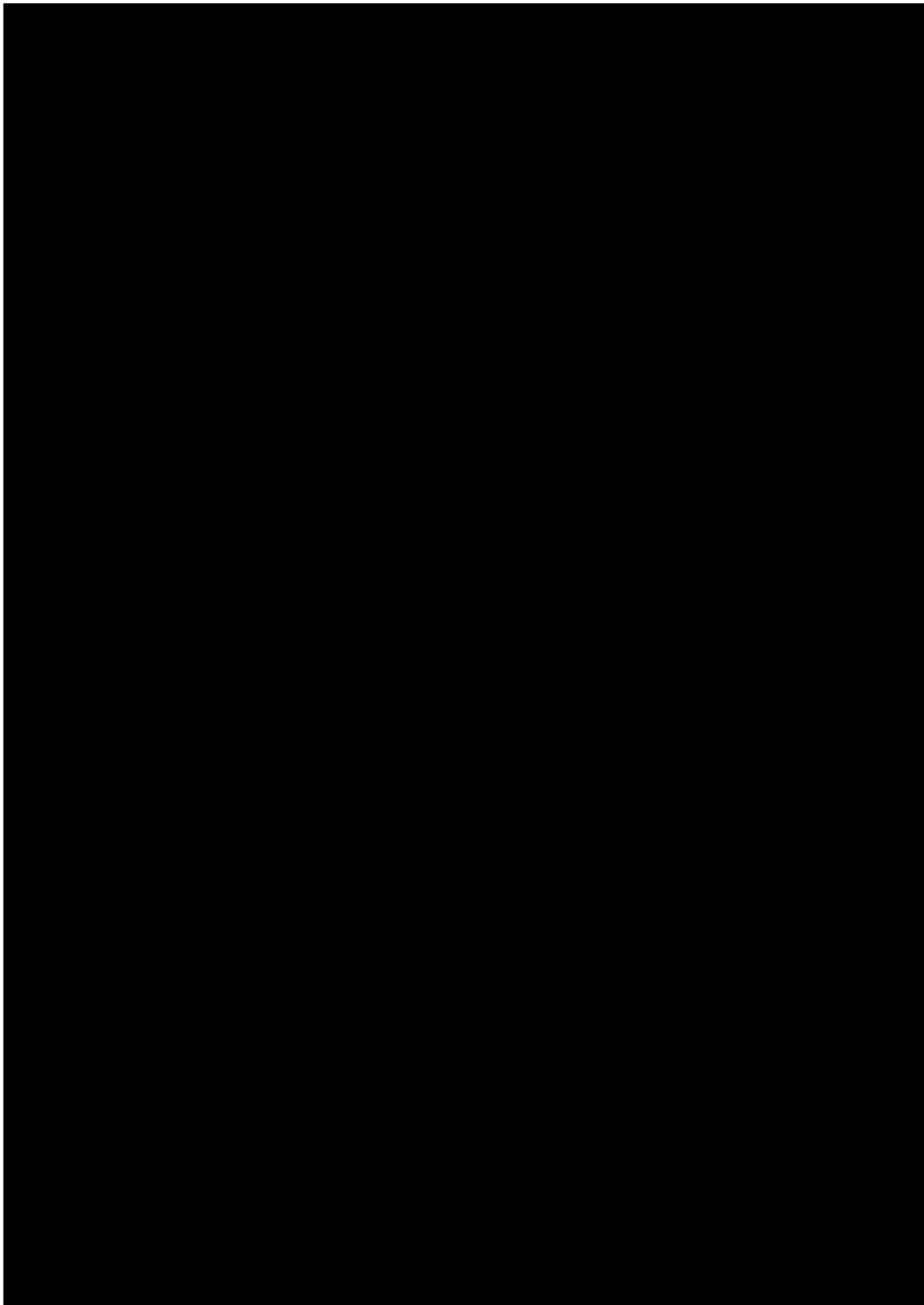
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■ [REDACTED]

## The CCC's Third Explanation

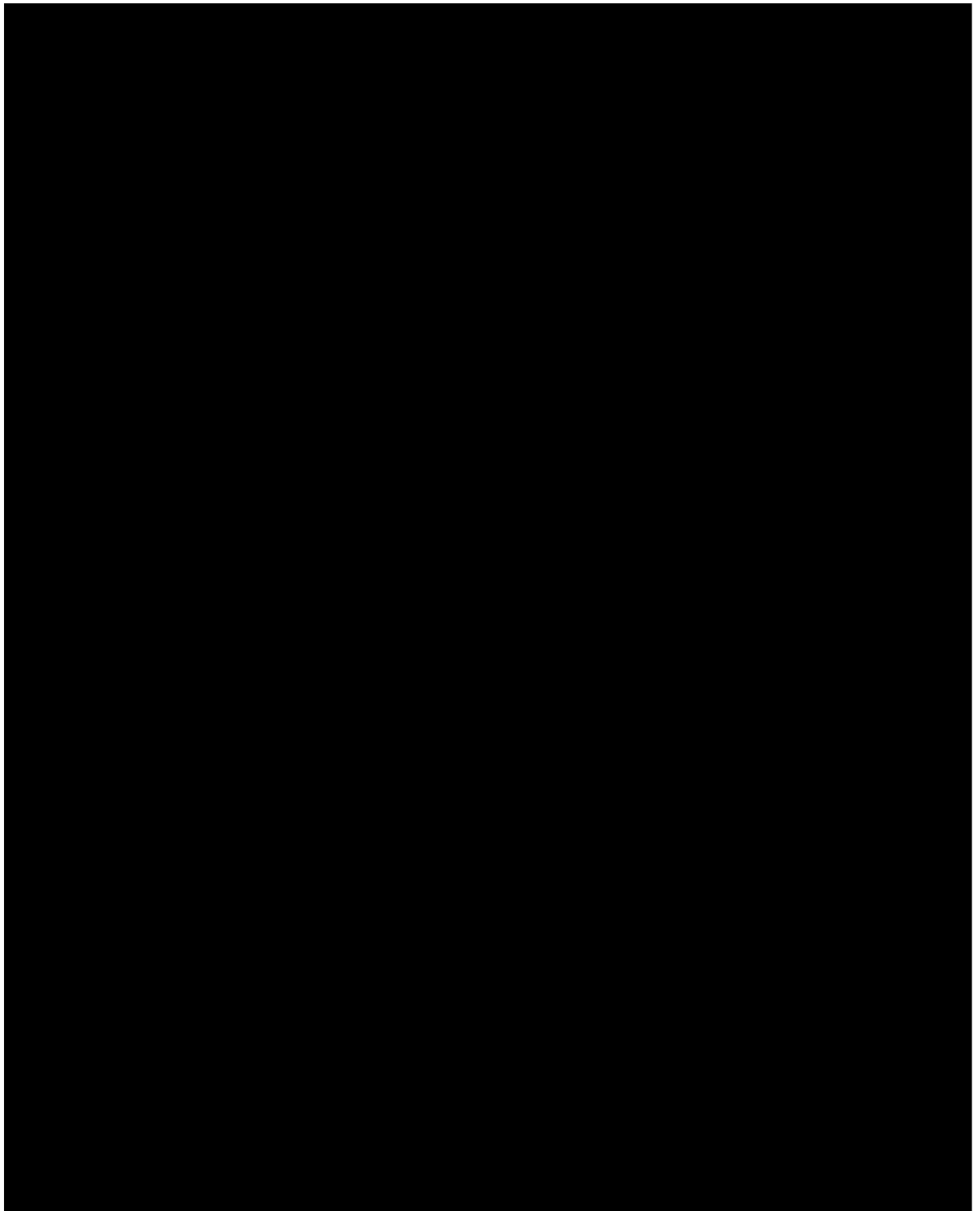






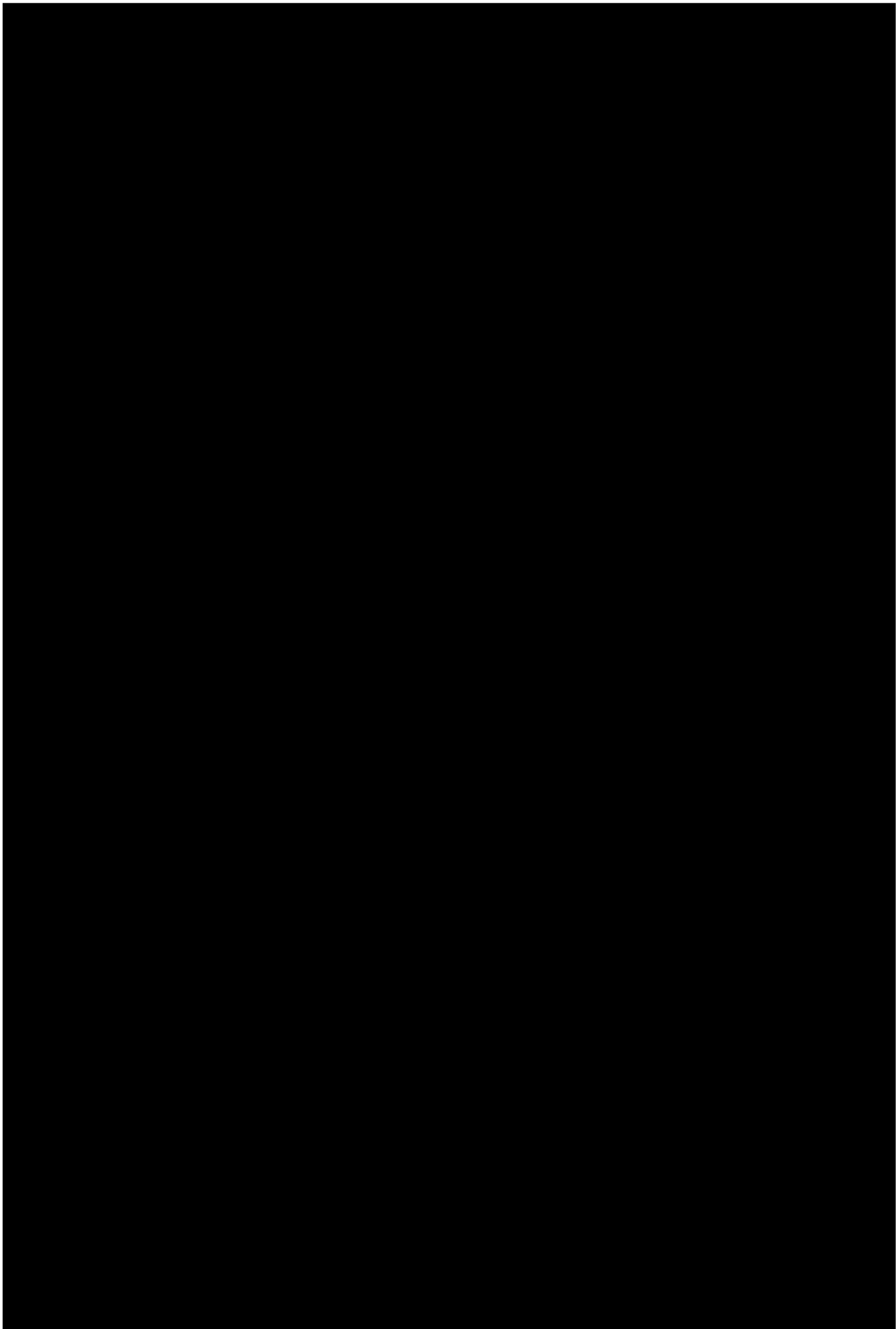
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■ [REDACTED]

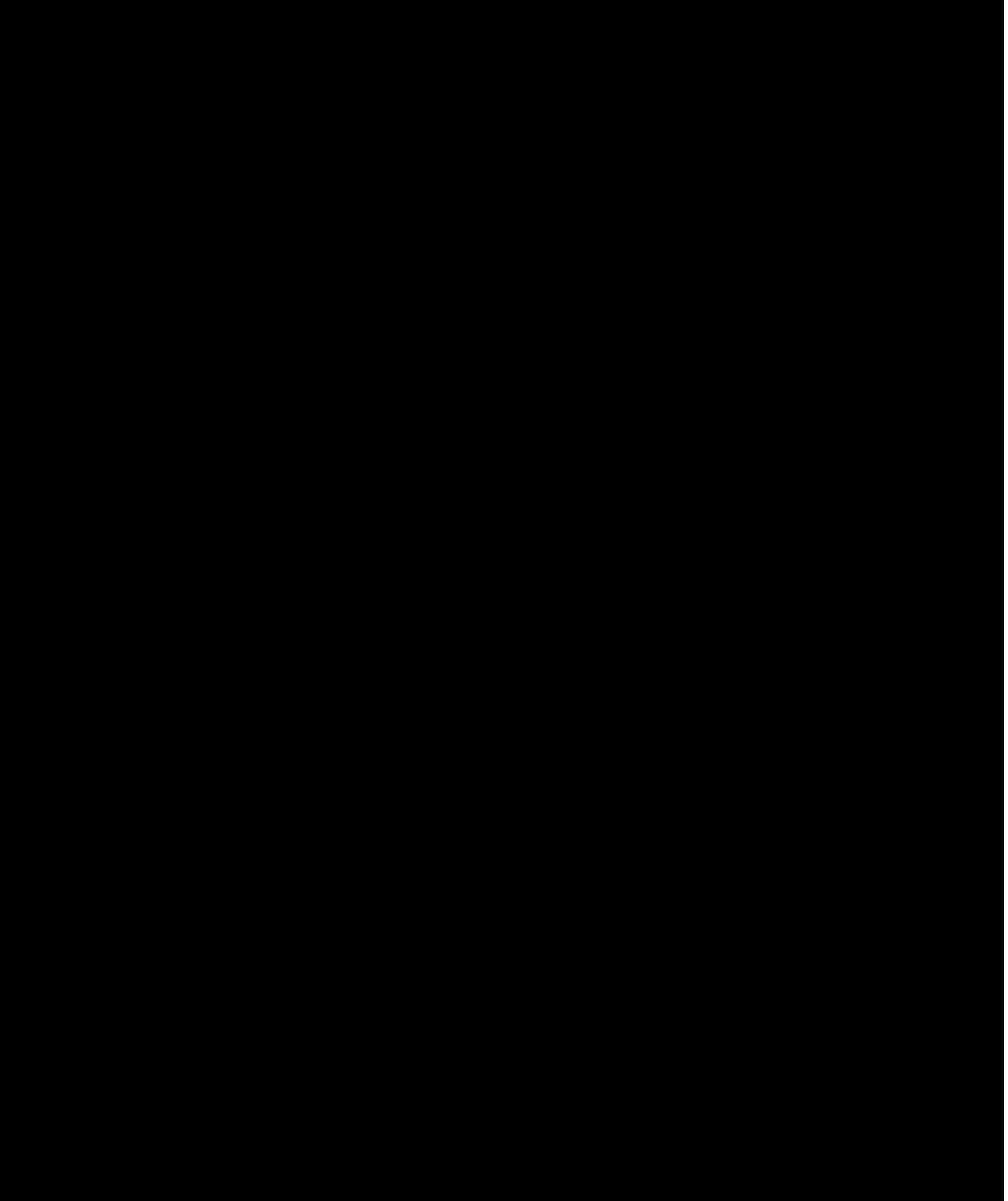


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Clearly against the background of this case, it is now open to suggest that in Queensland the "system" allows [REDACTED] law enforcement officers to commit alleged serious criminal offences with impunity. Queensland law enforcement agencies either "turn a blind eye" or "look after each other" knowing that they will be protected by the very agencies and Parliamentary committees established to monitor them in the public interest. This is unrestrained corruption. The alleged corruption is aided and abetted by the Queensland Parliament, which has ultimate responsibility, but have repeatedly denied Mr Hall the justice he is entitled to under our State and Federal laws - a man who daily put his life on the line as a policeman and deep undercover police officer.



## Australia's Law Enforcement Agencies Under a Cloud

Recently the media has been very vocal about the possible civil and criminal acts perpetrated by ████████ of the New South Wales Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and the Western Australian Corruption & Crime Commission (WACCC). In these interstate jurisdictions the media has played a critical role in exposing allegations of potential criminality.

It is intended that this document, "Darren Hall's story", will follow a similar journey when it is released widely to the media and the CCC is forced by adverse publicity to address what they have fought so hard to ignore.

With claims of maladministration, unlawful conduct and abuse of power, the ICAC fiasco is being played out to its likely inevitable conclusion of resignations, sackings and possible prosecutions.

The WACCC was also a major offender but something was done about it. Its newly appointed head, former Justice the Hon John McKechnie QC, described the WACC as suffering a *"blighted reputation that will take years to rectify and win back public confidence"*<sup>27</sup>. The police had investigated the WACCC resulting in *"serious misconduct charges against its members"*.

Mr McKechnie went on to say *"We had a covert unit who quite frankly engaged in lawless behaviour"*. The offending WACCC officers quite properly no longer work with the agency. Unlike the ████████ sham investigation into ████████ CCC ████████, the Western Australia Police appear to have discharged its duty and conducted a proper investigation.

In contrast, unicameral Queensland has a "closed loop" system where all relevant agencies and the Queensland Parliament simply turn their collective backs on corruption and criminal behaviour by the State's most senior public officers. The very people who have a duty to investigate and prosecute offenders, regardless of who they are, fail to do so.

The Fitzgerald Royal Commission shone a light on a cancerous system of corruption by police and Queensland MP's. As one MP said to me: *"The corruption is back, they are just smarter now."* It might be even reasonably suggested that corrupt conduct in high places never left.

## A Final Word from the CCC Chairman, Mr MacSporran QC

On 1 December 2015 the newly appointed Chairman of the CCC, Alan MacSporran QC, published the following media release:

### CCC Chairman Statement - 1.12.2015

*"The CCC has said in the past that the public sector has obligations to the Queensland public to act with integrity and to make transparent and accountable decisions. Where those decisions relate to employment it is vital that they are based on merit and equity.*

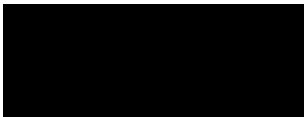
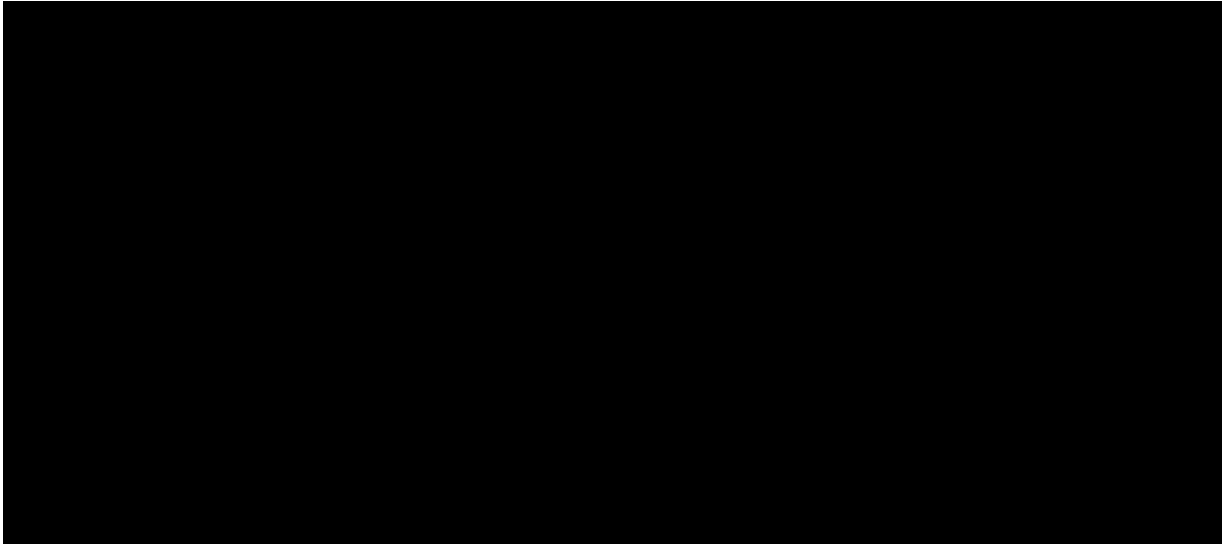
*Setting a high standard for the behaviour of public servants must start at the top of every public sector agency. Today's court outcome demonstrates that even the most senior of people working in the public sector are not immune from criminal prosecution when their behaviour deviates from an obligation to act with integrity and to serve the public interest.*

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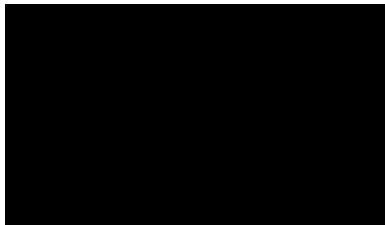
<sup>27</sup> The Australian newspaper, 9 December 2015.

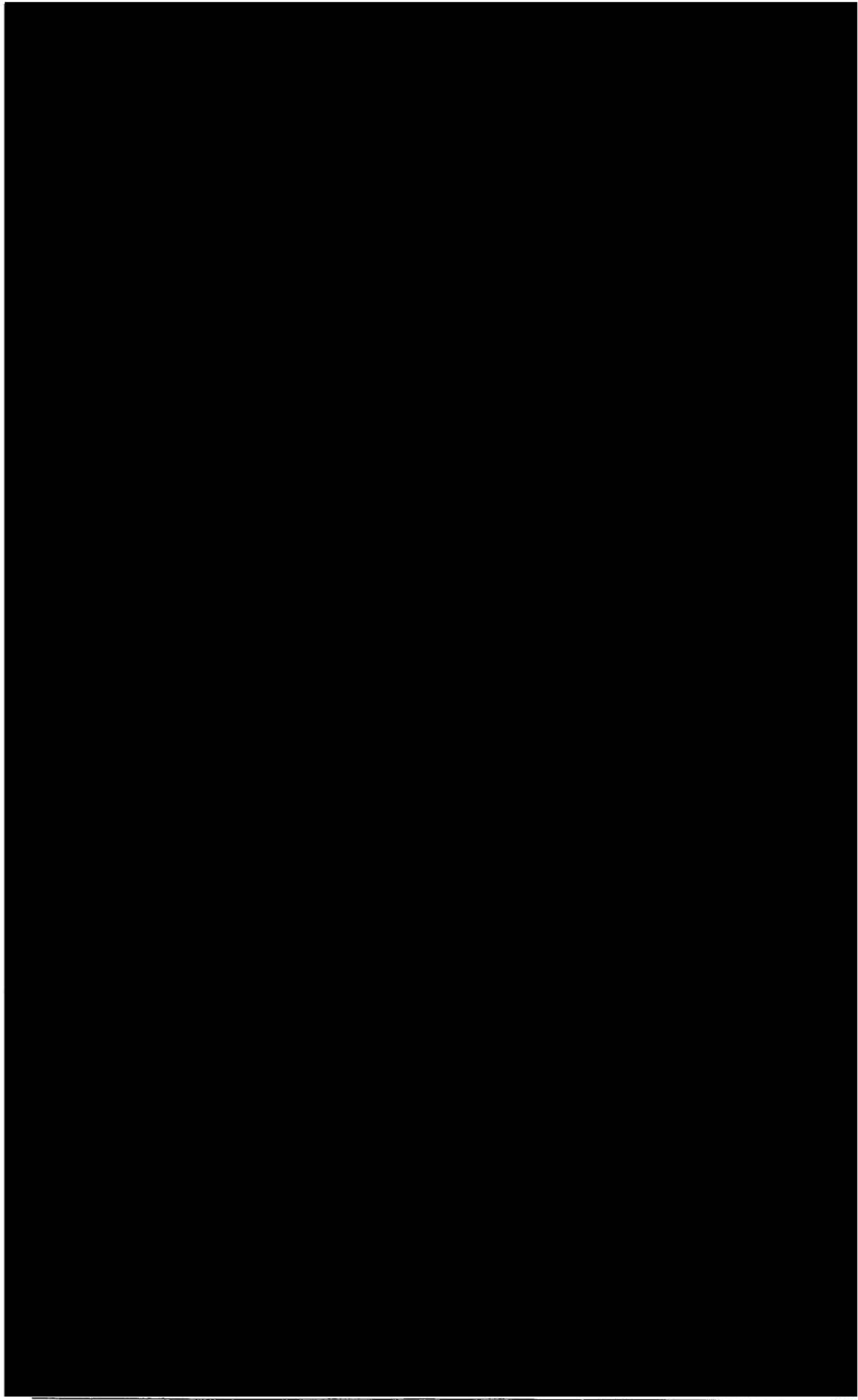
*I will be writing to every Director-General and Chief Executive Officer in Queensland public sector departments and agencies reminding them of the importance in setting a very high benchmark for transparent and ethical behaviour in their organisations.*

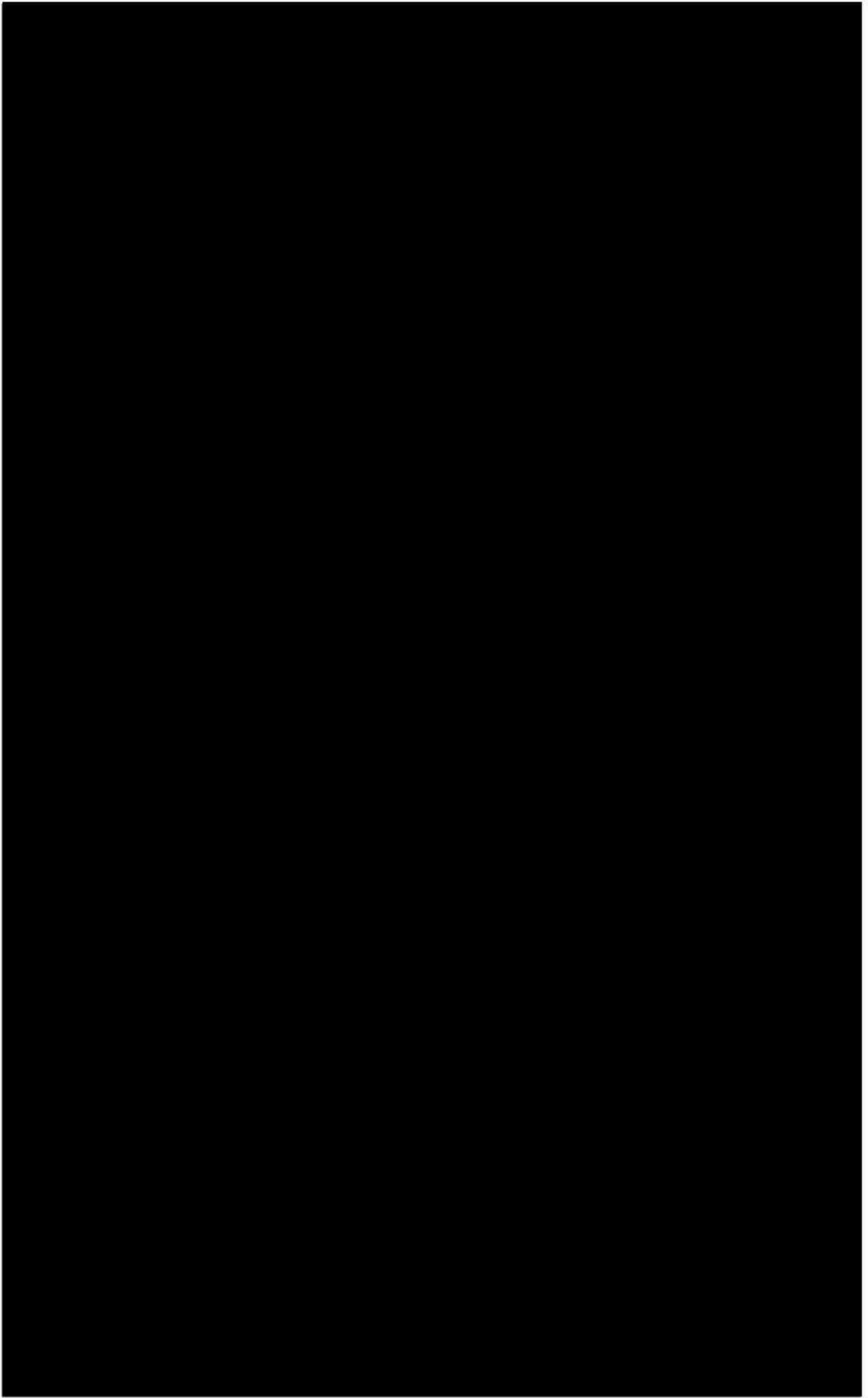
*AJ MacSporran QC  
CCC Chairman”*



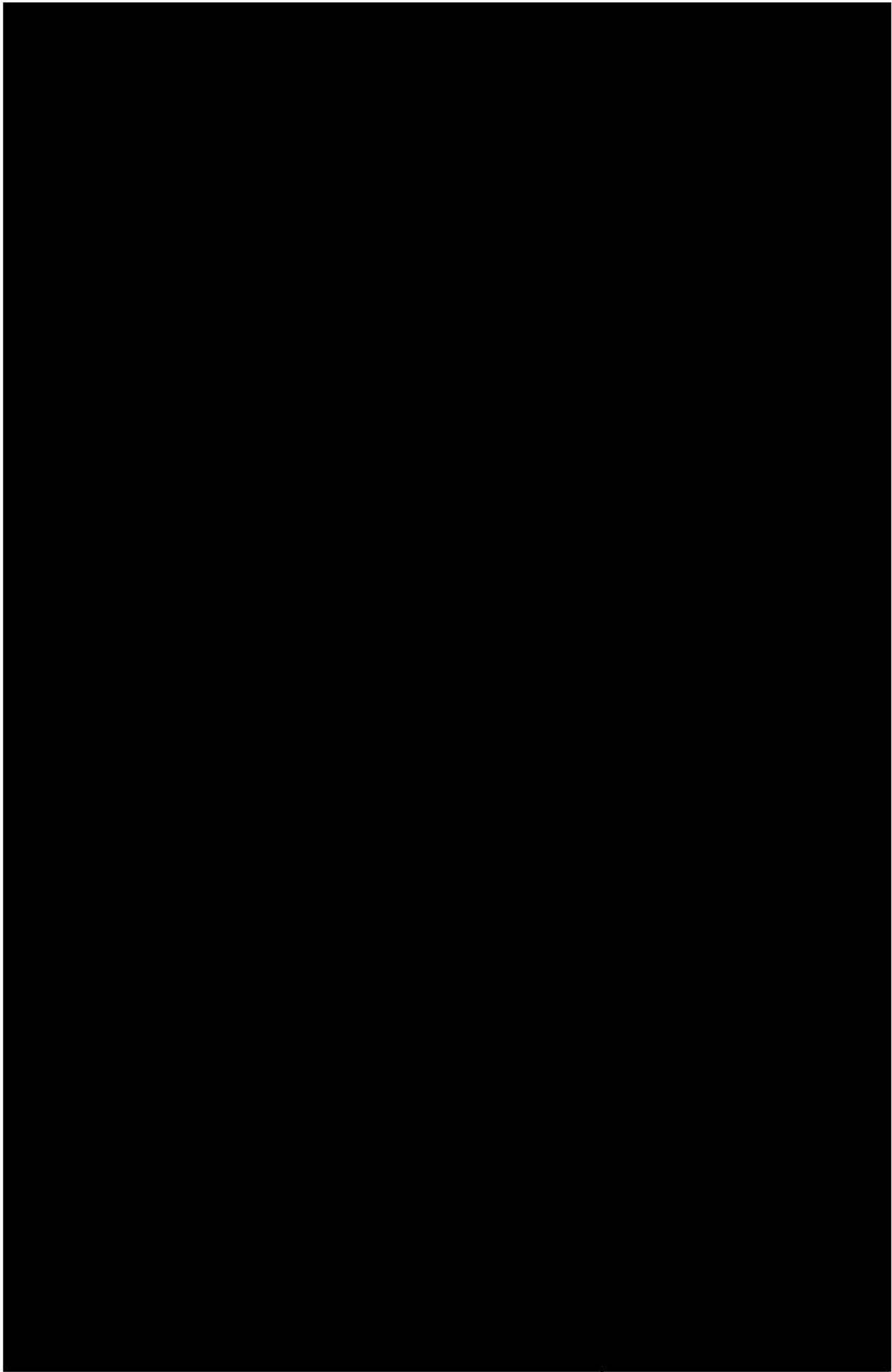
Greg Williams LL.B

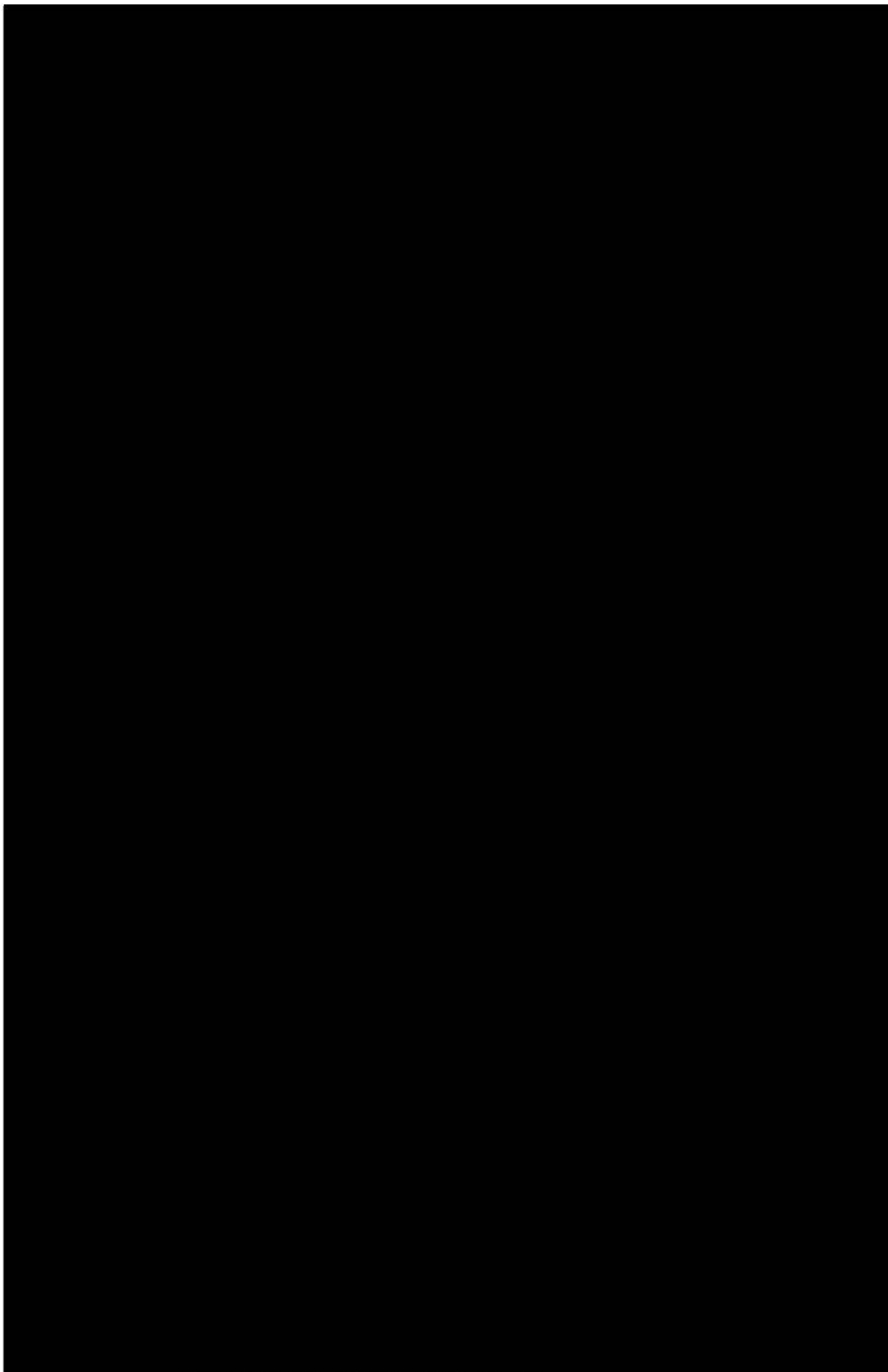


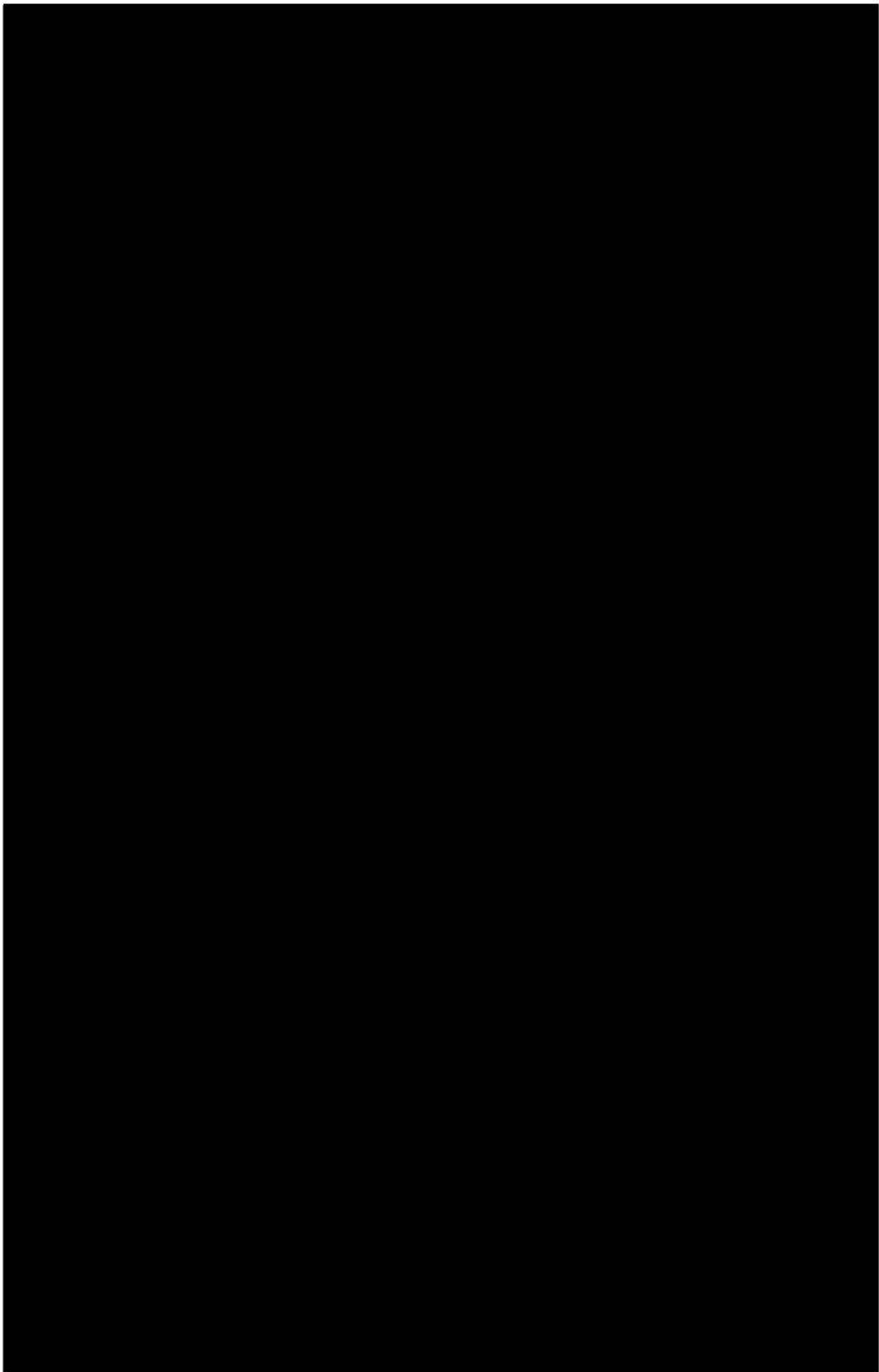


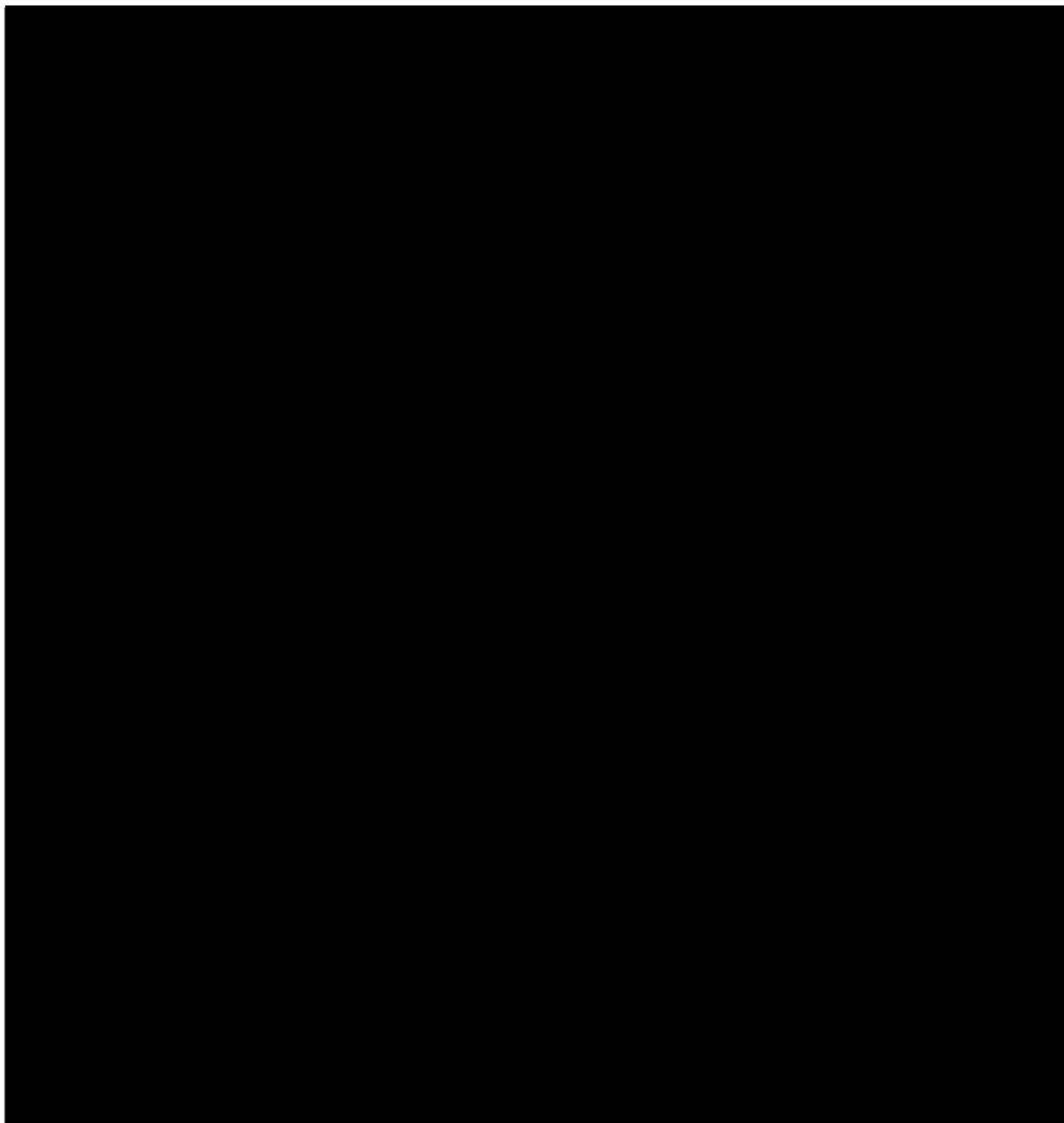




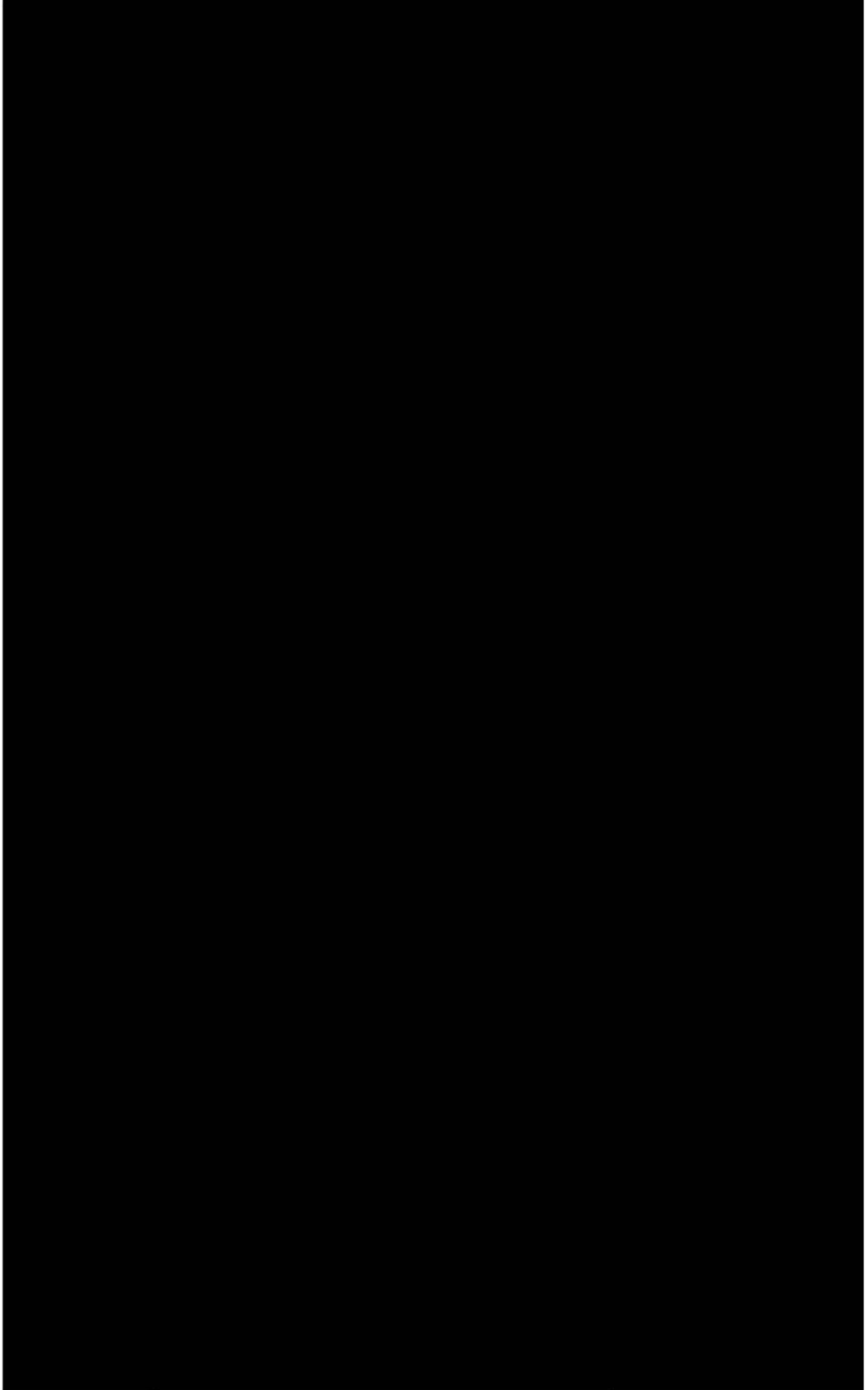








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Our Reference: [REDACTED]  
Contact Officer: [REDACTED]  
Tel: [REDACTED]

23 April 2013

Mr Darren Hall

By Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Hall

## RE: YOUR COMPLAINT

Reference is made to your letters dated 30 September 2012 and 14 November 2012 and our letter of 2 October 2012.

I confirm that you were referred to as 'Detective Senior Constable YZ' in the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) report *Dangerous Liaisons – A report arising from a CMC investigation into allegations of police misconduct* (Operation Capri) published in July 2009.

I understand that you are seeking an explanation of why you were not interviewed. I have no direct knowledge of your matter, as I was not with the CMC at the time of the events relevant to the Operation Capri investigation. Accordingly, the following information has been derived from the CMC's records.

Operation Capri ran from March 2006 to September 2008 during which time, to the CMC's knowledge, you were residing in Melbourne and employed by the Australian Crime Commission (ACC), a Commonwealth law enforcement agency.

In the CMC's view, you were effectively outside the CMC's jurisdiction, and the CMC was unable to easily exercise its coercive powers in respect of you. There was no expectation that you would voluntarily participate in any interview with CMC investigators. Although you have stated previously that you returned to Brisbane in June 2008, the CMC was unaware of that fact.

I understand that CMC investigators made preliminary inquiries and were advised that you were under investigation in relation to other matters. Therefore, in all the circumstances a decision was made not to interview you.

You state that references to Detective YZ's alleged conduct in the *Dangerous Liaisons Report* are inaccurate. In the CMC's view, based on its investigations, this was not the case. In all circumstances, and given the information available at the time, the CMC considered it acted appropriately and professionally during the conduct of this complex investigation.

As no findings were made against you and because you were not identified in the published report, it was the view of the CMC that you have been provided sufficient procedural fairness.

Finally, it is not thought that a meeting with the CMC, as you have requested, would advance these matters any further.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Acting Chairperson.

   
Acting Chairperson

# CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION

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Our Reference: [REDACTED]

25 March 2014

Mr Darren Hall  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Hall,

## RE: YOUR COMPLAINT

I refer to your letter dated 7 November 2013 and previous correspondence in relation to your complaint about the Crime and Misconduct Commission's '*Dangerous Liaisons*' public report in July 2009.

Upon further examination of the Commission's records, it appears to me that you were not forwarded a copy of the draft public report in May 2009. I am satisfied that this was due to a clerical oversight. The Commission however was unaware at that time, that you had not received the draft report.

I note that all steps were taken by the Commission to de-identify your name under the pseudonym, Detective Senior Constable 'YZ', so that the public at large would not be able to identify you.

In relation to any CMC disseminations of information to the ACC during Operation Capri, the Commission may lawfully provide information to other law enforcement agencies pursuant to section 55(2) and (3) and of the *Crime and Misconduct Act 2001* (CM Act). It was appropriately assessed at the time that the ACC had a legitimate need to access certain information.

I am sure you would appreciate that it is inappropriate for the commission to comment on the ACC's action to dismiss you. I make no judgment about that matter which has been raised in your correspondence.

In any event, I am willing to arrange a meeting to discuss your concerns raised. Please contact my Executive Assistant [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] to arrange a convenient time. I will make myself available if possible or alternatively, another senior officer will be available to discuss the matter with you.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Acting Chairperson