

## MINISTERIAL INQUIRY INTO THE PETER ELLIS CASE

Rt Hon Sir Thomas Eichelbaum



12 May 2000

Ms Val Sim  
Chief Legal Counsel, Ministry of Justice  
PO Box 180  
WELLINGTON

Dear Ms Sim

### Ministerial Inquiry – Ellis case

1. Thank you for your helpful letter of 9 May 2000. The letters to parents etc calling for submissions were sent out on 10 May.
2. On page 3 you enquire about sending certain material to the other interested parties. Generally speaking, I would not be inclined to do so. I do not see that the Terms of Reference envisage that I will be restricted only to the publications set out in the Terms. It would be foreseen that I would read other publicly available material.
3. A distinction may be drawn however with regard to material that is not publicly available. The Thorp report might be in this category? Perhaps you would consider the additional material that has been sent to me, from that point of view.
4. Turning to another matter, I assume that the amendment to the Regulations has now been enacted, and I hope you will be able to make early progress with the copying of the videotapes, and of the transcripts.
5. I will be absent from 15 to 26 May inclusive, for a session of the Fiji Court of Appeal. If the need should arise, I can be contacted at the Centra Hotel, Suva:

Tel (679) 301 600  
Fax (679) 300 251  
E-mail [centrasuva@is.com.fj](mailto:centrasuva@is.com.fj)

Yours sincerely

*Thomas Eichelbaum*