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Australian Government

Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force

DEFENCE AND VETERANS' SERVICES COMMISSION'S INQUIRY INTO MILITARY SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

I write this message to make clear what you can and cannot discuss with the Defence and Veterans' Services Commission's inquiry into military sexual violence in the Australian Defence Force about your experience in an Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force (IGADF) matter.

This message does not affect any Court or Tribunal order restricting disclosure of information in respect of an IGADF inquiry or investigation. You must comply with any such order.

IGADF examines sensitive matters. Sometimes, the IGADF or an Assistant IGADF will issue directions restricting the disclosure of information in respect of an Inquiry. These directions may concern disclosure of specific information and documents received during the Inquiry, for example, the specific evidence provided to the Inquiry and information contained in the Inquiry Report. You must comply with any such directions.

However, IGADF non-disclosure directions do not prevent you from sharing with the Defence and Veterans' Services Commission your personal *experiences* about any aspect of your service in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and its impact on you – or your personal *experiences* during engagement with the IGADF and its impact on you. This is because the Defence and Veterans' Services Commission's [terms of reference](#) require it to look at different matters regarding sexual violence in the ADF, including prevention and early intervention, reporting, supports, responses, justice processes, and sexual violence terminology.

If you are unclear about the directions that have been made in respect of an IGADF Inquiry, you should contact the Office of the IGADF by email to ig.adf@igadf.gov.au or by phone on 1800 688 042.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. M. Gaynor', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

James Gaynor CSC
Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force

3 June 2026

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