



VICTORIA POLICE

Policy and training around mental illness

Superintendent Mick Williams
Senior Sergeant Tim Hoban

Background



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- The Victoria Police Centre for Operational Safety
- Undergone significant re-structure since 2009
- Strived to address a number of areas of concern

Operational Environment



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- Across state, police conduct a mental health transfer every 2 hours
- 94% of persons transferred had an existing diagnosed mental illness
- Most encounters occur with limited or no fore warning
- In 2011
 - 13,251 calls to police for assistance (7864 suicide related)
 - 5320 Section 10 arrests (14 per day)
 - 28% resulted in the submission of a UOF form

Operational Environment



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- In 2012 (Jan – June)
 - 1656 armed offender incidents with police (1 in 4 resulted in Section 10)
 - 249 Sieges (65% resulted in Section 10, 70% negotiated outcome)
- Provoked shooting incidents (2 – 3 per week)

Training



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- Designed for all operational staff with focus on front line – first responders
- Delivered initially as a facilitated program at the bi-annual operational safety training sessions
- Embedded within Foundation (recruit) program
- Now provided within E-learning as “refresher” or new skill topic



Learning Outcomes



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- Understanding mental illness / disorders
- Develop skills in identifying symptoms and associated behaviours
- Develop skills in safely managing and de-escalating situations involving persons with mental illness

Subject matter expertise



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Simon Brown-Greaves
Consultant Psychologist
National Leadership Institute



Dr Alex West
Senior Psychologist
Victoria Police
Psychology Unit



Judge Jennifer Coate
State Coroner
Coroners Court of Victoria

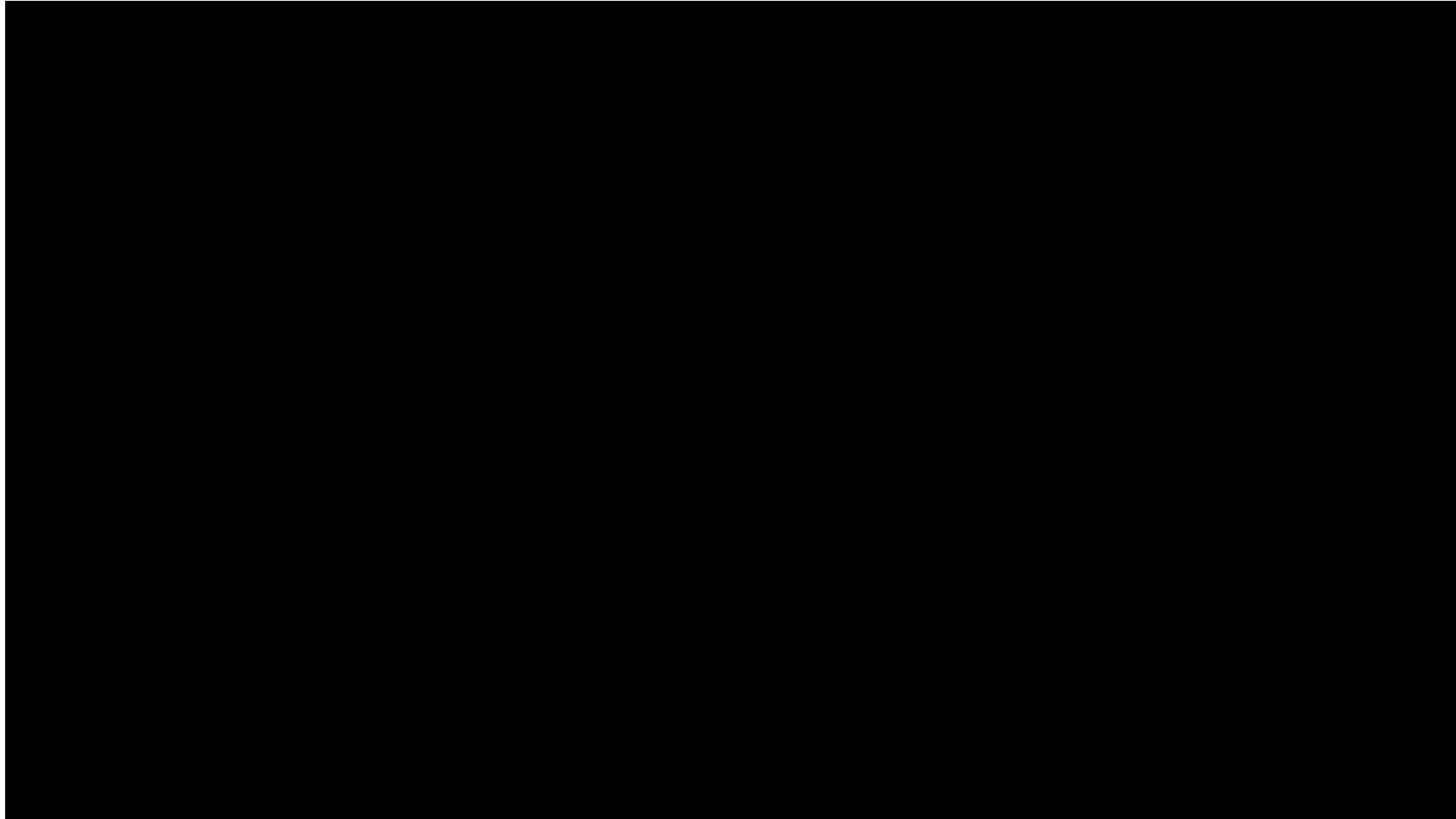


Dr Dan Lubman
Associate Professor and
Consultant Psychiatrist
Orygen Youth Health
University of Melbourne

Video Highlights - Zoe



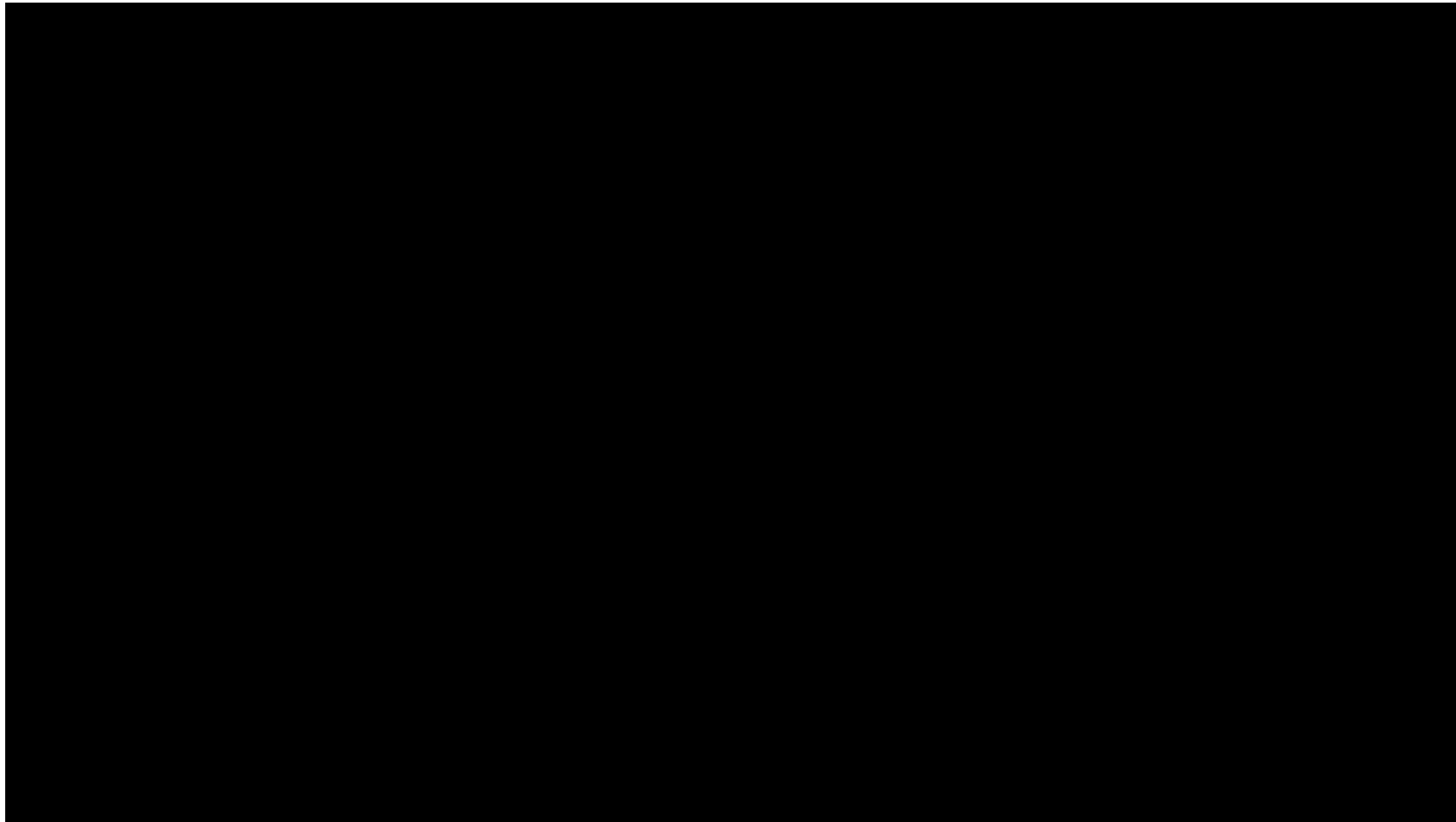
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Depressed male



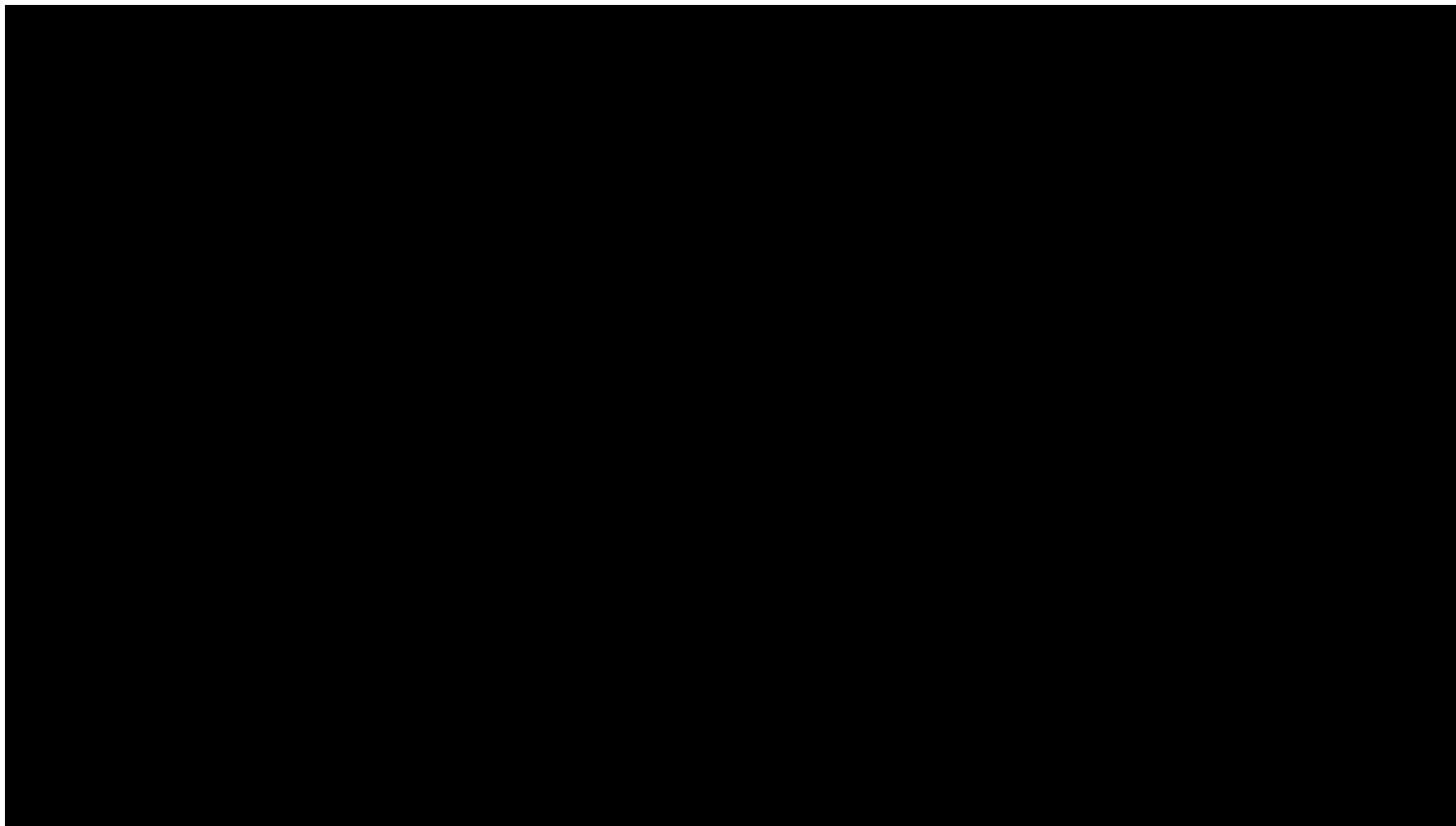
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Youth in crisis



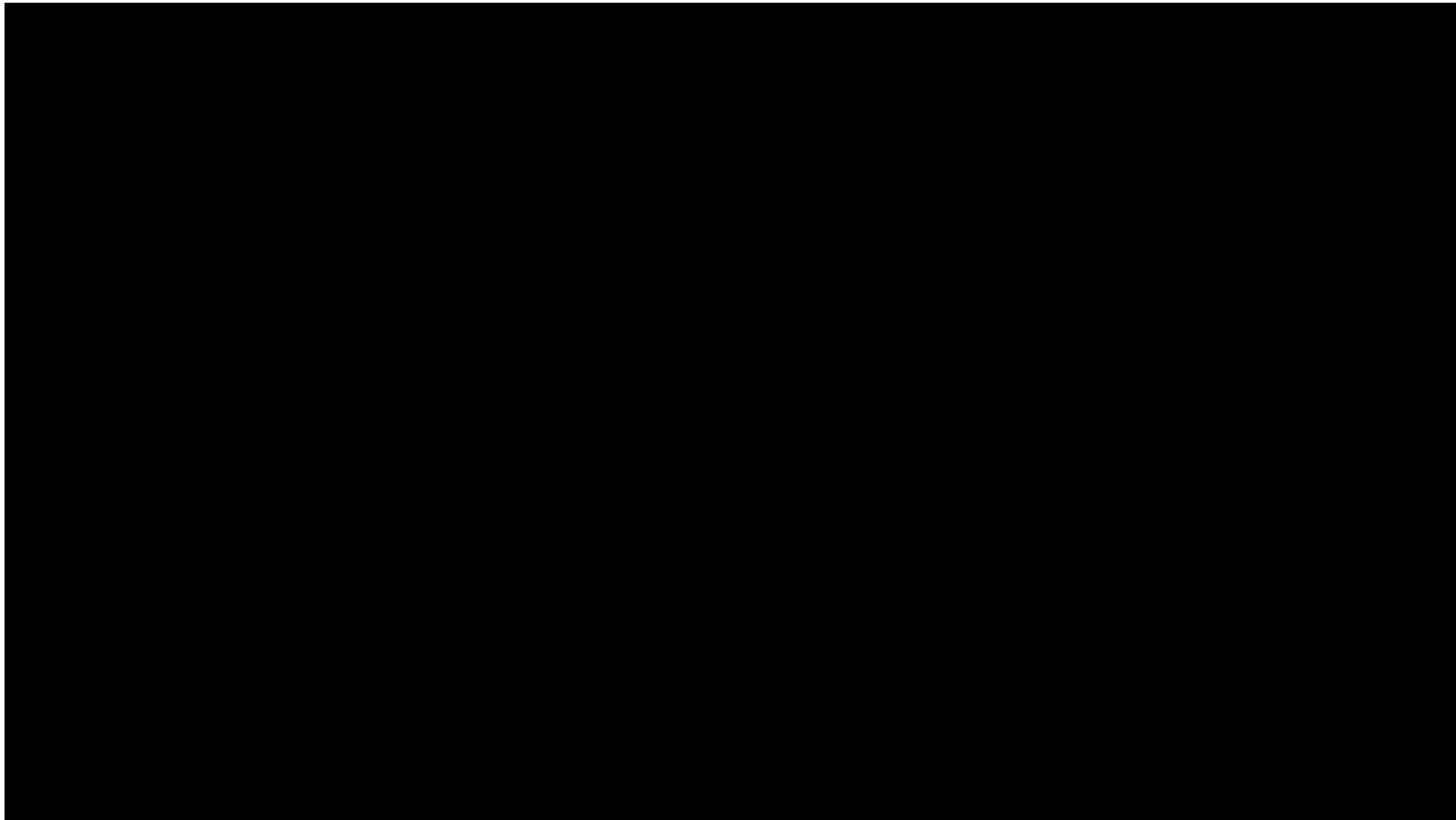
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E-Learning - Introduction



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E-Learning



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Critical Incidents Involving the Mentally Ill

Course Navigation Help

Version 1.0 (Last Updated 14/12/11)

Frequently Asked Questions



9 Legislation Relating to the Mentally Ill

Legislation relating to Mentally Ill persons

Parliament has seen fit to provide Victoria Police, and Protective Services Officers in certain situations, the power to apprehend a person for the purpose of having them examined by a registered medical practitioner or assessed by a mental health practitioner (Section 10 of the Mental Health Act). In order for this power to be used, certain criteria must be met, and rules must be followed.

Criteria
Rules
Section 10 and PSO's
Alcohol and drug affected persons


Content - Subject matter expertise



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Version 1.0 (Last Updated 07/09/12)

Orygen
YOUTH Health



Course Default Activities


- News forum
- Course Glossary

2 **What's Different About Youth**

Definition of Youth.

A young person's control system is not fully developed. The part of the brain that has direct input to decision making, planning, consequence of action, impulse control and regulation of intense emotion, does not mature in the majority of people until the mid 20's.

[Flash video](#)



00:09 / 00:26

What's Different About Youth

- Stressors and Vulnerabilities
- The Hidden Epidemic
- H.E.A.R.ing Youth
- Working Towards an Answer
- Putting It Together
- Feedback
- Certificate
- Show All Sections

Course completion status

No course completion criteria have been set for this course

Online Users

(last 5 minutes)

Nathaniel Warren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Timothy Peck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chloe Hayward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lynden Lloyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Peter Lardner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Vasiliades	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stewart Henderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Jamie Germanis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MacDonald McCombe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paul Weller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Carolyn Moran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Lisa Hollingsworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gerard Walsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alexander Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Content - Text



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3 Critical Incident Defined

Incidents that involve death or serious injury in the presence of police are serious matters that can subject police practices and individual members to increased scrutiny.

For the purposes of this policy and to reflect section 85A Police Regulation Act 1958, these matters are known as 'critical incidents' and include incidents involving a member while on duty which:

- result in the death, or serious injury to a person; **and**
- involve **one or more** of the following:
 - the discharge of a firearm by the member
 - the use of force by the member
 - the use of a motor vehicle by the member (including as a passenger) in the course of their duties
 - the death of, or serious injury to the person while the person was in the custody of the member.

A serious injury is an injury that is life threatening, is likely to result in permanent impairment, is likely to require long-term rehabilitation, or is, in the opinion of the Chief Commissioner likely to bring Victoria Police into disrepute or diminish public confidence in it.

It is important for members to be aware that critical incident reviews are conducted using the Operational Safety Principles as a template.

For more information:

 [VPMP Critical Incidents](#)

 [VPMG Critical Incidents](#)

[Back](#) | [Next](#)

4 Coroner's Perspective

Judge Jennifer Coate is the current State Coroner for Victoria.

Her Honour provides insight into the expectations of the Coroners Court in relation to Critical Incident response from police members.





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RESTART

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

- BRIEF, PLAN AND APPROACH.
- MOVE IN AND WORK IT OUT AS THE SITUATION UNFOLDS.

THAT'S A GOOD PLAN.

Accountability



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You are here: Home Critical Incidents Involving the Mentally Ill Quizzes Quiz: Section 10 Legislation Review of preview [Update this Quiz](#)

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Quiz: Section 10 Legislation

[Start again](#)

Review of preview

Attempts	1, 2
Started on	Monday, 15 October 2012, 01:47 PM
Completed on	Monday, 15 October 2012, 01:48 PM
Time taken	1 min 2 secs
Grade	1 out of a maximum of 2 (50%)
Feedback	You are required to get 100% for this exam. Return to the Topic 9 text and re-attempt the quiz when you are ready.

1 **Marks: 1**

Section 10 of the Mental Health Act is the power to detain persons who appear to be mentally ill and a MOPF has reasonable grounds for believing what?

Choose one answer.

- a. That the person is affected by drugs/alcohol
- b. That the person has a known mental disorder **X**
- c. The person is a recidivist offender
- d. The person has recently attempted suicide or attempted to cause serious bodily harm to themselves or another

[Make comment or override grade](#)

Incorrect

Marks for this submission: 0/1.

2 **Marks: 1**

Sec 10 is available to prescribed persons, including ambulance officers, psychologists and CAT team workers.

Answer:

- True **X**
- False **✓**

Correct. Sec 10 is only available to AMOPF.

[Make comment or override grade](#)

Correct

Marks for this submission: 1/1.

Future / Opportunities



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- Delivery model of topics always considered
- Internal evaluations show strong support for E-Learning model
- Evaluation within working environment shows knowledge is being applied
- International experience continues to support E-Learning
- Links into promotional exams