



FROM  
COMMISSIONER ATKINSON

## Ethical Standards Command

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is a large police agency by English-speaking western world standards. February 2009 marked a special milestone with the Service's 10,000th officer being sworn in at that month's Induction Parade.

Maintaining professional standards in an organisation as large as the QPS is a complex task but is also of the upmost importance. The Service has a good reputation and we are fortunate to have strong community support. That support, however, is predicated upon trust, efficiency, courtesy and professionalism and can easily and quickly be damaged. These aspects are something that all of us have a responsibility to maintain.

This issue of *Police Bulletin* features the Ethical Standards Command (ESC). The ESC plays an important role in maintaining Service standards. Their work is vital in maintaining community confidence.

## Assistance with Victorian bush fires

Staff from police organisations around Australia and New Zealand have been working alongside Victoria Police to

provide support to those affected by the recent bushfires. Our organisation sent members from the Disaster Victim Identification Squad, cadaver dogs and their handlers, and members from the Media and Public Affairs Branch to support our colleagues and the Victorian community.

Christine Nixon, then Victoria Police Chief Commissioner, wrote to me in February expressing her gratitude for the valuable support provided by the Service. I also wish to thank all of our staff deployed interstate for their continuing efforts, working long hours under very difficult circumstances.

## Staff members

The recent retirement of Mr Richard Palaszczuk after 35 years with the QPS is but one example of the good work and support that our staff members provide to the organisation. I would like to acknowledge Richard specifically and all staff members generally for their efforts and continued significant contribution to policing in Queensland.

## Easter

I know many of you are working over the Easter holiday period. I thank you for that and for maintaining the safety of our community and your efforts in

reducing the road toll at a time that is traditionally one for family, friends and religious festivity.

The road toll continues to challenge us. We must remain focused and maintain our efforts towards ensuring the safety of all Queenslanders at all times but particularly during this busy period.

On behalf of the Senior Executive I wish all members of the Service and your families a happy and safe Easter. As this edition is for external publication, I urge all members of the broader community to drive carefully over the long weekend, so that you may stay safe and enjoy a relaxing break.

