



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 21/0728
Enquiries:
Telephone: 7322 3347
Facsimile: 7322 4180

Mr Frank Pangallo
SA Best
Parliament House
1 North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Email: pangallo.office@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Pangallo

Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1991, access was sought to:

"SA BEST requests the number of times Gel Blasters have been involved in offences charged and prosecuted?"

I refer to your email of 15 October 2020 in which you confirmed the scope time frame to be 01/01/2019 to 12/10/2020.

Before dealing with your request it is important to note that Gel Blasters were declared a regulated imitation firearm from 8 October 2020. Prior to this date incidents involving Gel Blasters that came to the attention of South Australia Police Firearms Branch were recorded however not all incidents may have been captured.

It is determined that between 1 January 2019 and 12 October 2020 there were sixty seven (67) incidents involving Gel Blasters recorded at Firearms Branch and forty four (44) resulted in charges being laid in Court. Of those, twenty one (21) have been finalised and twenty three (23) are before the Court. This data was correct as at 28 October 2020.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by **27 November 2020**.



Your rights to review

If you are dissatisfied with the determination for access to SAPOL records, you are entitled to exercise your right of internal review in accordance with section 29(1) of the FOI Act by completing a PD362 Application for Internal Review form which can be downloaded from <https://www.police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/freedom-of-information> or available upon request at your nearest police station. Alternatively an application may be made in writing to the SAPOL Freedom of Information Unit. This application must be lodged within 30 days from the date of this determination with a fee of \$37.50. Such a fee may be waived in the event of an exemption being claimed.

Yours sincerely,



Senior Sergeant First Class Tracy Gentgall
Officer in Charge
Freedom of Information Unit
(Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

11 November 2020