



Department of Justice and Community Safety

Integrity, Regulation and Legal Services

Level 17
121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
justice.vic.gov.au

Our ref: 23086630

Christopher Dean Pecotic/ Binse
CRN 43517
HMP Barwon
Locked Bag 7
LARA VIC 3212

Dear Christopher

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2023 to the Attorney-General, Jaclyn Symes MP, about your petition for mercy. I also note your letter to the Attorney-General dated 20 October 2023. The Attorney-General has asked me to respond on her behalf.

I am sorry for the delay in writing to you. Unfortunately, your letters were not provided to the appropriate team when they were initially received by the Department. We will review our processes to try and ensure this does not occur again.

I understand your letters included five CDs of information. At this stage, we do not have immediate access to the CDs as they are located in an area of the Department that is currently under refurbishment. We will arrange access however, as there may be a delay of up to 8 weeks, if convenient, we would be grateful if you would send through duplicate CDs directly to the First Law Officer and Policy Team. The relevant address is:

Petitions for Mercy
First Law Officer and Policy Team
Department of Justice and Community Safety
Level 17/121 Exhibition Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

I have enclosed a prepaid envelope for you to use. If you are not able to send through duplicate CDs, we will write to you when we have access with any follow up queries.

Petition for mercy

Your correspondence has been treated as a petition for mercy. The Attorney-General will consider the matters you have raised and provide advice to the Premier, who will then advise the Governor on whether mercy should be exercised in your case. The Attorney-General also has the power to refer a petition to the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court.

The exercise of mercy is very rare, and the process can take some time. I have enclosed a fact sheet that explains the petition process and a privacy policy and collection statement.

You are welcome to provide further information in support of your petition for mercy. If you do not provide any further information, your petition for mercy will be considered on the information provided in July and October 2023.

Legal advice

Your letter dated 1 July 2023 states that you are seeking legal representation. You may also want to consider seeking legal advice from Victoria Legal Aid. Victoria Legal Aid provides free legal advice on a range of matters and its Legal Help line can be contacted on 1300 792 387 on the Prisoner Telephone System between 8am and 6pm. Monday to Friday.

Please let us know if you have legal representation in the future.

If you have any queries about this matter, or would like to provide further information, please contact the First Law Officer and Policy Team at FLO@justice.vic.gov.au or at the address listed above.

Yours sincerely



Director
Integrity Policy and Performance

3/1/2024

Enc: Petition for mercy factsheet
Privacy policy and collection statement
Prepaid envelope