

2021

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

PAPER FOR TABLING

CORONER'S REPORT INTO THE DEATH OF FILIPPO ONORATO

**Presented by
Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Police and Emergency Services**

CORONERS ACT 1997

IN THE CORONERS COURT AT CANBERRA IN THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

FINDINGS

An **INQUEST** having been held by me, **PETER JOHN MORRISON**, a Coroner for the Territory, including a hearing conducted at the Coroner's Court at Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory into the death of:

FILIPPO ONORATO

Mr Filippo Onorato died on 20 September 2018 at the Lodge, Ainslie Village, 23 Quick Street, Campbell in the Australian Capital Territory.

The cause of Mr Onorato's death was choking on food while under the influence of heroin. The manner of death was accidental.

I find that in the circumstances the failure by the ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) to identify that Mr Onorato's airway was obstructed did not contribute to his death. I find, however, that that failure does amount to a matter of public safety which triggers the obligation to comment arising under s 52(4)(a) of the *Coroners Act 1997* (ACT) (the '*Act*'). Pursuant to that section I make the following comments. Firstly, the failure to identify the obstruction to Mr Onorato's airway was duly brought to the attention of ACTAS. In response, ACTAS has taken steps to implement various changes to training and standard operating procedures. The action taken by ACTAS appears to be reasonable and to adequately address the factors which led to the failure to identify the obstruction to Mr Onorato's airway.

In the circumstances no further comment is called for.

For the purposes of s 74 of the *Act*, I make no finding that the quality of care, treatment or supervision of Mr Onorato contributed to the cause of his death.

DATED 10 January 2020



P.J. MORRISON
CORONER