



**Australian
Privacy**
Foundation

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24 April 2009

Mr J. Hartigan
Chairman and Chief Executive, News Limited
and Chair, Australia's Right to Know

Dear Mr Hartigan

Thank you for your letter of 31 March, following the event in Sydney. The APF was pleased that it had the opportunity to contribute to the event. The quality of presentations and panels was generally very high, and we congratulate you on the double-coup of encouraging a positive response from Minister Faulkner in the form of draft legislation, and negotiating the draft's release at the event itself.

During the Privacy Panel in the afternoon session, I referred to the APF's Policy Statement on Privacy and the Media. A copy is attached, and the online version is at:
<http://www.privacy.org.au/Papers/Media-0903.html>.

The APF believes that the time has come for a much more substantial approach to encouraging media professionals to find appropriate balances between news-reporting and privacy. The APF is proposing that a Framework be established, complemented by Guidelines. The Policy Statement contains specific proposals in relation to both.

We would like to enter into a dialogue with the media industry and media professionals, with a view to the agreement and promulgation of a document such as a 'Code of Media Conduct in Relation to Privacy'.

Would it be appropriate for Australia's Right to Know Coalition to be the vehicle for establishing that Code?

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Roger Clarke
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