

Media alert

27 November 2019

Please cascade to all media staff

***Mindframe* reminder for Australian media when reporting on death of former AFP staffer in Melbourne**

Mindframe wishes to provide helpful guidance for safe reporting following the death of Julie Woodward, a former Australian Federal Police staff member in Melbourne, Victoria.

While we recognise this story is of public interest and may receive ongoing coverage as further details emerge, it is important that media refrain from speculating on the circumstances surrounding the death as this is a matter for police investigation and possible coronial findings.

It is also important that media report responsibly, given that repeated and sustained coverage can increase the risk to those who may be impacted by the content.

Please note that the inclusion of detailed descriptions of method and means may lead to imitation by vulnerable people.

The traumatic nature of events such as this can have a profound impact on whole communities and may last for a period of time. *Mindframe* encourages the acknowledgement and continued support of grief and loss for the family, friends and the broader Australian community.

As more details emerge about the incident, please refer to the [Mindframe guidelines](#) should they be required.

Help-seeking information

Individuals are more likely to seek help and support when appropriate services are included in stories. *Mindframe* strongly recommends adding help-seeking information to stories (online, print and broadcast) can provide somewhere for people who may be adversely impacted by the coverage to seek professional support.

National 24/7 crisis services:**Lifeline:** 13 11 14 www.lifeline.org.au**Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659 467 www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au**MensLine Australia:** 1300 78 99 78 www.mensline.org.au**Beyond Blue:** 1300 22 4636 www.beyondblue.org.au



Support services

Adult

Lifeline: 13 11 14

lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467

suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

beyondblue.org.au/forums

MensLine Australia: 1300 789 978

mensline.org.au

Youth

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800

kidshelpline.com.au

headspace: 1800 650 890

headspace.org.au

ReachOut: ReachOut.com

Other resources

Head to Health: mental health portal

headtohealth.gov.au

Life in Mind: suicide prevention portal

lifeinmindaustralia.com.au

SANE: online forums saneforums.org

healthinonet.ecu.edu.au - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

1800 184 527 qlife.org.au - Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and/or intersex

mhima.org.au - Culturally and linguistically diverse



EVERYMIND



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mindframe.org.au

Self-care

Reporting suicide and mental illness can also impact to the welfare of journalists. To support media professionals *Mindframe*, in consultation with the [DART Centre Asia Pacific](#), has developed journalism self-care resources for media professionals reporting suicide and mental illness. These resources include self-care tips for journalists as well as advice for editors and line managers, and can be found [here](#).

Contact information

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