

pla

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Level 3, 5 Gardner Close

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Fax (07) 3876 3641

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Web site www.pla.qld.gov.au

Prostitution Enforcement Task Force

The Prostitution Enforcement Task Force (PETF) is part of the Queensland Police Service (QPS). It is responsible for policing organised prostitution throughout the state.

PETF and the Prostitution Licensing Authority (PLA)

PETF and the PLA work cooperatively to further the objectives of the *Prostitution Act 1999* (the Act) and to combat illegal prostitution and illegal brothels in Queensland.

PETF plays a central role in the work of the PLA, especially in relation to the processing of brothel licence and approved manager's certificate applications. It assists the PLA to conduct probity checks of applicants to determine if they are a suitable person to hold a brothel licence or manager's certificate by:

- making inquiries into the applicant's criminal history;
- making any other inquiries considered appropriate; and
- requiring the applicant to provide identifying particulars.

The PLA is commonly the first port of call for any prostitution related matters, including those in relation to illegal prostitution. For example, the PLA might receive intelligence of a suspected illegal brothel. The PLA does not have the capacity to investigate complaints about suspected illegal activities. Complaints which allege criminal behaviour, including those which constitute an offence under the *Prostitution Act 1999*, will be referred to PETF for action. Prostitution advertisements which might be offensive or illegal may be referred to PETF. However, information will only be referred with the permission of the informant, and their anonymity can be assured, if requested.

PETF and Illegal Prostitution

PETF is also responsible for enforcing the law relating to prostitution in the *Criminal Code Act 1899*. Subject to any exceptions specified in the Criminal Code, it is an offence:

- to procure another person to engage in prostitution, either in Queensland or elsewhere;
- to knowingly participate, directly or indirectly, in the provision of prostitution by another person;
- for two or more sole operators to work from the same premises;
- for a person, without reasonable excuse, to be found in, or leaving a place suspected on reasonable grounds of being used for the purposes of prostitution by two or more prostitutes;
- for an interested person in relation to premises to knowingly allow the premises to be used for the purposes of prostitution by two or more prostitutes; or
- for a person to knowingly cause or permit a person who is not an adult, or is an intellectually impaired person, to be at a place used for the purposes of prostitution by two or more prostitutes.

This information is intended to be of a broad and general nature only, rather than detailed and comprehensive. It is no substitute for the relevant provisions of the Criminal Code. The Code may be downloaded at: www.legislation.qld.gov.au

Do you have any information about suspected illegal prostitution activities?

You can let the PLA know by contacting us on 07 3858 9500.

Alternatively, you can call the Police Headquarters main switch on 07 3364 6464 and ask to be transferred to PETF.



Prostitution Licensing Authority
Queensland Government

Contact details for the PLA

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