



**Special Commission of Inquiry**  
Acute Care Services in NSW Public Hospitals

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31 July 2008

His Excellency The Honourable J J Spigelman AC,  
Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales,  
Supreme Court of New South Wales,  
Queens Square,  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

*Your Excellency,*

I was appointed by Letters Patent issued on 29 January 2008 under the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW) (the Act) to inquire into and report on matters concerning the delivery of acute care services in public hospitals in New South Wales.

As part of the Inquiry, I determined to investigate the circumstances surrounding the appointment in 2002 of former registered medical practitioner Graeme Stephen Reeves to a position as a visiting medical officer in obstetrics and gynaecology by the former Southern Area Health Service. I am now in a position to present my report in relation to that investigation.

In the absence of Her Excellency the Governor of NSW, I present to you as Lieutenant-Governor of NSW the First Report of my Inquiry.

I have separated my Report into two volumes.

I recommend that the first volume which is an entirely comprehensive account of my Inquiry into the relevant circumstances surrounding the appointment in 2002 of Mr Reeves to a position with the former Southern Area Health Service be published as this is in the public interest.

I recommend that the second volume which addresses the specific reporting requirements of s 10 (1) of the Act and which relates only to the circumstances surrounding the appointment in 2002 of Mr Reeves to a position with the former Southern Area Health Service not be published as it would be contrary to the public interest so to do. I recommend, however, that the volume should be sent to the NSW Director of Public Prosecutions.

Yours faithfully

Peter Garling SC  
Commissioner