

25 June 2026

The State Coroner of Western Australia

Level 10, Central Law Courts

501 Hay Street

PERTH WA 6000

coroner@justice.wa.gov.au

RE: Request for an inquest into the death of Ms Virginia Giuffre

Dear Ms Fogliani,

Women's Health NSW is the peak body for 21 non-government community-based women's health centres in New South Wales (NSW). In the 2024–25 financial year, our members provided more than 114,549 occasions of service to women across NSW, incorporating more than 223,479 presenting health issues. Supporting women's emotional and mental health made up 31 per cent of our work, while addressing the impacts of violence and abuse made up 18 per cent of the work we undertook as a sector.

We are writing to you to formally request an inquest into the death of Ms Virginia Giuffre. We believe there is cause to examine Ms Giuffre's death to identify both how the death occurred, and any contributing systemic issues in order to prevent future fatalities.

In line with [section 24 of the Coroners Act 1996 \(WA\)](#), we have set out the reasons we are seeking an inquest below:

- Australia is currently investigating the relationship between domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) victimisation, and suicide, and the extent to which DFSV victimisation contributes to suicide risk and incidenceⁱ. In our submission to this Inquiry, we drew attention to grey literature about intimate partner violence homicides being misrepresented as suicides in other global jurisdictions^{ii iii} and, more recently, in published research here in Australia^{iv}. We believe the examination of Ms Giuffre's death has the potential to contribute to our national understanding of the role that DFSV victimisation plays in suicide and/or homicide.
- Suicide by firearm is rare amongst women in Australia. Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicates just 65 female deaths between 2015 and 2024 by suicide involved firearms. This represents 0.82 per cent of the total female deaths by suicides in this ten-year period.^v The rarity of this form of suicide should mean that Ms Giuffre's death warrants further investigation, particularly when taken alongside evidence that her ex-partner, Robert Guiffre had both strangled (a serious risk indicator for future intimate partner homicide^{vi}) and utilised a firearm in prior abuse of Ms. Guiffre.^{vii}
- Misidentification of the victim as the primary aggressor may also have played a role in Ms Giuffre's death. At the time of her death, we understand Ms Giuffre was blocked from seeing her children by being named as the respondent in a temporary restraining order. By Ms Giuffre's own admission, this was having a serious impact on her mental health: *"I have*

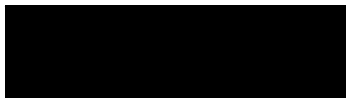
been through hell and back in my 41 years but this is incredibly hurting me worse than anything else. Hurt me, abuse me, but don't take my babies.^{viii}

- There is significant public interest in understanding this death given the high-profile sex trafficking and sexual abuse experienced by Ms Giuffre in her earlier life. By examining the role repeat victimisation has played in this fatality, there is potential to identify gaps in the support we provide to sexual abuse and trafficking victims and survivors, and bolster work to prevent repeat victimisation and suicide in the future.

While we are pleased that Western Australian Police have recently announced a review of their own actions in the lead-up to Ms Giuffre's death^{ix}, it is our view that there is significant value in an independent review by the Coroner.

Should more information be required, I can be reached by phone on 0414 780 417 or by email at ceo@whnsw.asn.au.

Regards,



Denele Crozier AM
Chief Executive Officer
Women's Health NSW

ⁱ Parliament of Australia. *Inquiry into the relationship between domestic, family and sexual violence and suicide*, accessed 25 June 2026.

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Social_Policy_and_Legal_Affairs/DFSVS/uicidedata

ⁱⁱ Kippert, A. (2024, July 9). *Hidden Homicides Bill Addresses Abusers Who Cover Up Murder*. DomesticShelters.org. <https://www.domesticshelters.org/articles/ending-domestic-violence/hidden-homicides-bill-addresses-abusers-who-cover-up-murder>

ⁱⁱⁱ Alliance For Hope International. (2025, August 18). *The Justice Project*. <https://www.allianceforhope.org/justice-project>

^{iv} Mullin, S. P., & Hardiman, R. (2025a). The Characteristics and Circumstances of Fatal Interpersonal Strangulation in Australian Adults. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/08862605251321001>

^v Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2024). *Causes of Death, Australia*. ABS. <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/causes-death/causes-death-australia/2024>.

^{vi} Glass, N., Laughon, K., Campbell, J., Block, C. R., Hanson, G., Sharps, P. W., & Taliaferro, E. (2008). Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women. *Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 35(3), 329–335. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jemermed.2007.02.065>

^{vii} Hildebrandt, C. & Fyfe, M. (2026, February 13). Violent incident between Giuffre and husband revealed as legal fight over her fortune rages on. *WAtoday*. <https://www.watoday.com.au/national/western-australia/violent-incident-between-giuffre-and-husband-revealed-as-legal-fight-over-her-fortune-rages-on-20260212-p5o1rk.html>

^{viii} Virginia Roberts [@virginiarobertsrising11]. (2025, March 22). "My beautiful babies have no clue how much I love them and they've been poisoned with lies. I miss them" [Photograph]. Instagram. <https://www.instagram.com/virginiarobertsrising11/p/DHfzrupSu60/?hl=en>

^{ix} Bourke, K., Mitsopoulos, N. & Ho, C. (2026, June 24). Police to review interactions with Virginia Giuffre prior to her death in Western Australia. *ABC News*. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-06-24/wa-police-to-review-case-of-epstein-accuser-virginia-giuffre/106786548>