



File No: T25/06206

Decision Report

Classification decisions are made in accordance with the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* (the Act), the National Classification Code and the Classification Guidelines.

Production Details:

Title: **eSafety INV-2025-1866**
 Alternate Titles:
 Producer: **Unknown**
 Director: **Unknown**
 Year of Production: **1996**
 Duration: **12 minutes**
 Version: **Original**
 Country of origin: **Australia**
 Language: **English**
 Application Type: **Film Other**
 Applicant: **Australian Communications And Media Authority**

Dates:

Date application received by the Classification Board: 6/05/2025
 Date of decision: 12/05/2025

Decision:

Classification: **R 18+**
 Consumer Advice: **High impact themes and violence**

Synopsis:

The eSafety material is that of a 12-minute video that is identified as part one of a three-part police training video relating to the 1996 Port Arthur mass-shooting event. It contains depictions of multiple deceased persons with high impact blood detail. The video is accompanied by an image indicating the film content is posted on the social video-sharing platform YouTube.

Reasons for Decision:

In making this decision, the Classification Board has applied the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995* (the Classification Act), the National Classification Code (the Code) and the Guidelines for the

Classification of Films 2012 (the Guidelines).

In the Board's view this film warrants an R 18+ classification as, in accordance with item 3 of the films table of the Code, it contains material that is unsuitable for a minor to see.

Pursuant to the Guidelines, this film is classified R 18+ as the impact of the classifiable elements is high. Material classified R 18+ is legally restricted to adults. Some material classified R 18+ may be offensive to sections of the adult community.

The classifiable elements are themes and violence that are high in viewing impact.

The examples described below do not represent an exhaustive list of the content that caused the film to be classified R 18+. The times given are approximations.

THEMES and VIOLENCE

Within the R 18+ classification there are virtually no restrictions on the treatment of themes, and the film contains high-impact thematic content relating to the 1996 Port Arthur mass-shooting event, including depictions of real-life blood and gore. The film also contains violence, in the form of post-action depictions and references, that are high in viewing impact as they involve real-world attack survivors and decedents.

The material provided for classification consists of a 12-minute film that has been posted by the user 'linosone' to YouTube. It is identified both on-screen in the video and in the user's video title and summary as content produced for the purposes of police training. The video opens with all-caps text on screen reading: "This program has been produced for training purposes and is for police eyes only". The user's text summary below the video indicates the content was "leaked to liveleak years ago" and contains "graphic images". It is titled as part one of three in a series of Victorian Police training videos on Port Arthur.

The film features interviews, news snippets and a professional voiceover discussing the Port Arthur attack and the police response to it, interspersed with real-world footage from the aftermath of the attack. From 3 minutes, the film contains multiple views of deceased victims in footage with at times strong film grain. Numerous bodies are shown in close-ups, panning shots and medium shots, with copious blood detail on and around them. The film's depictions of bodies and blood last approximately 3 minutes and contains voice overs, including that of a survivor speaking about the attack and the main narrator talking about the gunman's actions.

The film may be confronting, distressing and offensive to some sections of the adult community, and contains content unsuitable for a minor to see. Though it features bloody and at times lingering shots of real-world deceased persons, including two children, this imagery is presented factually and in an educational context. The footage of the mass-shooting aftermath is interspersed with interviews with people involved in the police response to the attack, including a public affairs representative talking about handling the flow of information to the media. It is also overlaid with a matter-of-fact narration of events. Similarly, the information posted alongside the video to YouTube is factual and succinct in identifying the video as leaked training material, with no direct commentary on why the video has been posted or how it should be viewed/received. It is for these reasons that the film does not meet the criteria to be Refused Classification.

In particular, the context is such that:

- It does not provide instruction in or promotion of matters of crime and violence, detailed or otherwise - *noting that neither the video nor its accompanying text indicate the content is promotional or instructional in matters of crimes and violence.*

- It does not contain exploitative or offensive descriptions or depictions involving persons under 18 years – *noting that there are brief depictions of two deceased children with some blood detail within the context of a Police training video.*
- It does not contain gratuitous, exploitative or offensive depictions of violence with a very high degree of impact, or that are excessively frequent, prolonged or detailed – *noting that the Police training video context ensures the content is not presented in a manner that can be considered gratuitous or exploitative, nor offensive.*
- It does not contain gratuitous, exploitative or offensive depictions of cruelty or real violence which are very detailed – *noting the above context.*

The film is therefore classified R 18+, with consumer advice of high impact themes and violence best describing its most impactful content.

OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED OR NOTED

The Board notes that the film has not been Refused Classification in the specific context and format in which it has been submitted for classification. The same content, in whole or in part, presented in a different context may warrant a different classification.

Decision:

This film is classified R 18+ with consumer advice of High impact themes and violence.

Classification Board Use only

Names of panel members constituted for decision:

s22(1)(a)(ii), s22(1)(a)(ii), s22(1)(a)(ii)

Details of opinions:

Panelist	Opinion
s22(1)(a)(ii)	R 18+ - High impact themes and violence
s22(1)(a)(ii)	R 18+ - High impact themes and violence
s22(1)(a)(ii)	R 18+ - High impact themes and violence

Details of Opinions (Including minority opinions): Unanimous

A senior panellist has confirmed that the application considered was valid under the Act.

A senior panellist has confirmed that all members constituting the Board for this decision have considered the application and that this Decision Report is a true and accurate reflection of the Board's decision and any minority opinions.

Decision signed off by delegate:

Steven THOMSON