



MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
THE HON JOEL FITZGIBBON MP

Dear Prime Minister

You will be aware of questioning in Senate Estimates last night regarding meetings between Humana, my brother and the Ministers for Veterans' Affairs and the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel.

Having read the transcript of proceedings I decided to thoroughly examine the nature of any contact between Humana, my brother and my office. Having done so, and despite having made it clear to all parties that it was important that I not be involved, I am not satisfied that contact between the various parties leave it clear that I have entirely conformed with your Ministerial Code of Conduct.

In particular, I have learned that one meeting between the parties was held in my Ministerial office. Further, I understand that members of my staff sat in on a number of meetings.

Again, despite my decision to avoid being a part of any discussions between the parties, I am not absolutely satisfied that that objective was achieved to the extent necessary to ensure full compliance with your Ministerial Code of Conduct.

On that basis, and to protect the integrity of the Government, I have decided to resign as a member of the Executive, effective, immediately.

I wish the Government I remain loyal to every success.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JF', with a large loop at the end.

Joel Fitzgibbon

4.6.09