



Royal Commission
into Family Violence

WITNESS STATEMENT OF MLADENKA [MAYA] AVDIBEGOVIC

I, Mladenka [Maya] Avdibegovic, inTouch Chief Executive Officer, of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] in the State of Victoria, say as follows:

1. I am authorised by inTouch Multicultural Centre against Family Violence (**inTouch**) to make this statement on its behalf.
2. I make this statement on the basis of my own knowledge, save where otherwise stated. Where I make statements based on information provided by others, I believe such information to be true.

Current role

3. I am the Chief Executive Officer of inTouch and I have held this position since 2009.
4. inTouch is a State-wide organisation, which provides services, programs and responses to issues of family violence in culturally and linguistically diverse (**CALD**) communities.
5. At inTouch we are focussed on developing and implementing a number of culturally sensitive and holistic models for the provision of services to both victims and perpetrators of family violence.
6. In my current role I am responsible for ensuring that the organisational goals of InTouch are achieved through strong leadership, strategic planning, effective use of resources and in line with the accreditation standards

Background and qualifications

7. Prior to joining inTouch, I worked for Melbourne East Area Consultative Committee and AMES (Adult Migrant Educational Service).
8. I hold a Diploma of Accounting, a Bachelor of Arts Degree and currently completing a Master of Business Administration course.

9. Being a migrant myself, enables me to relate to the experience of clients accessing services at inTouch. I know firsthand that settlement is not a moment in time, or a period in time, it is a life long journey and even if a person has a very smooth migration experience, it is still traumatic.

Submission to the Royal Commission into Family Violence

10. I refer to and rely on inTouch's submission to the Royal Commission into Family Violence (**Royal Commission**) which includes 42 recommendations in response to the Royal Commission's Issues Paper. A copy of that submission is attached to this statement and marked "**MA-1**".



Mladenka [Maya] Avdibegovic

Dated: 03 August 2015