



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Sunday 22 May 2011

### **NSW GOVERNMENT TO DELIVER LIFE SENTENCES FOR POLICE KILLERS**

Premier Barry O'Farrell and Police and Emergency Services Minister Michael Gallacher today announced the NSW Government will introduce a Bill to Parliament this week to make life sentences compulsory for people who murder police officers.

Mr O'Farrell and Mr Gallacher today met and received support from John Carty, the father of Police Officer David Carty who was murdered in Fairfield at the age of 25 in 1997.

"Since 2002, the NSW Liberal & Nationals have been committed to this policy and we intend to deliver this commitment," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government intends to ensure that those who murder police officers spend their lives behind bars.

"It is unacceptable to me, to the Minister and to the broader community that anyone involved in the murder of a police officer should now be enjoying freedom.

"Police put themselves at risk every day to protect the people of NSW. They face situations that the rest of us would run from," Mr O'Farrell said.

Mr Gallacher said life sentences for those who murder police officers sends a very clear message that the community will not tolerate attacks on police officers.

"I personally have campaigned vigorously for it and now with the change of Government we can deliver sanctions for these criminals.

"It's disturbing to consider that 12 police officers have been murdered while carrying out their duties in the past 40 years.

"The previous Labor Government was repeatedly asked to deliver this legislation but failed.

"This bill stands up for frontline Police. It stands up for community standards," Mr Gallacher concluded.