

Police investigate alleged assault on royal commission lawyer

- STEPHEN DRILL
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Assistant Commissioner Stephen Fontana gave evidence at the commission yesterday. Picture Jason Edwards.

THE Royal Commission has confirmed that one of its lawyers was assaulted last night.

The commission released a statement this morning exclusively to the *Herald Sun* confirming the attack.

“The Commission is deeply distressed by the attack of one of its staff members in Melbourne last night,” the statement said.

“The Commission is not aware at this stage that the attack is related to the Commission’s inquiry.

“The Commission will assist Victoria Police in any way it can. Any further enquiries should be directed to Victoria Police.”

The *Herald Sun* understands that a female lawyer working for the commission was the victim of the assault.

The lawyer is in hospital and is not at the hearings today.

A police spokeswoman said that officers were “making inquiries” about an incident that occurred in Exhibition St.

MORE: Whistleblowers ‘live in fear’

The Royal Commission has been sitting in Melbourne this week for hearings about the CFMEU, Health Services Union and the Australian Workers’ Union.



Police Assistant Commissioner Stephen Fontana told the royal commission of links between organised crime and the CFMEU.

Yesterday, Victoria Police Assistant Commissioner (Crime) Stephen Fontana told the royal commission there were links between organised crime and the Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union.

“Intelligence indicates that criminal activity is undertaken by building trade officials directly and by organised crime figures,” he said, “that trade union officials use OMCGs (outlaw motorcycle gangs) to engage in activity on their behalf, and that OMCGs often commit serious crime to execute these activities.”