

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY ABU DHABI

23 November 2012

Email: pare overcome action

Dear Mr Joyce,

Following your request for access to documents under Freedom of Information legislation, I have been authorised to provide you with the following information, which is based on the observations of staff who have been present in open hearings during your trial:

Australian diplomatic staff attended court in Dubai as observers on 20 September 2012, 18 October 2012 and 12 November 2012.

In court on 20 September 2012, the Judge, Abdul Jawad, scheduled the next hearing for 18 October 2012 and requested three witnesses to be summoned by the Public Prosecutor. Two of those witnesses were named as Mr David Brown and Mr Soheil Abedian.

In court on 18 October 2012, these two witnesses were not present. The Public Prosecutor said that they had not been contacted. Judge Saad instructed the Public Prosecutor to call two people from the prosecution's list of witnesses to attend the next hearing. Those two individuals were not named in the court at that time.

The next hearing was on 12 November 2012. Judge Saad called the name of Mr David Scott Brown, who the Judge said had been summoned. Mr Brown was not present in court.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Okai-Davies

First Secretary and Consul