




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli
MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 12 December 2024

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Police Service Deaths, Anniversary

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.42 am): On this day two years ago three innocent lives were senselessly and callously taken in an act of terror that this state will not forget. It was 12 December 2022 when Constable Rachel McCrow, Constable Matthew Arnold and Mr Alan Dare were tragically killed in the most devastating and heinous circumstances in Wieambilla. It was an act of terror that shook our state.

A crime like this seemed foreign to Queensland—something that only appeared on TV screens or in newspapers from faraway places. But this was not far away. It was in a proud regional Queensland community. Those unspeakable things that happened, they happened in our state.

Constables McCrow and Arnold died in the line of duty. They lost their lives simply doing their job. Their loss, their sacrifice serves as a stark reminder of how every day the men and women of the Queensland Police Service put their lives on the line to protect our community and to protect our way of life. The bravery shown by their colleagues that afternoon and night was truly remarkable.

On our team we have no shortage of representation of members who have served as sworn officers in the Queensland Police Service. I know they, just like current and former officers right across the state, will walk with a heavier heart today.

The emotions of that day are still so very raw. Alan Dare lost his life that day too. He was simply going to check on the wellbeing of his neighbours—something that Queenslanders do day in and day out. I want the families, friends and colleagues of Rachel, Matt and Alan to know that they are not forgotten and will not be forgotten. The Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Leader of the Opposition, the shadow minister and I attended the police memorial this morning to pay our respects and to acknowledge the sacrifices of constables McCrow and Arnold and also those who have fallen in the line of duty before them.