MEDIA RELEASE

WHY SO LONG?

January 24th, 2012

“Nineteen hours appears to be a long time to wait before releasing details of a double break-out at Berrimah Prison last night,” says Shadow Correctional Services Minister, Willem Westra van Holthe.

“According to the police media release, the escape occurred at 6pm yesterday and the first public statement was issued just before 2pm today.

“One of the men, who has since been returned to custody, was in prison for a violent assault that caused the death of a man.

“While there may have been investigative reasons for the delay, the community had a right to know that the two men had escaped police custody.

“Authorities should never under-estimate the value of the general public in identifying escapees – if they know they’re at large.

“An explanation is required as to the reasons behind the delay in releasing this information.”

Further comment: Willem Westra van Holthe 0414 778 430