

### 卸任感言

#### A Message from the Outgoing Chairman



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2018年5月，政府甫宣布委任我為監警會主席，一名記者旋即寄來電郵，詢問我會否覺得自己擔當此職有大材小用之嫌。我當時如此回覆：「服務公眾，哪有大材小用這回事。我們必須以極其謙卑的態度和服務精神對待所有公職。」如今回望，我很高興自己當時如是說。

持不同意見者互相交火，擔任公職者永遠無法置身事外。然而，自2019年6月12日以來所發生的極端狀況，卻遠遠超乎我的預期。更令人惶恐的是，當時形勢極為嚴峻，以往公職積累的經驗完全無法派上用場。

自2019年6月12日起，反對聲音於本港社會深深植根，引發街頭暴力事件、公共財產遭受嚴重破壞，無辜人士受到傷害。警隊肩負維護法紀之責，需要使用相稱的武力遏止暴力，平息動亂。然而縱觀全球各地，每每執法人員使用武力，難免會捲起指責「警暴」的討伐聲浪，香港亦不例外。社交媒體被當作激發更強烈動亂和暴力行為的主要平台。正當「警暴」指控甚囂塵上之際，自製不同武器及汽油彈的方法亦同時在網上廣泛流傳，甚至在全無真憑實據下含沙射影指控警察殺人。

商舖、餐廳、港鐵及其他公共財產屢遭破壞。九龍區主要幹道——彌敦道上所有交通燈一概遭到損毀。一連數月，車輛及行人凡途經彌敦道及周遭各大小十字路口時，莫不小心翼翼，以免發生碰撞或受傷。在街上呼籲停止暴力的人遭到毆打，一名男子更被磚頭擊中死亡，亦有人被淋潑火水後點火，造成三級燒傷，終身殘障。也有市民在社交媒體上成為攻擊目標，個人資料被曝光，即網上俗稱的「起底」，不少警務人員和表達溫和意見的公眾人物均受牽連。當時，監警會亦陷入這個暴力漩渦中。

In May 2018, soon after the Government announced my appointment as Chairman of the IPCC, a reporter sent me an email to ask if I had thought that I was overqualified for the position. My answer was as follows: "No one is ever 'over qualified' for public service; one must treat any public office with a deep sense of humility and service." Looking back, I am glad I said this.

A person in public office is never far from the crossfire of opposing views. But the extreme circumstances which developed from June 12, 2019, far exceeded my expectations. And, to my horror, I found that nothing in my previous experience in public service had prepared me for the dire situation in front of me.

From June 12, 2019, opposing views in Hong Kong society became deeply entrenched, leading to violence in the streets, much destruction of public property, and innocent people were injured. As the legal custodians of law and order, the Police had to use proportionate force to quell the violence and civil unrest. As is the case worldwide, any resort to using force in law enforcement would generally bring forth shrill cries of "police brutality." Hong Kong was no exception to this phenomenon. Social media became the main arena for the battle cry for more civil unrest and more violence. Plans for making sundry weapons and Molotov cocktails freely circulated in social media amid accounts of alleged police brutality. There were even allegations of killings by the Police with nothing more than innuendos to support the claim.

Shops, restaurants, the Mass Transit Railway, and other public property were routinely destroyed. Nathan Road, a major traffic artery in Kowloon, had all of its traffic lights destroyed. For months, cars and pedestrians had to gingerly traverse this route and its many crossroads to avoid collision or injury. Persons who called for a stop to the violence were beaten in the streets. One man was stoned to death and another, doused with kerosene and set on fire, suffered third-degree burns and lifelong disability as a result. Others were targeted on social media with their personal details exposed. This doxxing, as it is called on the internet, extended to many police officers and public figures who espoused temperate views. The IPCC was caught in this maelstrom of violence.

有鑑自2019年6月12日起投訴數字逐漸攀升，監警會認為以慣常方式逐宗處理投訴個案，已不足以呈現連串事件所造成的全面影響。因此，監警會決定開展專題審視工作，記載事件的發展始末。同時，會方呼籲廣大市民提供資料，務求記錄最全面的事實。監警會即時收錄社交及新聞媒體就事件的報道，亦委託學者進行民意調查，以及向警務人員收集意見，並將兩項研究納入報告中。種種記錄的掌握均有助監警會履行《監警會條例》第8條羅列的職能。

專題審視報告於2020年5月15日發表，包含四冊共1,000頁文字和圖片。由16個章節組成的專題審視報告提供了事件的概覽，以及分析公共秩序和使用武力的相關法例。除了投訴摘要之外，專題審視報告亦提供六個特定事件日子的詳盡記錄。兩項由獨立機構進行的研究結果顯示，即便警務人員清楚了解其職責，並致力維護法紀，仍有為數不少的公眾人士對警隊失去信任。在結論一章中，監警會向警務處處長作出52項改善警務程序的建議，以避免或減少將來出現投訴。

專題審視工作的重點之一，在於反覆查核和比對可核實的證據和事實。期間，監警會獲得警務處處長的全力支持。過去三年間，我有幸與不少警務人員工作，他們均極為專業且滿腔熱誠，以「忠誠勇毅，心繫社會」的理念服務市民大眾。我亦很榮幸能夠與監警會不同委員共事，他們憑藉豐富經驗貢獻會方，竭誠服務社會。最後必須一提的是，我能夠與秘書處的同事一起工作，見證他們全情投入，實在與有榮焉。監警會至今已累積12年經驗，現職的專業團隊卓有成就，毫無疑問，應當享有一條清晰的事業發展路徑，以晉升至最高級別的管理位置。任何機構必須具備如斯架構，方能有信心迎向未來。

監警會現正繼續監察警方調查2019年6月12日以來所發生事件的相關投訴。專題審視報告為此提供了有用的指引。

過去三年累積的經驗，有助監警會跨步向前，繼續以法定機構的身份監察投訴警方的相關調查。而維持監察過程的誠信，對重建警民互信至關重要。我深信監警會在新任主席的領導下，必能承先啟後，開創更美好的將來。

As the number of complaints began to climb from June 12, 2019, the IPCC decided that the usual case-by-case approach was inadequate to appreciate the full impact of the events as they unfold. Thus, the IPCC decided to conduct the Thematic Study, as it was later called, to chronicle the events as they develop. The IPCC called on the public to provide information so that as full a factual record could be made. Social and news media were recorded in real-time. The IPCC also commissioned two surveys, one of public opinion and one among police officers, to form part of the record. This record would inform the IPCC in discharging its functions under Section 8 of the IPCC Ordinance.

The Thematic Study, published on May 15, 2020, consisted of 4 volumes of text and images, totalling 1000 pages. In 16 Chapters, the Thematic Study provided an overview of the events and an analysis of the laws relating to Public Order and the use of force. In addition to a synopsis of the Complaints received, the Study provided a detailed record of 6 specific incident days. Two surveys by independent parties indicated that while police officers were aware of their duties and were committed to upholding the law, a substantial part of the public had lost trust in the Police Force. In the Concluding Chapter, the IPCC made 52 Recommendations to the Commissioner of Police for improving police procedures to avoid or reduce future complaints.

A core feature of the Thematic Study is the cross-referencing of any fact to verifiable evidence. The IPCC received full support from the Commissioner. I had the privilege of working with many police officers in the course of the past three years. I have found them all professional and passionate in serving the community with honour, duty, and loyalty. I was equally privileged to have worked with many members of the IPCC who brought to the Council a wealth of experience and a great dedication to public service. Last but certainly not least, I was particularly privileged to have worked with the staff of the IPCC and witnessed the immense commitment they brought to their work. After 12 years of experience, the IPCC now has a staff expert in their work. They undoubtedly deserve a clear career path to the top management position. Only when such a structure is in place can any organisation feel confident in facing the future.

The IPCC continues to monitor the police investigations into the complaints made due to the events since June 12, 2109. The Thematic Study has proven to be a helpful guide.

The experience derived from the past three years would help the IPCC go forward as the statutory custodian of investigating complaints against the Police. The integrity of this process is of the highest importance to restoring public trust in the Police. I am sure the IPCC, under the leadership of the new Chairman, will continue to consolidate the achievements of the past and build a better future.