



## ATV 10 Melbourne/ Geelong

### Use of prescribed classification symbols, material broadcast in PG, complaints handling

#### The complaint

The ABA received a written complaint on 19 March 2003, concerning classification issues against the programs 'Law and Order', broadcast on 16 December 2002 and 'The Best of Beauty and the Beast', broadcast on 27 December 2002. The complainant did not receive a written response from the licensee to his letter of complaint.

#### Decision

The ABA determined that the licensee of ATV 10, Network Ten Melbourne Pty Ltd:

- breached clause 2.23.1 of the Commercial Television Code of Practice by presenting an inappropriate classification, in this case an MA notification, prior to the broadcast of an M program (Law and Order);
- breached clause 2.14.1 of the code by broadcasting M classified material (the Best of Beauty and the Beast) in a PG timeslot;

- did not breach clause 2.23.3 of the code by promoting the 16 December 2002 episode of 'Law and Order' as M classified.

In relation to complaints handling, the ABA determined that the licensee did not receive the complaint and therefore did not breach clauses 7.7 or 7.10 of the code.

#### Action taken

The licensee advised the ABA that, in response to the issues raised by this complaint, station management has met and has put in place an extra checking procedures to ensure that no 'M' programs are inadvertently scheduled.

It was further noted that, in September 2003 the network's new version of its Integrated Broadcast Management System (IBMS) is due to be implemented, which will provide a further technical means of identifying scheduling errors that involve a program with a classification not permitted by the designated timeslot. 