

# Former Commissioner honoured by Thai King

The AFP has a long history of members receiving prestigious awards. Now, former AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty has been honoured for his assistance to the Royal Thai Police.

In December, former AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty received the Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand for his outstanding service to Thailand during his term in office.

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand Kriangsak Kittichaisaree presented the order to Mr Keelty during National Day of Thailand celebrations at the Thai Embassy in Canberra.

Mr Kittichaisaree said Mr Keelty received the order for his efforts in enhancing the relationship between the Royal Thai Police and the AFP, and strengthening the fight against transnational crime.

"During his term as Commissioner AFP, Mr Keelty's professional

skills and expertise contributed immensely to enhancing cooperation between the AFP and Royal Thai Police," Mr Kittichaisaree said.

"His initiatives and assistance enabled the Royal Thai Police to build up effective mechanisms to combat all types of transnational crimes and terrorism.

"Through his distinguished dedication and service to Thailand, the ties between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Kingdom of Thailand have been further strengthened."

The Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand was established in 1869 for Thai citizens, its royal family, government employees, and foreign dignitaries for their outstanding services to the

Kingdom of Thailand. The order originally had seven classes until a special class was added by King Rama VI in 1918.

Approximately 200 dignitaries from agencies including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Defence Force, other Embassies and diplomatic community members gathered at the Thai Embassy to celebrate the National Day of Thailand. This year, the day marked the 84th Birth Anniversary of King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

**01 & 02:** Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand Kriangsak Kittichaisaree and former AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty after the presentation of the Thai order.

