



Commercial Asset Finance Brokers
Association of Australia

Ombudsman Review
Small Business Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

12th April 2017

RE: Review of the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman (the Ombudsman)

The **Commercial Asset Finance Brokers Association of Australia Limited (CAFBA)** welcomes the opportunity to comment on this review.

CAFBA is the peak national body of commercial equipment finance brokers, whose prime area of business is the distribution of commercial equipment finance facilities to their clients. **CAFBA** members are career professionals, with recent studies showing nearly 61% of new commercial equipment finance is sourced through finance brokers. Our members and their clients are predominantly small businesses, and operate in the commercial finance market. The total receivables in the Australian equipment finance market is approximately \$100 billion, so it is an important component of the Australian economy.

From time to time issues arise that not only affect our members (who are predominantly small businesses), but also their small business clients. In these circumstances CAFBA has engaged with the Ombudsman to discuss these issues and put forward our position. On all occasions the Ombudsman has been available and quickly grasped the implications for small business. It has been our experience that the Ombudsman is highly efficient and the processes for consultation effective.

In particular, the work and outcomes of the Small Business Loans Inquiry, the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal and the consideration of the impact of slow payment to small business has been very beneficial.

We look forward to the opportunity of continuing to work with the Ombudsman in the interests of small business in Australia.

Yours Faithfully

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David Gandolfo
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Bordonaro', written over a light grey signature line.

Kathryn Bordonaro
Vice President