

# Funeral twist for Tyler Cassidy

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**THE family of police shooting victim Tyler Cassidy want an open casket for his funeral service today.**

Tyler's family have denied that their wish for an open casket is a message to police who were forced to shoot the armed 15-year-old dead in a Northcote skate park last week.

The *Herald Sun* has been told the four officers involved in the shooting were coping reasonably well after being "quite shaken up" by the fatal encounter with the armed 15-year-old.

A source close to the officers - which include an experienced male leading senior constable and two relatively junior female constables - said: "They are in reasonable shape considering what's occurred.

"But we know from others who have been involved in similar incidents that this is not something they will recover from all that easily, if at all."

Three of the officers are back at work doing what were described as non-operational light duties.

"One has decided to take a bit of leave," the source said.

He added that today would be a sad one for all involved and their loved ones, on both sides of the incident.

"It's an emotional time for everyone," he said.

Speaking for the first time about the shooting yesterday, Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon agreed.

Ms Nixon, who earlier this year rejected calls for the immediate introduction of Taser guns, described the shooting as a tragic episode.

She said [Victoria Police](#) was reviewing ways to prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future.

"I thought it was a very tragic episode for Tyler and for his family and for those friends of his," Ms Nixon said.

"It's also tragic for the police. There are no winners."

Ms Nixon has spoken with the four officers.

They have been the subject of abuse, written on cards and the concrete at the death scene and in messages on several websites.