

Submission
No 323

**INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND
PRISON-RELATED SERVICES**

Name: Name suppressed
Date received: 25/02/2009

Partially Confidential

I am a current serving correctional officer with 14 years experience and I am working in the Court Escort Security Unit at present. The impact of privatisation would be financial, social and job security. These would apply to the majority of officers with the threat of privatisation in their respective areas. Financially I would be getting no financial benefit from joining the private groups. The officers in Cessnock may have no choice as they many economical, social and physical reasons for not wanting to leave Cessnock and end working in conditions that are far more treacherous than they are at present. Correctional officers already do the job no else wants to do and very rarely get the praise for what we do. The social impact on my family life would also be terrible as I have young children and greatly appreciate the flexible rostering approach of the department that allows me to attend the various school and sporting events. I also like the fact that within my current employment that I have the opportunity for job growth, promotion and satisfaction. These are all personal issues.

The thing that troubles me is that under privatisation , is that the inmates , officers and the public which includes the people the parliament represent are going to be put in danger of escapes deaths in custody and more expense . You only have to look at the department's statistics to see that as professionally trained officers we have the lowest rates in the country for all of these areas. Instead of privatising correctional centres and the Court Escort Security Unit lets look into the departments structure of expenditure across all sections.

Thank you