

INQUIRY INTO EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCIES

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 19 July 2017

Partially
Confidential

Dear Sir

I am pleased to be able to report for the above mentioned inquiry into bullying in the Ambulance Service of NSW.

I am a Paramedic full time with years experience currently stationed in .I have witnessed numerous cases that I feel is grossly unreported by many who may feel intimidated to report on certain matters for fear of reprisal and being singled out for being a whistle blower.

Since the prosecution of Craig Thompson, Politician, and the HSU Secretary Michael Williamson, the ASNSW has no regard for its staff and don't seem to be accountable for any of its decision making and allowing its managers to bully its staff without consequence, prior to this consultation seemed to be at least going forward.

There is conflict between the boss's, them being the (white shirts) and the blue shirts on road paramedics. The conflict being do as I say (white shirts) or else.

On a day to day basis the inspectors and Duty Operations Managers (who were given these jobs without applying for their current positions) have control of all rostering including overtime either self accepting or to their partners thereof, especially on the weekends .I believe an audit by the Auditor General is necessary to cease this corrupt practice .When I first moved to ,a register of all overtime that paramedic had worked was kept in a register so that transparency and fairness to all was available for all to view at any time. This not the case now, overtime can only be viewed by these managers.

The rostering has also a lot to be desired.

This is most distressing to the staff as one does

not know where or when you can be sent away on relief to another centre without consult and being away from your family for long periods. This is so for all paramedics except the Station Managers who do not rotate through the relief component, they are to predict where and when the will be for years in advance.

We the Paramedics have

continually asked for help to have this rectified making the rosters more fair to all, this always falls on deaf ears.

Long periods away from families is a

major concern.

There also exists a problem with Co-Ordination centre; non uniformed call takers having an attitude of bullying paramedics by saying are you refusing duty when questioned about certain inquiries of a job. We are continually lied to when requesting help eg when responded to cases single being backed up by near towns waiting excessive time when an off duty paramedic would have been easier and less time consuming, co -Ord .

I firmly believe the Ambulance service needs a Royal Commission into its work practice to weed out the bad eggs and to employ some professional managers not promote burnt out, or mates of mates paramedics.

Regards