

## **SUBMISSION OF SEAN O'KEEFE**

Sean O'Keefe



Years of service: 20 years

Postal Delivery Officer Mornington Delivery Centre

**My submission concerns the role of management in relation to the duties given to me to perform whilst having a legitimate work related injury.**

1. On July 16 2009, I was bitten by a dog while delivering the mail on my delivery round in Mornington. I tried to continue with my deliveries but the pain was too great so I found a public phone box and called my manager to inform them as to what had happened and that I couldn't continue. The second in charge arrived on a motorcycle so he could finish my round, the contract van driver arrived to pick up my pushbike and the manager came in her own vehicle and transported my straight to the Facility Nominated Doctors surgery.
2. The facility nominated doctor dressed the wound, gave me a tetanus shot, antibiotics to stop the infection and said that I wouldn't be fit for duty for the rest of that day as well as the next. My delivery manager sat in with me during the examination and on hearing that I would be given the next day off stated that she had duties I could perform.
3. My manager then took me back to the facility to fill out the required P400 form after an injury has been reported. I was then able to go home and rest.
4. I presented for work on the morning of 17 July 2009 with an aching arm from the tetanus shot as well as a very painful calf. I set up my nominal delivery round for other postal workers to deliver. I then of my own accord helped out other delivery officers to set up their rounds. I then approached management to see what else they wanted me to do.
5. In front of the other staff still in the delivery centre the second in charge giggled and handed me a broom and instructed me to sweep out the bike shed. I was then asked to throw out a large pile of rubbish. This was humiliating to me as this type of duty is not a part of the regular indoor duties of a Postal Delivery Officer. I was concerned about the wound becoming infected.

6. I informed my manager that this duty was far too dirty to perform as I had an open wound on my leg and that standing up was causing me considerable pain.
7. I was then given more menial tasks to perform until the other Postal Delivery Officers returned from their rounds.
8. I was able to return to full duties on 20 July 2009.