

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

**Question No. 188**

**Senator Heffernan asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2009:**

- a) How many AFP are required to patrol the Domestic and International airports at any one time?
- b) How many airport security guards are on duty at any one time?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

- a) Operational deployment patterns vary from airport to airport according to local circumstances.

In response to the *Report of a review of the Australian Federal Police's response to an incident at Sydney Airport on 22 March 2009*, conducted by Mr Wilkins AO, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) has reviewed airport deployment patterns and has developed individual Station Protocols to ensure that the best formula for local circumstances is achieved with regard to rostering and the deployment of resources for each airport.

There are approximately 1000 AFP officers making up the commands in major airports around Australia. Daily shift patterns and deployment patterns are determined in accordance with local requirements, intelligence and threat assessments.

- b) Airport security guards are engaged under commercial arrangements with airport operators and as such, the deployment of security guards is the responsibility of those operators.

Questions regarding these arrangements should be referred directly to the individual operators.