## Mental health of ADF serving personnel Submission 11

Dear Senator,

I have accepted people who want to check claims to get the complete information. I would like to tell you a few things that me and my wife believe that was so very wrong. In 2012 my PTSD and Depression and Anxiety was accepted by DVA. I was very happy that they had helped me and my wife due to being accepted for my Centre link disability pension that they accepted in 2007. I was given a wage by DVA until I have reached 65 years old. I also get to go to a Pathologist Doctor Lord each month and sometimes much more often.

When I was going to AAT in December 2009 a DVA lawyer got in touch with me and my wife and we sent all the information we had, They spent a while checking it but informed me that I would win my PTSD and my heart problems that were high but not sure of my smoking due to me saying I started a few months before my Naval joining time BUT I started very low AFTER I was accepted to join the Navy. My family did not want me to smoke but knowing the majority of the Navy do smoke. I could not smoke at home but I had started. I was sent into Jail in 1971 due to walking away from the Navy due to being taken from the HMAS Melbourne and sent to the Albatross Navy section. I was put into jail and was discharged after I was released. When I went down to Albatross after leaving jail I was tested by a doctor in the Navy due to my problems. It is listed in my discharge report that I had mental problems. This has been accepted due to me being on board and on duty when the HMAS Melbourne hit the American ship and killed 78 of their Navy staff. I was NEVER treated by the Navy. My smoking went up VERY high and my drinking became a bad level for years till my heart and lung problems started in 1995. I cut down my smoking and cut down my drinking but AAT listed that I had not drunk so much as a hospital listed me as much less in the late 1990 and my smoking was before my Naval joining. Due to my mental health I could not understand why I said my smoking and drinking was so much lower. I found out that hospitals asked how much you drank and smoked NOW, This was late 1995 time due to cutting it down due to my medical conditions.

When I finished the AAT case I found out that the lawyers that had been in touch with me and my wife had NOTE been used in the AAT case they had changed the people fighting me. I also saw a letter in AAT online that they we not helping ex Naval people. In that AAT case it was reported at the court that my heart and lung problems were created due to smoking and drinking by a Doctor that reported to DVA. But due to my smoking before joining the Navy and that I smoked much more AFTER the Navy and my heavy drinking also was done after my Navy discharge. All of this was VERY wrong and I was so down I tried to go to a Hospital that treated Mental Health people. I took a long time after I tried to go in but I was treated by a Pathologist while I was waiting to go in. In 2012 DVA helped me and I was VERY grateful to the members that accepted my claims. But as you can see my Heart and Lung problems are being paid by myself and CentreLink. It think in last few years PTSD is much more accepted and what happens because of being untreated.

Thank you for you investigations.

Mr Roy Trevor Seal