

SUBMISSION OF GERARD PEAK

Gerard Peak

[REDACTED]

Postal Transport Officer – Mount Waverley Transport Hub

I wished to inform the Inquiry about the pressure Australia Post put on injured workers to attend their FNDs. My management threatened to come around to drive me to the FND when I decided to accept my treating doctor's advice and remain home to recover from my injury. Although I said that I was happy with my own doctor's advice and that I was in pain and incapacitated, they only desisted when the union's transport organiser contacted them.

I am also disappointed about the role management has played in trying to undermine my compensation claim.

1. On 29 September 2009, I hurt my left lower back getting out of my seat to exit the side door of my work van. [REDACTED] my supervisor recommended that my claim be rejected on a range of spurious grounds i.e because I was not carrying any product at the time and I returned 10 minutes early from my duty-board. [REDACTED] is not a doctor and he has ignored the fact that there were 3 less duties on my job that day.
2. As soon as I reported the injury I was sent to the FND [REDACTED] who sent me back to work on restrictions of 5 kgs lifting and recommended physiotherapy that afternoon. Once my muscles had cooled I was left in a very painful and incapacitated state.
3. I attended a local doctor the next day and then my family doctor who recommended time off work until I was cleared for full duties on 12 October 2009.
4. I received a denial of liability on October 21, 2009 based on [REDACTED] advice. I have now applied for a Reconsideration as this injury truly "arose out of and occurred in the course of my employment."