

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE

Budget Estimates 3-5 June 2008

Question: **BET 40**
Topic: **Australian Valuation Office (AVO) - Operations**
Hansard Page: **E80**

Senator Bernardi asked:

Senator BERNARDI—You may recall that I asked you some questions in regard to the operation of the AVO at estimates last year. Specifically, they were about Dr Parker, who had been retained as a consultant by the AVO. Is he still subject to that retainer?

Mr D'Ascenzo—Not that I understand.

Senator BERNARDI—Could you detail whether he was at any stage engaged in a consultancy role?

Mr D'Ascenzo—Yes, he was. He provided work on a number of AVO matters, and he was paid for that service.

Senator BERNARDI—Would you be able to take on notice and perhaps table the matters, if you are happy to provide us with those, and also the time involved, the payments that were received and, in particular, the dates.

Mr D'Ascenzo—We can do that.

Answer:

Dr Parker was general manager of the Australian Valuation Office from 21 July 2003 until 3 November 2006.

After that time, Dr Parker had a one-year contract (with a one-year option to renew). The initial one-year contract was worth a maximum of \$50,000. In fact, the amount paid under the contract between November 2006 and April 2007 was \$17,109.90.