



AFPA BULLETIN FOR ALL MEMBERS

27th September 2007 – IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

SUPPORT FOR CHAPLAIN FROM PERTH OFFICE OVERWHELMING

The Australian Federal Police Association welcomes the overwhelming support for Chaplain David Cockram from Perth Office staff and their disappointment with the attempts by the AFP to terminate the chaplain. We have sought more information from People Strategies to justify this decision and have received nothing of substance.

The AFPA will not back down from supporting the Chaplain or other members who are unfairly targeted in this way. There may be more than one avenue of redress available.

Some of the messages of support from Perth Office include the following from a range of members:

"I have seen first hand the commitment David has to his role, and it would be a very sad day when Perth did not have the opportunity to have a Chaplain available when needed."

"The service a chaplain provides is a necessity, looking after our psychological "well being", this is a basic OHS Issue apart from an obvious common sense need."

"Do not remove this valuable support resource from the members in Perth."

"To dismiss Dave is to dismiss us all. We have a valuable resource here and it would be a travesty to lose him. He provides a very valuable service to us all."

"David has built up tremendous rapport with people here in Perth office and is an ideal person and fits in extremely well."

"He (David) has the respect of the office and is an integral part of the region."

The Perth office has had significant cuts to its fulltime staffing over the last couple of years despite bearing a larger load of work in one of the fastest growing urban centres in Australia.

To some Canberra accountant, or HR Manager, this might appear to be a small cut on top of those changes but it could be the cruellest cut of all.

If you have any concerns about the issues in this bulletin or other industrial queries please contact your local representatives or the AFPA National Office on afpa.industrial@afpa.org.au for more information.