

9 July 2015

Attention: Taskforce on Organised Crime Legislation

To whom it may concern,

Re: Submission for legislation review (Inquiry area 3)

I am a tattoo shop owner operator who has been adversely affected by the *Tattoo Parlours Act 2013*, please consider the following points as our submission in your review of legislation.

Although there are hundreds of reasons why the *Tattoo Parlours Act 2013* does not achieve it's objectives, I have only chosen to outline the 2 main reasons the legislation have negatively impacted on me and my business.

1. My business, [REDACTED] and other tattoo businesses of a mobile nature have not been considered as part of the industry in the *Tattoo Parlours Act 2013*.
 - An operator licence can only be issued to someone with a permanent shop address. This has resulted in having to use my residential address and means that every time I do a function or event (I do festivals, weddings and parties regularly and operate as a legal home business in between), I am required to obtain a Tattoo Show/Exhibition Permit which can cost up to \$931.50 each time I do a function. At the last wedding I did, I only charged \$1000, the current legislation means I can't afford to leave my backyard and am therefore minimising exposure of my business and the opportunity to market and grow.
 - The Tattoo Show/Exhibition Permit doesn't seem to have been intended for the purposes I am required to have it for. A tattoo show or exhibition usually involves a large group of artists and the fee is only payable once by the event holder. This is not sustainable for small events and mobile shop holders.
 - I understand that the mobile sector of the industry will need to be regulated in align with the rest of the industry but just making it no longer financially viable will just send us all broke, that's not regulation, that's just getting rid of us so we don't have to be dealt with. We are a well-respected business in our industry and should be considered and included by regulations without being unnecessarily driven out of our own market. The legislation is meant to eliminate organised crime not creative, young entrepreneurs trying to run legitimate businesses.
 - I realise that location of my mobile business may be required for regulatory purposes and would always be happy to provide this

information, the fee and additional permit however is overkill to say the least.

2. The *Tattoo Parlours Act 2013* unnecessarily burdens owner/operators with 2 licence requirements if they wish to tattoo in shops other than their own. People in the industry either see this as an oversight due to lack of understanding about how the industry operates or as a double dipping money grab that doesn't achieve any additional objectives and certainly doesn't positively contribute to ridding the industry of organised crime.
 - I now hold:
 - I. a **Personal Appearance Services Licence** (\$300-500 annually) for my mobile premises for health purposes,
 - II. a **Tattoo Parlour Operator's Licence** (\$2060 every 3 years) to prove I am 'fit and proper' to run a tattoo shop. This licence also allows me to tattoo in my own shop BUT not in anyone else's, and
 - III. FINALLY, a **Tattooist Licence** (\$714 every 3 years) for god knows what reason since I'm already deemed fit and proper to run my own shop??? Now I have this I can do guest spots in other shops. As stated above, this is perhaps an oversight of the fact that tattooist regularly travel and do guest appearances in other shops. There is no reason why the Operator's Licence cannot be amended so that an operator doesn't require an additional licence to do a guest spot.
 - I recognise that effective regulation may require a record of where one intends to operate although this could be achieved with a one page form that notifies an intention to operate outside normal place of employment temporarily with an administration charge for record keeping etc.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment although please consider a more thorough way to engage the industry if you are serious about getting feedback in the future. Tools like the internet, the White Pages and Local Government databases (Personal Appearance Services register) provide contact details for tattoo shops who I'm sure plenty of will never find out that this review occurred until it's too late.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any clarification about the contents of my submission.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

