

QF: 081/2008

22nd July 2008



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❖ NOTICE ❖

TO: ALAEA MEMBERS – QANTAS and FORSTAFF

RE: EBA UPDATE 22nd JULY

Wage Dockings

Over the last three months Qantas and Forstaff have docked a number of LAMEs wages for what they claim to be unprotected Industrial Action. Some of the reasons they have conjured in order for them to conduct what we say is part of their “buggery campaign” include –

- declining overtime offers
- declining offers to accept higher duties
- refusing to alter extended hours rosters without ALAEA approval
- carrying out duties only when qualified to do so

As these dockings were not occurring prior to our industrial campaign it is clear that Qantas’s actions were only part of a response against employees who were taking part in lawful industrial activity. The ALAEA now needs to assist each and every one of our members to recover any lost wages that Qantas claim came as a result of “unprotected industrial action”. There are a number of avenues for us to take including directly via dispute resolution with Qantas, the AIRC, the Workplace Ombudsman or the Federal Court. Some of the matters may not be resolved for a period of time.

If you have been docked for the above reason, a copy the letter given by the airline claiming “unprotected action” and the payslip from the period docked should be faxed to our office where a file has been started to process the claims. Even if you are not concerned about the small loss of money it is important that we ensure that this unfair tool used by Qantas is not used again and the appropriate fines issued by the various authorities involved.

In the interim it is expected that the \$20 fighting fund money be paid to those members unfairly docked to cover lost wages. At this stage half the membership has contributed and we feel that the exercise needs to be continued as a display of support for those members who took the extra hit during the volatile situation of the last two months. The collection is being co-ordinated by Qantas Councillor Frank Whittle **0437 890 652**.

STEPHEN PURVINAS
Federal Secretary

"To undertake supervise and certify for the safety of all who fly."