

# Letter of thanks

Hello, I'm Colin Makin and in October 2009 I was dismissed from my position as a store person with a large Multi National Pharmaceutical Company for the breach of a standard operating procedure. Needless to say that after 8½ years of loyal and trouble free service I decided to challenge what I considered to be a very poor decision by the company to terminate my service. In March this year Fair Work Australia concluded that the dismissal was in fact a harsh one and ordered my reinstatement. The company decided to appeal that decision and on conclusion of the full bench hearing of the appeal have again been ordered to reinstate me as per the first hearing. It has been a long emotional rollercoaster ride for my family and I and we are relieved that it is finally over, assuming the company choose to take no further action.

There are so many people to thank and I'd like to start with my family and friends who have been my rock. Site delegate Mr Ross Howie (retired) and lead organiser Mr John Glover who set the wheels in motion with Fair Work Australia for a challenge to my dismissal and kept me informed of any developments. Mr Jonathan Kirkwood my NUW appointed barrister who represented me so effectively during the appeal hearing of the full bench. My work mates for their magnificent and continued support for which I am both humbled and honoured and would like them to know that my family and I are eternally grateful.

Finally I'd like to thank Industrial Officer Mr Dario Mujkic. Dario has represented me from day 1 of this 9 month ordeal and I can assure you that I had nothing but faith and confidence in him. But it wasn't till he presented my case to the commission that I realised how fortunate I was to have Dario in my corner. Words alone cannot express the gratitude or indeed the admiration I have for this impressive young man.

In conclusion I am more than confident that without the exceptional backing of the NUW and the abolition of Work Choices by the Australia Labor Party that I would be just another statistic.

Many thanks

Colin Makin.