## Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

Submission No: 8

Submitted by: Stephen Bartholomew

**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public

Attachments:

## **Submitter Comments:**

I would like to see some leniency on volunteering in the SES and rural fire brigades. I attempted last year to join, to support my community. However I was denied, because I have had old charges (non conviction- drug charge). Even tho I was 3 years clean, was very happy to take regular drug tests whenever requested, it seemed that I was deemed unsuitable. I understand and like I said would very much of been willing for drug tests before each shift. However it seems once you make a mistake, no matter how hard you work to change your life, to be the best version of yourself. You can't escape your past!