

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I volunteer for the SES in the South Western Region. For a long time there have been a number of significant issues in the offices which looks after the Region which have had an extremely detrimental effect on the volunteer service over the years and nothing has been done to correct the issues. I realize this is a state government organization, however with issues such as manipulation, injury cover ups, failure to provide support to volunteer groups and undermining volunteer executives surely the government can do something to get rid of the members of staff who are nothing but destructive to the service. The South West Region has lost a large number of members in recent years due to these and other issues and is currently experiencing an entire LGA losing it's SES representation because these issues have never been addressed. The perpetrators simply claim to be victims of bullying and harassment when anyone tries to hold them accountable for their actions and those who try to fix the issues are punished. Staff members who engage in destructive behaviors need to be held accountable for their actions and either disciplined or removed from their positions. It is difficult enough to service the community at times without dealing with internal conflict adding complications to situations which can be challenging enough on their own.