

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 783**  
**Asked on 23 May 2006**

**MRS STUCKEY** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, FAIR TRADING AND WINE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT (MRS KEECH)—

With reference to the compliance checks on security providers by the Liquor Licensing Flying Squad—

- (1) How many premises have been visited by the squad since 1 December 2005?
- (2) How many security providers have been assessed for compliance with the licensing requirements of the Security Providers Act since 1 December 2005?
- (3) How many infringements and warnings have been issued by this squad since 1 December 2005?
- (4) What is the number and value of fines imposed since 1 December 2005?
- (5) What is the number of suspected breaches of security provider legislation referred to the Office of Fair Trading since 1 December 2005?

ANSWER:

I am pleased to inform the Member about the success of the Beattie Government's Liquor Licensing Flying Squad.

The Squad was formed in August 2005 as a tactical unit designed to undertake compliance and enforcement activities across the State. The Squad supplements the operations of Liquor Licensing staff located in regional centres and provides a high-profile presence in and around licensed premises, as well as the capacity to immediately respond to and investigate major incidents.

The flying squad initiative is a direct result of the Beattie Government's commitment to reducing harm associated with alcohol misuse in Queensland and improving community safety, and the initiative is clearly working.

I am advised that since 1 December 2005, the flying squad has attended 445 premises across a range of regional centres in Queensland and, in addition to its core duties, has undertaken 269 inspections of security providers for compliance with the *Security Providers Act 1993*. Since the establishment of the Squad, officers have undertaken compliance and enforcement activities at a number of high level events including the 2005 Gold Coast Lexmark Indy and Schoolies Week Festival.

The squad is not just committed to compliance checks, but also takes appropriate enforcement action where warranted.

Since 1 December 2005, I am advised that the Squad's operations have resulted in a total of 232 infringement notices being imposed and 393 warnings being issued to licensees and/or their staff in relation to offences under the *Liquor Act 1992*. A total of \$121,975 in fines have been imposed either through the Courts or stemming from infringement notices.

The flying squad has also worked closely with other agencies to ensure patrons of licensed premises remain safe.

As a direct result of the operations of the flying squad, I am advised that more than 70 fire safety matters have been referred to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, since 1 December 2005 a total of 24 suspected breaches of security provider legislation have been referred to the Office of Fair Trading, and a number of matters have been forwarded to Queensland Health for examination in relation to antismoking legislation.

The Beattie Government remains committed to developing Queensland's liquor industry within a socially responsible environment. The flying squad initiative is yet another example of this Government's work to improve community safety in and around licensed venues, and to reduce any harm associated with the misuse of alcohol in Queensland.