

NZPFU

From: Hearn, Janine [Janine.Hearn@fire.org.nz]
Sent: Wednesday, 7 March 2012 7:13 a.m.
To: 'NZPFU'
Subject: New Strike Notice

Good morning Derek

The New Zealand Fire Service is in receipt of a new strike notice issued by the NZPFU on 6 March 2012, to take effect from 21 March 2012.

On the plain reading of the strike notice it appears clear the nature and intent of the industrial action to be taken from that date. However, previous strike notices, and the actual action taken by members, creates some confusion on what specifically your members will be refusing to do when the new strike notice takes effect.

The plain reading of the strike notice states that workers on red, brown, blue, green or yellow watches (except comcen staff and those on return to work rehab duties) will not be undertaking any work other than response to emergency incidents and restoring appliances to operational readiness - Paragraph numbered 2. in the strike notice.

However, this paragraph is unchanged from the current strike notice, where workers on those watches continue to undertake rostering duties, which is, in fact, banned by the strike notice currently in effect.

The new strike notice received yesterday has a change in paragraph one regarding staff responsible for rostering. The current strike notice excludes them from the ban on the use of any computer keyboard or computer mouse. The new strike notice does not. As this is the only change to the strike notice, it is assumed that this is the only action that will be different. This could lead NZFS to assume that rostering duties will still be undertaken, but without the use of the computer keyboard and mouse, because those duties are being undertaken currently against the same wording in the strike notice regarding the activities of those coloured watch workers.

I do not believe that this is the intention of the strike notice because, as stated earlier, the plain reading, without taking into account the current notice and current action being taken, would lead NZFS to the conclusion that rostering duties are banned under the new strike notice. It is the practice that is currently occurring that raises doubt on whether this is the intention of the change or not.

Can you please confirm the actual intent of the new strike notice issued. In particular, what specific duties currently being undertaken (as at today) will not be undertaken when the new strike notice takes effect on 21 March 2012.

As you will be aware it is critical that NZFS has absolute clarity of the nature of the strike action to be taken. Please respond to this email by 5pm on Thursday 8 March 2012 so that NZFS has sufficient time to plan for the changed industrial action.

Regards
Janine Hearn

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Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 6941
(20120305)

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

NZPFU

From: NZPFU [wellington@nzpfu.org.nz]
Sent: Thursday, 8 March 2012 11:39 a.m.
To: 'Hearn, Janine'
Cc:
Subject: FW: New Strike Notice

Janine,

I refer to your e-mail of 7 March 2012.

As you say –

“On the plain reading of the Strike Notice it appears clear the nature and intent of the industrial action to be taken from that date..”

Please rely on the plain reading of the notice.

There is not, and has not been for some time, any paper based rostering – that is – that does not involve SMS. There will be no rostering work involving SMS or otherwise.

Regards
Derek Best

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(20120306) _____

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