

## Fair Work Ombudsman pledges support for Defence Reservists

21 March 2013

The Fair Work Ombudsman has formalised its commitment to Australia's Defence Reservists by signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Defence Force.

Fair Work Ombudsman, Nicholas Wilson, signed the Memorandum - which serves as a formal agreement between the two agencies - at a ceremony earlier today.

The agreement pledges the Fair Work Ombudsman's support for Reservists working within the agency, and provides them certainty to undertake their important Reservist responsibilities.

"Reservists make a valuable contribution to the community by playing a supportive security role at major Australian events and providing assistance during natural disasters such as floods, cyclones and emergency rescue operations," Mr Wilson said.

"This agreement recognises the significant security and emergency-relief role Reservists play and what employers can do to help them. By signing this MoU, I hope to encourage other employers to consider Reservists when they are hiring and to actively support them through their workplace policies and practices.

"Reservists make a valuable contribution to workplaces and often bring additional skills and maturity with them as a result of their diverse experiences and I am very pleased to have several working in my Agency."

Head Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support Division within the Department of Defence, Major General Paul Brereton, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Defence.

"I believe that the Fair Work Ombudsman's actions will assist Defence in its efforts to build stronger and more effective relationships with industry," Major General Brereton said.

More than 700 employers across the country have pledged their support for the Australian Defence Force Reserves by entering into similar agreements.

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- [Australian Defence Force and Fair Work Ombudsman MoU \(DOC 253.5KB\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/725/australian-defence-force-and-fair-work-ombudsman-mou.doc.aspx) ([www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/725/australian-defence-force-and-fair-work-ombudsman-mou.doc.aspx](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/725/australian-defence-force-and-fair-work-ombudsman-mou.doc.aspx)) (PDF 95.9KB) ([www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/725/australian-defence-force-and-fair-work-ombudsman-mou.pdf.aspx](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/725/australian-defence-force-and-fair-work-ombudsman-mou.pdf.aspx))

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