



# STAND WITH THEO

## QANTAS PROSECUTED FOR TARGETING HSR

Next week, an important court case will open that will affect workplace health and safety across Australia.

In the first ever prosecution of its kind, Qantas has been hit with criminal charges for targeting and standing down HSR Theo Seremetidis at the start of the pandemic.

This is a big case for every worker in Australia. **We must all get behind Theo for bravely standing up to Australia's worst corporate bully, Qantas.**

## WHY THIS CASE IS SO IMPORTANT

HSRs exercising their powers and functions are a crucial part of maintaining a safe workplace. Trained HSRs have the right to:

- **Inspect** your workplace
- **Meet** with workers about safety issues
- **Issue provisional improvement notices**
- **Request the assistance of another person** e.g. union representative or an inspector from the regulating body
- **Protect workers** by directing them to cease unsafe work

The WHS Act protects HSRs because of the important role they play in keeping workers safe.

No employer has the right to discriminate against an HSR or discipline them for exercising their functions under the Act.

By standing down Theo, Qantas has again shown its utter disregard for workers' safety and their legal rights.

**If Qantas is successfully prosecuted in this case, it will be a huge win for workplace safety everywhere.**



## THEO'S STORY

- In early 2020, workers were made to clean planes arriving from covid hotspots in China without disinfectant, PPE, or covid-safe training at the start of the pandemic.
- Theo advised workers on **their legal rights to cease unsafe work.**
- Qantas stood down Theo, accusing him of spreading misinformation and causing anxiety at work.
- Theo never worked another day at Qantas. Exactly one year after he was stood down, he and his workmates were **illegally outsourced** by the airline.

## STAND WITH THEO

Theo's case opens on Monday. Let's show him our support:

- Find **social media posts** to use in support of Theo here
- Film a **message of support** for Theo and upload it to your social media channels
- Use the **hashtag #IStandWithTheo** on social media to support Theo



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