



## About the F73 employer/principal response

---

### Response from an employer or principal to an application for an order to stop bullying

#### Use this form if:

- someone has asked the Fair Work Commission to make an order to stop bullying at work, and
- we have asked for a response to their claims.

This form is the first step in responding to the case. You do not need to send evidence in support of your response at this stage.

If the Commission has sent you 2 or more Form F72 applications naming you as the employer or principal and those applications:

- were lodged with the Commission at the same time, and
- are about the same or substantially similar conduct

you can lodge **1 response** with the Commission using this Form F73 if the substance of your **response is the same** for each application.

#### Once you have completed the form:

- Have the form signed by an authorised person.
- Return it to us.
- Send a copy to the other people in the case.

You need to do this **by the due date in the letter** we sent asking for a response. There is more information at the end of the form.



**If you don't send a copy of this form (and any attachments) to the other people in the case, we may do so.**

**If you need help** you can visit our website to find out more about [bullying at work](#) or you can [contact us](#).

# Form F73 – Response from an employer/principal to an application for an order to stop bullying at work

[Fair Work Act 2009](#), s. 789FC, [Fair Work Commission Rules 2024](#), rule 86 and Schedule 1

This is a response to an application to the Fair Work Commission (the Commission) for an order to stop bullying at work under Part 6-4B of the [Fair Work Act 2009](#).

## Case details

### 1. Write the case details below

You will find these details in the letter we sent with this form. The **Applicant** is the worker who made the application.

Applicant's first name(s)	
Applicant's surname	
Commission case number	

## About the employer/principal

### Provide details for the employer/principal

The **employer/principal** is:

- the person or organisation who employs or engages the worker who made the application (the Applicant), and/or
- the person or organisation who employs or engages a person who has allegedly engaged in bullying at work.

Details of employer/principal	
Legal name	
ACN (if a company) and/or ABN	
Trading name or registered business name	
Contact person	
Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other please specify:
Name	
Position/role	

Email address			
Phone number			
<b>Address of employer/principal</b>			
Street address or PO Box			
Suburb			
State or territory		Postcode	

**Note:** If you give us a mobile number, we may send you reminders by SMS.

**2. Is an interpreter needed to help with the case?**



If you have trouble accessing this information, please contact us. We can arrange to provide it in another format. You can find information about [help for non-English speakers](#) on our website.

Yes – What language?

No

**3. Is there a need for any special assistance at a conference or hearing (e.g. because of hearing difficulties)?**

If you answer yes, we will make contact before a hearing or conference to see if there is anything we can reasonably do to assist.

Yes – What is needed?

No

**4. What is the employer/principal’s relationship to the Applicant?**

- The Applicant’s employer or principal
- The employer or principal of one or more people the Applicant says has bullied them at work
- Other – If you think the Applicant should have put someone else’s details in their application, please provide any information you have about who the correct person might be.

**5. Does the employer/principal have a representative?**

A **representative** is a person who acts for you in the case but who isn’t an employee or official of your business or undertaking. They could be a lawyer, an employer organisation, a paid agent or a not-for-profit association or body that provides support, advice or advocacy in relation to employment matters.

- No**– Go to question 6
- Yes**– Fill in their contact details below

You will need permission to be represented by a lawyer or paid agent if a Commission Member holds a conference or hearing about the case. Our lawyers and paid agents [practice note](#) and our [benchbook](#) has more information about permission to be represented.

Name of representative			
Firm, company or organisation			
Representative’s ABN (if applicable)			
Email address			
Phone number			
Postal address			
Suburb			
State or territory		Postcode	
Is your representative a lawyer or paid agent?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please select	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Paid agent		
<input type="checkbox"/> No			

## The workplace

**6. Is the Applicant still employed, engaged or otherwise connected to the place where the alleged bullying took place?**



The Commission can only make an order to stop bullying if there is a risk that the Applicant will continue to be bullied at work.

Yes

No

I don't know

If you answered No or I don't know to this question, tell us what you know about what has happened to the work relationship (for example, the employment has ended).

**7. The Applicant has named one or more people in question 6 of their application who they say bullied them at work. Are these people still employed, engaged or otherwise connected to the workplace where the alleged bullying took place?**

Name of person said to have engaged in bullying	Are they still connected to the workplace? Yes / No / I don't know <b>If the answer is No, please tell us why:</b>

## Jurisdictional or other objections

### 8. Does the employer/principal have an objection to the application?

An objection can be made to the application if you think there are technical or legal reasons why the Applicant is not eligible to make an application to the Commission or is unlikely to succeed. An objection is more than simply that there is a dispute about the claims they have made. The Commission's [Anti-bullying Benchbook](#) has more information on jurisdictional objections.

- Yes – Go to question 9
- No – Go to question 10

### 9. What is your objection?

Tick all that apply. Provide details of any objections below.

- The Applicant does not meet the definition of a 'worker'
- The Applicant is not working in a 'constitutionally-covered business'
- The Applicant was not at work when the alleged bullying occurred
- The alleged bullying was reasonable management action, carried out in a reasonable manner
- The Applicant is a member of the Defence Force
- The application relates to matters involving Australia's defence or national security, or an existing or future covert or international operation of the Australian Federal Police
- Other

Provide details of any objections. Attach extra pages if necessary.

## Complaints made by the Applicant

**10. Before making their application to the Commission, did the Applicant make a complaint about the alleged bullying?**

- Yes – see below
- No – Go to question 11
- I don't know – Go to question 11

If you answered Yes to this question, describe the complaint made by the Applicant and any steps taken in relation to the complaint, including the outcome of any investigation.

## Policies and procedures

**11. Does the employer/principal have a bullying policy or any procedure for handling complaints, grievances or disputes?**

- Yes – Go to question 12
- No – Go to question 14

**12. Did the Applicant make a complaint under the bullying policy or procedure?**

- Yes – Go to question 13
- No – Go to question 14

**13. Was the complaint dealt with under the policy or procedure?**

- Yes
- No
- The complaint is still being managed under the policy or procedure

**Reasonable management action, including performance management and/or disciplinary action**

**14. Has the Applicant been advised that they are not performing their duties to the required standard or that they are facing disciplinary action?**

- Yes – see below
- No – Go to question 15

If you answered Yes to this question, provide details of any performance or conduct concerns or related disciplinary action of the Applicant, and any steps taken to manage these concerns that may relate to the allegations of bullying.

## Your response to the claim

### 15. What is the employer/principal's response to the Applicant's claims that they are being bullied at work?

The Applicant has told us their side of the case. You'll find it at question 11 of their application form. Write a response to what they've written.

## Complaints made elsewhere

### 16. Has a complaint about the alleged bullying at work also been made to another agency or organisation?

For example, to a state or territory work health and safety regulator (eg WorkCover, WorkSafe), an anti-discrimination tribunal or a court.

Yes – see below

No

I don't know

If you answered Yes to this question, tell us about the complaint that has been made to another agency or **organisation**. Include the type of complaint, when and who it was made to, whether the complaint is still being dealt with and any outcomes.

## Sign the form

**Privacy** Read the [Privacy notice](#) to find out what personal information we collect, why we collect it, and what we do with it.

**Disclosure of information** Under section 655 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*, the President of the Commission may disclose, or authorise the disclosure of, this application if the President reasonably believes that the disclosure would be likely to assist in the administration or enforcement of a Commonwealth or State or Territory law.

## Signature

If you are using an electronic signature, please insert it below. Otherwise, type the name of the person signing the form in the signature box.

## Name

## Date

## Capacity/position

Describe your authority to sign this form here (for example, your role in the organisation).

## Consent to contact by researchers

The Commission undertakes research with participants in cases about bullying at work to ensure a high quality process. Some research may be undertaken by external providers on behalf of the Commission.

Do you consent to your contact details being provided to an external provider of research services for the sole purpose of inviting you to participate in research?

- Yes
- No

### **Send us this form**

Send us this form and any attachments:

- by email to [WDT@fwc.gov.au](mailto:WDT@fwc.gov.au), or
- by post or in person to the [Commission's office](#) in your state or territory.

Do this **by the due date in the letter** we sent asking for a response.

### **Send the form to the other people in this case**

Send a copy of this form and any attachments to the following people (or their representatives):

- the worker who made the application (the Applicant), and
- any other employer or principal named in the application, and
- each person the Applicant says bullied them at work.

Use the contact details listed in the Applicant's form (the Form F72).

Do this **by the due date in the letter** we sent asking for a response.

### **What happens next**

Once the Commission has the information it needs to start dealing with the case, a Member of the Commission will decide next steps. This could be a conciliation, conference or hearing.

Visit our website to find out more about [bullying at work](#).