



Department of Consumer
and Employment Protection
Government of Western Australia
Consumer Protection

Media Statement

219 St Georges Terrace Perth Western Australia 6000

Tel: (08) 9282 0961 Fax: (08) 9282 0857

Email: mwinchester@docep.wa.gov.au Web: www.docep.wa.gov.au

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Attacker prosecuted after assaulting public officer Ross William McPhee

A man who assaulted a compliance officer from the Plumbers Licensing Board of WA, has been fined \$2,000, with costs of \$150 awarded against him in the Perth Magistrates Court. The officer was assaulted during an inspection of plumbing work at a Maylands worksite last year.

Ross William McPhee of Maylands, grabbed the compliance officer around the back of the neck with both his hands and pushed the officer forcefully. This constituted an assault on a public officer and McPhee was fined \$2,000 as a consequence.

“Assaults on public officers who are executing their lawful duties are very serious and will not be tolerated,” Consumer Protection Commissioner Patrick Walker said.

“Compliance functions of the Plumbers Licensing Board are very important to the health and safety of our community and staff have a regulatory authority to inspect worksites and must not be hindered or interfered with in the course of their duties,” he said.

“Like any other person, our staff have the right to a safe workplace and we will not hesitate to prosecute anyone who breaches this,” the Commissioner said.

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Media Contact:

Mike Winchester

☎ 9282 0961

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