

NSW Sentencing Council
GPO Box 31
Sydney NSW 2001
sentencingcouncil@justice.nsw.gov.au

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Review of Assaults on emergency services workers

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the NSW Sentencing Council's review of sentencing for offences involving assaults on police officers, correctional staff, youth justice officers, emergency services workers and health workers.

I appreciate YJNSW staff being included in this review. Our staff work in a very challenging environment and should be afforded every possible safeguard to continue the exceptional services that they provide, day-in and day-out.

YJNSW does not condone violence in our custodial facilities or any assaults against our staff. While we will respect the decisions of the court and will continue to administer any sentences imposed, it is submitted that this review should explore if the existing sentencing provisions are being appropriately utilised with young people, and if they are serving as an adequate deterrent.

Section 33AA of the *Children (Criminal Proceedings) Act 1987* references the making of cumulative or concurrent control orders following an assault on a youth justice officer. While it is not referenced in the online reading material related this review, it is submitted that the operation of this section be included.

YJNSW considers it important that this review hears and considers views from a broad range of stakeholders. This should include frontline staff and their representative unions, legal representatives, oversight bodies and children's advocates.

Please feel free to contact Mike Wheaton, Director, Policy & Practice, on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] if you would like to discuss these matters further.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Paul O'Reilly
Executive Director
Youth Justice NSW
29 September 2020