



# Talkin' about *LAW*

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (QLD) project

## QLD LEGAL SERVICES HELPING DISASTER VICTIMS

Although some time has passed since the devastating floods and cyclones in Queensland, many affected people are still in need of support to help rebuild.



The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service have joined forces with the Queensland Government and other key legal organisations such as Legal Aid Queensland to establish a Flood and Cyclone Legal Help service.



Cyclone and flood victims can access the free legal service on a range of legal issues such as insurance claims, tenancy agreements and access to services.



The service can be accessed by calling the lead agency Legal Aid Queensland or the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service.

### For more information

**Legal Aid Queensland - 1300 65 11 88**

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service - 1800 01 22 55**

[www.floodlegalhelp.qld.gov.au](http://www.floodlegalhelp.qld.gov.au).

### > About the project

*Talkin' About Law* is a community legal education project aimed at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in Queensland.

Its purpose is to provide general legal advice on criminal and civil matters affecting Indigenous Queenslanders and promote the services provided by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service throughout the state.

### > Tracklist

1. Legal help service
2. Natural Disasters & ID
3. Natural Disasters & Tenancy
4. Natural Disasters & Scams
5. Your rights at work



## Do I need the Workplace Rights Ombudsman?

OMBUDSMAN/om-buds-man

An official appointed to investigate individuals' complaints against government departments and agencies.

When there is an issue in the workplace such as:

- **Bullying and harrassment**
- **Deductions from wages**
- **Entitlements for meal and rest breaks**
- **Termination**
- **Performance reviews and disciplinary processes**
- **Provision of payslips**

You can turn to the **Queensland Workplace Rights Ombudsman**.

The Ombudsman's role is to provide information and advice to Queensland workers and employers about their workplace rights and obligations.

So whether you're a worker or an employer in Queensland the **Queensland Workplace Rights Ombudsman** can provide impartial and independent advice and information on industrial relations and work-related matters.

It also has the power to investigate and report on unlawful, unfair or inappropriate workplace practices.

Should you need their help you can contact the **Workplace Rights Hotline** on **1300 737 841** or visit their website [www.workplacerrights.qld.gov.au](http://www.workplacerrights.qld.gov.au).

**DON'T  
GET CAUGHT  
IN A**



If your life has been turned upside down by a natural disaster the last thing you need is to be caught in a scam.

Sometimes people affected by flood, cyclones or bushfire are targeted by unscrupulous people posing as tradies to make some quick money. So be wary of builders or trade contractors who go door-to-door selling their services after a natural disaster.

If you find yourself in this situation you do have some rights.

Ask for the builder's or trade contractor's licence. You should write down the name and number on the card and check this with the Queensland Building Services Authority (BSA) to confirm that the contractor is licensed to carry out your repairs. Licenses to carry out demolition, asbestos removal and electrical work are issued by another governing body. Make sure you check with the relevant body if you require these types of works to be carried out at your property.

Ask the builder or trade contractor for a list of previous clients so you can check with them about the quality of the service.

Sometimes scam operators use sales tactics aimed at pressuring you to make a decision on the spot. Never agree to offers or deals straight away! If a salesperson offers you a contract, don't sign the contract until you're happy that the terms and conditions of the document are fair and equitable.

If you have questions about rebuilding or repairing your place after a natural disaster you can contact the BSA on 1300 272 272.

## > Directory of Offices

### Beenleigh (Regional Office)

Address Suite 11B, 101A Main Street, Beenleigh 4207  
Telephone (07) 3804 5033 Facsimile (07) 3804 5202

### Palm Island (Satellite Office)

Address Lot 47, Cnr Main Street and Police Lane  
Telephone (07) 4770 1222 Facsimile (07) 4770 1501

### Charleville (Regional Office)

Address 51 Wills Street, Charleville 4470 (PO Box 51)  
Telephone (07) 4654 1721 Facsimile (07) 4654 3182

### Brisbane (Head Office)

Address 183 North Quay, Brisbane 4000  
Telephone (07) 3025 3888 Facsimile (07) 3025 3800

### Cairns (Regional Office)

Address 78 Spence Street, Cairns 4870  
Telephone (07) 4046 6400 Facsimile (07) 4031 5397

### Rockhampton (Regional Office)

Address 89 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton 4700  
Telephone (07) 4927 5711 Facsimile (07) 4922 4487



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