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CMTEDD, PIDActreview

Good afternoon Madam

I wish to submit a few of my personal experiences to add to the submissions.

Over the past 5 years my company has been subject to Corruption, Collusion, Conversion, Falsification of documentation, Fraud, Withholding of documentation, petty theft and breach of copyright involving many departments of the ACT Government.

In brief please allow me to explain :

In 2014 while negotiating an ACT Government contract building and construction contract [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. These engineered and certified plans were [REDACTED]

As a consequence a faulty concrete slab was poured for my project [REDACTED] to my working plans or Australian Standards.

Upon being informed after the fact, with little recourse, [REDACTED] with project regardless. Six months later paint started lifting on the sports surface and I was [REDACTED] to correct this.

After applying to FOI for the Quality Assurance documentation relating to the concrete slab I receive nothing to indicate that this was even done. Nor were the "[REDACTED]" from the LDA/SLA produced.

As a matter of principal, I demanded that my retention and variation of \$ 13,000.00 odd be paid up by the builder (Rage Cage Sports was a nominated contractor by the super) I decided to take the builder to task ACAT Tribunal (small claims court) and amongst the many [REDACTED].

My company was found 100% at fault of paint bubbling (osmotic blistering) on a concrete slab not poured to my plans and specifications by a ACT Government Department who took my information and commissioned another set of drawings by a builder/superintendent that did not even have QA documentation (or Australian Standards) which is required in all Australian Government contracts.

Upon investigation at/after the hearing I found out the following :

- 1) [REDACTED] representing the Builder, represented both the ACT Government as a legal advisor to both his client and the [REDACTED] on a ACT architects association board. A clear [REDACTED] which was not disclosed.
- 2) [REDACTED]
- 3) That [REDACTED] as I was asked to sign a contract for (aprox) \$ 265,000.00 but to bill only for \$224,000.00 leaving a short fall of \$ 38,000.00 which was to be [REDACTED] it was claimed and documented.
- 4) The LDA/SLA claimed that they were going to investigate my claims despite a 40 odd page document plus supporting documentation. A much belated and stymied investigation officer from the ACT Chief Ministers Office claimed to have found nothing of consequence, even though money has gone missing and the accounting is completely at odd to government records.
- 5) [REDACTED] and also signing off on the project - no action has occurred with this officer, and the LDA/SLA has white washed the issues - money is still missing.
- 6) The FOI process is a farcical lie - the plagued Rage Cage concrete slab plans were clearly marked on the project manifest under the heading structural detail - a task which should have taken 10 minutes at the most. But [REDACTED] as the fear of exposing the breach of copyright was obviously too great a risk for the LDA/SLA.
- 7) Every ACT Government department contacted (there are many) in exposing this dispute has acted with indifference , shied away, glossed over and some have even resorted to blatant deceit to avoid what has become a deliberate contrivance.

Why has this occurred ?

No one has any authority. The various government departments are well known to each other often doing business on a daily basis. I have spoken to CEO's of these departments and they are reluctant to do anything that may jeopardize their position or their staff. To deny/ignore the truth is easier.

Collusion has occurred and can be easily proven.

Conversion is easy as it's a matter of shifting documentation from one department/super/builder to another. This creates a vacuum of responsibility.

Corruption has occurred but to investigate requires action and an admission of guilt and compensation/apology in a culture of marketing 'brownie points' and 'good news solutions'. No one wants to sack or dismiss a fellow worker for fear of losing their own position.

Falsification of documents. Probably an ACT Government's employee's greatest fear as a signature or name identifies the individual which leads to scrutiny.

Fraud. Hard to prove unless bank details are obtained - what I have experienced is what has been described as 'classic fraud'. Hard to spot if not acquainted with. Now that I have experience it - very easy to identify.

Withholding of documentation. [REDACTED] calls this an 'oversight'. Even when faced with the facts.

[REDACTED]

The facts are ignored.

Geography - The ACT (Canberra) is overwhelmingly a public servant's city - with no provincial council to impede decision making. In effect it is a totalitarian government with little to no resources/industry which is serviced by the seat of the Federal Government in a semi-autonomous territory.

Outside interests and influences, law and order outside the territory do not overtly interest those within its borders.

As a ACT Government employee stated to me on the phone in 2017. 'Oh, So you're the scapegoat from South Australia'!

I had to reluctantly agree with him.

The PID Act review will have no change or effect unless someone grows some teeth. I am a currently serving Australian Soldier - I do not do corruption.

Thank you for the opportunity of allowing a submission.

Kind regards

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