



MEDIA RELEASE

OPERATION ZELINSKY: Sentencing of Jarrod Entwistle

R v Jarrod ENTWISTLE (District Court of New South Wales)

26 March 2021 (immediate release)

The Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) welcomes the sentencing decision of the District Court of New South Wales in relation to a former employee of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR), now the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE). The former Biosecurity Officer faced court today to be sentenced for one offence of abuse of public office.

Integrity Commissioner and head of ACLEI, Jaala Hinchcliffe said, “This decision reinforces the important oversight role ACLEI fulfils in relation to the integrity of Australian Government law enforcement agencies, including DAWE.”

The prosecution arose from a joint investigation between ACLEI, the Australian Federal Police National Anti-Gangs Squad (AFP) and DAWE, called Operation Zelinsky.

Operation Zelinsky commenced after information indicated that Outlaw Motorcycle Gang associates set up an importing business with DAWR Biosecurity Supervisor Entwistle, acting as a silent partner. While initially unaware of their associations with OMCG, Mr Entwistle was deliberately groomed by the OMCG associates to gain benefits for the business.

Operation Zelinsky uncovered evidence that Mr Entwistle used DAWR and Customs systems to monitor the imports of a business he had an interest in, Nano Logistics Pty Ltd, and researched confidential information about competitors to gain a commercial advantage. Between 24 April 2016 and 10 October 2017, Mr Entwistle made 220 unauthorised accesses in restricted DAWR and Customs systems.

Today, Mr Entwistle was sentenced to one year and eleven months imprisonment, to be served by way of an intensive corrections order. He was also fined \$10,000 and ordered to complete 500 hours of community service.

“Criminal entities can use benefits such as business opportunities to seek to corrupt Commonwealth law enforcement officials. The use of corrupt relationships with law enforcement officials to circumvent laws or gain competitive and financial advantage will not be tolerated,” said Ms Hinchcliffe.

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About the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI)

ACLEI is committed to preventing and investigating corruption issues relating to Commonwealth law enforcement agencies. ACLEI supports the Integrity Commissioner to provide independent assurance to government about the integrity of prescribed law enforcement agencies and their staff members. The office of the [Integrity Commissioner](#) and ACLEI are established by the [Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Act 2006](#) (the LEIC Act).

Please direct all enquiries regarding this media release to: media@aclei.gov.au