

Woolworths HR Refuses Formal Response to Letter of Inquiry

by mod *Tuesday, Nov 18 2014, 8:04am*

international / prose / post

The arrogance of Woolworths' upper management, which is largely comprised of foreigners that are clearly not familiar with Australian values and ethical standards, knows no bounds, their feeble attempts to avoid and deflect from the serious issues raised in a letter [citing Woolworths Ltd](#) for harassing staff and un-ethical workplace practices only damns the company further.



It has been almost a month since the initial letter was received but no real attempts have been made to address the many serious issues raised in the letter. An extremely polite and formal reminder letter (below) which was also posted on a staff notice board, spells it out and it becomes clear that Woolworths has much to hide from regulators, the public and its long-suffering staff.

REGISTERED MAIL

13 November, 2014

David Guise Director Human Resources
Woolworths Ltd
PO Box 8000
Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
email: -----@woolworths.com.au

Dear Mr Guise,

RE: WORKPLACE BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND VICTIMISATION

I refer to the above matters and my letter to you of 21 October and your subsequent telephone call and note that you have not responded formally to my letter to date.

I need not remind you that the issues I have raised are extremely serious for all parties concerned and that you are required, as a matter of performing your duties, to address and respond to these serious matters, notwithstanding that responding in kind is a matter of formality and common courtesy.

I note your un-investigated premature comments during our telephone conversation regarding matters raised and your attempt to avoid your responsibilities by shifting responsibility onto store management. Indeed, the matter should have been resolved at store level, however, as my letter clearly indicates that avenue proved to be futile as the primary offenders are indeed store managers.

Without labouring the point I am simply asking you to perform the duties to which you have been assigned as 'director of human resources' in the company.

I remind you that every attempt to resolve the issues raised in-store failed, which resulted in my formal request to you for intervention and resolution.

As previously indicated my health and well being have been seriously compromised by store management's behaviour and a response from you is now warranted and necessary.

I look forward to a detailed written response from you after a thorough investigation and would anticipate, in view of the elapsed time, an immediate cessation of the outrageous behaviours of store management and a fair resolution of the matters I have raised, particularly regarding health, safety, company policy, staff relations and harassment issues.

Please also be aware that this letter will be circulated to the CEO and posted on the staff notice board.

Yours faithfully,

CC:
Grant O'Brien, CEO Woolworths Ltd

The serious issues raised by a floor-staff member cannot be avoided or ignored; it is clear that the most appropriate course of action to take by company upper management is to deal with every issue raised or risk serious consequences. We sincerely hope that the largely UK upper management of Woolworths familiarises itself with Australian values and workplace practices.

It also appears that large corporations have closed the door to capable Australians filling upper managerial positions as they have been socialised in Australia and are therefore more empathetic to staff. It is interesting to note that both Woolworths and Coles prefer to fill top positions with UK citizens and other foreigners.

Jungle Drum Prose/Poetry. <http://jungledrum.lingama.net/news/story-1349.html>