

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 January 2025 18:56

To: Submissions.Strategy.Support <Submissions.Strategy.Support@police.tas.gov.au>

Subject: Consultation on Police Offences Amendment (Knives and Other Weapons) Bill 2025

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have unfortunately been the victim of an Aggravated Burglary where the criminal had used a knife to cut his way into my home.

He also had a long baton (70-80cm) which was also brought into my home & hid in my laundry so he could access it easily.

Of course I don't know what his intentions were but he knew I was home, the lights were on & only the curtains facing the street were closed. He walked up my driveway which is right between my home & the fence so was only metres from me & would have clearly seen that I was in the home sitting in my chair watching TV beside the window.

I was unhurt but I am appalled at the lack of assistance I was given & the lack of penalties that this offender received.

The nightmares, stress & flashbacks still occur daily & as I live alone & I am afraid to go out of my back door after dark. My home is like a fortress & I am usually home, still jumping at any unusual noises!

I made a statement that evening & when it was brought back to me the next evening to be read & signed, I mentioned the weapons & was advised that other charges would be applied – but they never were!

I made a subsequent statement specifically relating to the baton which was found in my laundry after the police forensic team had left & that he had a knife, even after a comment was made to me by police saying something like "didn't he have enough charges already?"

That subsequent statement was "lost" by police & was eventually redone after I questioned it's whereabouts.

My neighbour's statement I believe was also "lost" by police & had to be redone.

The police had both the baton (left in my home) & the knife (I believe found in his backpack the next day in someone's yard) in their possession, this offender received no charges for being armed!

These new guidelines talk about increasing penalties for knives etc in public places – **how about including aggravated burglary - bringing weapons into a private residence & also onto private property in this amendment?**

He had also entered other neighbour's properties both before & after mine.

Those properties entered before mine he would have had both the knife & baton.

The neighbour's properties after mine, he would have still had the knife as the baton was left in my laundry.

I did not ask him to come onto my property – I had never seen him before & he was completely unknown to me – I deserve to be protected from weapons & like in this situation, he should have had received the appropriate charges & penalties for having those weapons.

Offenders are almost walking free & I feel thoroughly let down & disappointed by our justice system.

(I also believe from local gossip that he had only recently been released from custody prior to this aggravated burglary).

He ended up pleading guilty (probably due to the forensic's fingerprints gathered inside my home).

There were around 30 files of charges showing in the court lists.

On the summons I received, which I believe only covered one of those many files there were multiple aggravated burglaries & attempted aggravated burglaries among other offences.

He was arrested about 3-4 days after the break-in. A month later he was granted bail but vanished for approx. 12 days I believe before being recaptured.

In all, he spent only 9 months locked up & then walked free only a couple of weeks after sentencing!!!!!!

3 months of that 9 month sentence was published online as being for using fake currency.

So what about fake currency, that hurts peoples bank balances, not their health & safety while sitting quietly in their own home.

He was armed when he entered my home & charges should have been applied.

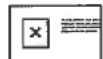
I phoned Minister Felix Ellis's office & complained about the short sentence he was given.

I received a call from the head of the local CIB who basically said that "he wanders in & out of places but doesn't hurt anyone". Obviously that detective had never been on the receiving end of this type of crime.

I was brought up to respect our police & justice system in Tasmania but now I personally feel very let down. It seems to me that the more crimes you commit the lighter the sentences that are applied.

I will supply my full name & contact details below but if this is to be published for public information, please DO NOT use my name & address.

Regards



Virus-free www.avast.com