

About the F92A response form

Response to an application to deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect

About employee right to disconnect disputes

The <u>Fair Work Act 2009</u> (the Fair Work Act) gives employees a right to refuse to monitor, read or respond to contact, or attempted contact from:

- an employer, or
- a third party (if the contact or attempted contact relates to the employee's work)

outside their working hours, unless their refusal is unreasonable.

This is known as the **employee right to disconnect**.

The Fair Work Commission (the Commission) can deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect if:

- an employee has refused to monitor, read or respond to contact, or attempted contact, outside their working hours and the employer:
 - o reasonably believes this refusal is unreasonable, or
 - has asserted that the refusal is unreasonable and the employee reasonably believes the refusal is not unreasonable, or
- the employee and employer have another dispute about how the employee right to disconnect operates.

You can find out more about <u>disputes about the employee right to disconnect</u> on our website.

If an employer was a small business employer on 26 August 2024, the right to disconnect will not apply to its employees until 26 August 2025.

To find out more about the meaning of *small business employer* and how to calculate the number of employees, see <u>what is a 'small business'?</u>

When to use this form

Use this form if:

 you have been served with a form F92–Application to deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect, and

- the form F92 names you as the Respondent or you are responding for the Respondent.
- Completing this form is the first step in telling us the Respondent's side of the case. You do not have to provide evidence in support of your response at this stage.

Lodging and serving your completed form

- 1. Lodge this response form and any supporting documents with the Commission within 7 days after the day on which the Respondent was served with the form F92. You can lodge this response by:
 - email to wdt@fwc.gov.au, or
 - post or in person at the <u>Commission office</u> in your state or territory.
- 2. Serve a copy of this response form and any supporting documents on the Applicant and their representative (if any) within 7 days after the day on which the Respondent was served with the form F92.

You can serve documents several ways, including by email, express post or registered post. Part 5 of Chapter 1 and Schedule 1 of the Fair Work Commission Rules 2024 deals with service.

Where to get help

Commission staff & resources

Commission staff cannot provide legal advice. However, staff can give you information on:

- processes in the Commission
- how to make an application to the Commission
- how to fill out forms
- where to find useful documents such as legislation and decisions
- other organisations that may be able to assist you.

The Commission's website www.fwc.gov.au also contains a range of information that may assist.

Legal or other representation

Representation is where another person speaks or acts on your behalf or assists you in certain other ways in relation to a matter before the Commission. A representative could be a lawyer, paid agent, union, employer organisation or a not-for-profit association or body that provides support, advice or advocacy in relation the kind of application or case concerned.

A representative is different from a support person. A support person is someone you bring with you to a legal proceeding who can give you emotional support, such as a family member or friend.

You do not have to be represented in a case at the Commission.

There are some rules about when a lawyer or paid agent can represent you.

Unless the Commission decides otherwise in a particular case, a lawyer or paid agent can represent you without permission to:

- prepare and lodge this response,
- prepare and lodge submissions about your case, and
- write to the Commission and other people involved in the case on your behalf.

Generally, you must give notice to the Commission and seek permission from the Commission Member dealing with your case if you wish to have a lawyer or paid agent represent you in a conference or a hearing. You do not, however, need to ask permission or give notice if the lawyer or paid agent is:

- for an employer–your employee or officer, or
- an employee or officer of a union or employer organisation that is representing you.

You can notify the Commission using this form that you have a lawyer or paid agent—provide their details at 'Does the Respondent have a representative?'

If you need to notify the Commission that you have a lawyer or paid agent after you have lodged this form, or if you need to ask permission for a lawyer or paid agent to take part in a conference or hearing, use <u>form F53</u>.

For more information about representation by lawyers and paid agents, see section 596 of the <u>Fair Work Act 2009</u>, rules 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the <u>Fair Work Commission Rules 2024</u>, and the Commission's practice note on representation by lawyers and paid agents.

Privacy

The Commission collects the information (including personal information) provided to it in this form in order to deal with the application to deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect. The information will be included on the case file, and we may disclose this information to the other parties to this matter and to other persons. For more details of the Commission's collection, use and disclosure of this information, please see the Privacy notice for this form, or ask for a hard copy to be provided to you.

Remove this cover sheet and keep it for future reference – it contains useful information

Form F92A – Response to an application to deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect

Fair Work Act 2009 (the Fair Work Act), section 333N

This is a response to an application for the Fair Work Commission (the Commission) to deal with a dispute about the employee right to disconnect under Division 6 of Part 2-9 of the Fair Work Act.

Case details

These are the details of the application you are responding to (the Application). You can find this information on correspondence from the Commission about the case.

information on correspon	ndence from the Commission about the case.		
Commission case numb	er		
Name of Applicant			
The Respondent			
The Respondent is (ch	oose one of the following):		
☐ An employer (the I	Employer)		
\square An employee (the	☐ An employee (the Employee)		
If the Respondent is ar	n individual, provide the following information:		
First name(s)			
Surname			
Email address			
Phone number			
Postal address			
Suburb			
State or territory	Postcode		

If the Respondent is not an individual, provide the following information:

•	· •	9	
Legal name of Respondent			
Respondent's ACN (if a company)			
Respondent's trading name or registered business name (if applicable)			
Respondent's ABN (if applicable)			
Contact person			
Phone number			
Email address			
Postal address			
Suburb			
State or territory		Postcode	
Note: If you provide a mobile number we may send reminders via SMS. Has the Applicant given the Respondent's correct legal name in the Application? Yes			
☐ No – make sure the Res	oondent's correct legal	I name is set out abov	e
Do you need an interpre	ter?		
G=Q=3	_	•	act us. We can arrange to ut <u>help in your language</u> on
☐ Yes – Specify language:			
□ No			

Do you require any spec	ial assistance at the hea	aring or conference	(eg a hearing loop)?
☐ Yes — Specify the assista	ance required:		
□ No			
Does the Respondent have a representative?			
	e is a person that is represe e a representative. You can n our website.		•
☐ Yes — Provide the repre	sentative's details below		
□ No			
Representative's details	;		
Name of person			
Firm, company			
or organisation			
Email address			
Phone number			
Postal address			
Suburb			
State or territory		Postcode	
Is the representative a I	awyer or paid agent?		
The Respondent will need permission to be represented by a lawyer or paid agent in a conference or hearing. Our <u>lawyers and paid agents practice note</u> explains when you need to ask for permission to be represented.			
☐ Yes – please select:	☐ Lawyer		
	☐ Paid agent		
□ No			

1. Jurisdictional or other objections

1.1 Does the Respondent have an objection to the Application?

4	You can object to the Application if you think there are technical or legal reasons why the Applicant is not eligible to make an application to the Commission or why the Application should be dismissed. An objection is more than simply that you disagree with the claims.
	Yes – go to question 1.2
	No – go to question 2
1.2	What is the Respondent's objection? (Choose all that apply)
<u>Obje</u>	ctions if the Respondent is the Employer
	The Applicant is not an employee of the Employer (for example: independent contractor or volunteer)
	The Applicant is no longer an employee of the Employer
	The Employer was a small business employer on 26 August 2024 and the Application was made before 26 August 2025
	If the Applicant has asked for a stop order—the application involves matters relating to Australia's defence, Australia's national security, or an existing or future covert or international operation (within the meaning of section 12E of the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>) of the Australian Federal Police
	The Employer and Employee did not attempt to resolve the dispute at the workplace level before the application was made—provide details at question 2.1 below
	Other
<u>Obje</u>	ctions if the Respondent is the Employee
□ volun	The Applicant is not an employee of the Employer (for example: independent contractor or iteer)
	The Applicant is no longer employed by the Employer
	The Employer was a small business employer on 26 August 2024 and the Application was made before 26 August 2025
	The Employer and Employee did not attempt to resolve the dispute at the workplace level before the application was made–provide details at question 2.1 below
	Other



A **stop order** is an order made by the Commission to:

- prevent the <u>Employee</u> from continuing to unreasonably refuse to monitor, read or respond to contact or attempted contact, or
- prevent the <u>Employer</u> from
 - continuing to require the Employee to monitor, read or respond to contact or attempted contact, or
 - taking disciplinary or other action against the Employee because the Employer believes the Employee's refusal to read, monitor or respond is unreasonable.

Provide details of any objections.			

2. Other responses to the Application

2.1	Before the Application was made, what steps did the Employer and Employee take to try to resolve the dispute?
A	The Employer and Employee must try to resolve the dispute by having discussions at the workplace level before an application is made to the Commission.
	Workplace level selected an application is made to the commission.
2.2	What is the Respondent's response to the Applicant's claims about the dispute?
2.2	What is the Respondent's response to the Applicant's claims about the dispute? The Applicant has told us their side of the case in the Application. Refer to question 3.2 and (if relevant) question 4.1 in the Application. Write a response to what the Applicant has written.
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attention?		
 ☐ Yes-describe the matters below ☐ No 		
Authority to sign and sig	enature	
For 'Authority to sign': If you are the Respondent If you are an officer or em		
Authority to sign		
	and the date. If you are completing this form electronically and do ure, type your name in the signature field.	
Signature		
Name		
Date		
PLEASE RETAIN A	A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS	