

Summary prepared by the Commission of Inquiry into QPS responses to domestic and family violence
Primary source material provided by the QPS in response to NTP 2.065, Item 1.

Case Study 5

In 2017, a female officer self-reported and disclosed behaviours to Ethical Standards Command that she had engaged in with a Sergeant who was attached to the Ethical Standards Command. An investigation was commenced which uncovered that the Sergeant had engaged in inappropriate conduct with an additional two female police officers whilst at work, and while he was acting as Senior Sergeant in a different unit that was not attached to Ethical Standards Command.

The allegations in relation to one of the female officers, a Sergeant, occurred over a four-month period in 2016. During this period of time, the female Sergeant was a subordinate officer who was working under the Acting Senior Sergeant's direct supervision. The Acting Senior Sergeant had also previously been her field training officer. The conduct involved the Acting Senior Sergeant:

- taking the female officer to a beach and to his house on two separate occasions. At both locations he asked her to take photos of himself without his clothes on. At his house, he undressed in front of her, swam naked in his pool, and requested she take photos of his penis both soft and erect.
- On one occasion, in response to a radio promotion labelled, "*Pants Off Friday*," he approached the Sergeant's desk with his penis protruding from his jeans. He asked her if he should attend his meeting with the Inspector, "*like this*," and feigned getting his penis stuck in the drawer of a filing cabinet. He also placed his exposed penis on her desk.
- Taking the Sergeant to a nudist beach. She was not aware that that it was a nudist beach until they arrived and the Acting Senior Sergeant took off his clothes. He swam naked in front of her and walked beside her without his clothes on. He asked her take photos of himself which included photographs of his penis, and photos in which he was holding his penis in his hand.

The Sergeant described being very uncomfortable when the behaviours were occurring and in relation to the occasion where the officer exposed his penis through his jeans and walked around her room and placed it on her desk, she told investigators she was, "*disgusted*."

The matter proceeded to a disciplinary hearing in 2018 where the allegations were substantiated. The Sergeant was reduced in rank to Senior Constable for 12 months.

The female officer was also disciplined by QPS. It was found that her failure to report the conduct amounted to misconduct and she was reprimanded.