

**CARVER
psychology**

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Re: **David Barker**
DOB: **8/08/74**
ADDRESS: **5/25 Waverly Rd**
Taringa QLD 4068

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN Re Eviction of David Barker

I first saw David Barker on 26 June 2015.

David was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (on the more mild side of the spectrum) formerly known as Aspergers by Dr Andrew Nielsen on 14 September 2015. He scored 8 on the EQ, a questionnaire designed by one of the world's leading Autism researchers to measure the ability of a person to tune into others' feelings. A score of under 30 indicates Aspergers.

I helped him get on the Disability Support Pension, which he received in July 2016. He has had difficulty sustaining stable employment.

Regrettably the situation at his public housing accommodation has recently become contentious. He got this accommodation in October 2016 and it made a huge difference to his quality of life. Prior to this he had been transient.

The root of the problem appears to be David's interest in plastic recycling, which has been the reason for the clutter in his front yard. He has spoken to members of the community, and has received widespread local support for the recycling endeavour, including from local politicians. Unfortunately, his income stream has not permitted him to develop this as quickly as desired and funding assistance has been so far unavailable. This has resulted in delays in processing the material, so a small quantity was required to be temporarily stored in the front yard. David advises me that this temporary storage issue has now been solved and the front yard is now clear, as per Department standards. He has invested a lot of time, effort and money into this recycling scheme, which is acknowledged to be of public benefit.

David assures me that he has every intention of complying with the Department of Housing standards of maintaining a clear front yard in the future.

It is of note that I have not been contacted by anyone in the Department of Housing. I am often consulted by organisations if they are aware that one of their customers/clients is seeing me, and the Department was aware that David was seeing me. If this had been the case it is my contention that a negotiation could have taken place to resolve the matter, rather than the extreme measures taken so far here. I am happy to make myself available for someone to contact me, and I consider that this action could lead to a satisfactory resolution for all.

It is very concerning that David, who is a person with genuine disability, has been subjected to constant stress concerning the core need of just having a place to live, and I fear that his mental health will be negatively impacted by this rather extreme action.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. A. Carver". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Paul Carver
Psychologist
4583851F
Msc Psychology, PGP Dip HLTH PSYCH
14/5/22