

[REDACTED]

From: marie skafidas [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 27 June 2019 7:02 PM
To: taxiinquiry
Subject: Taxi Inquiry Submission _ Please hide address and phone no on public register

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Jim (Dimitrios) Skafidas
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please hide address and phone no on public register.

I came to Australia from Greece as a teenager. I worked hard from the day I arrived here so that I would never have to rely on a government hand out. I was working Full Time and had some money to invest and at the time, the government was marketing Taxi Licences as a good long term investment. I chose the Licence over property.

I purchased a Taxi Licence in 1994. I eventually also bought a second property in 2013 as an investment. This still has a mortgage against it. The incomes combined were my retirement plan. I did not want to rely on a government pension. had things continued as they were, I never would have.

Skip to now and the only income I have is from my rental property (aprox \$1,600 per month, less expenses (mortgage, owners corp fees, maintenance etc). So, less than a pension. The irony is that I do not qualify for a pension. I am living of savings which are quickly running out. Even if I sell the investment property and use any money left over, it will also eventually run out. Then what? Go an a Pension? I have worked my entire life to avoid this. How is this good for the government?

You can only imagine what this has done to both my physical and mental health. I lay in bed at night and can not sleep, thinking about it. I don't turn on my heating in the middle of winter to save on costs. I sit in the dark at night again to save on costs.

Any holidays I had dreamt of in my retirement have no possibility of happening. I look at toys that I could buy my grandchildren or outings to the zoo or movies that I could take them on, yet can not afford and feel like a failure. Yet this is not my failure, it is the governments.

How is this fair on me? How is this fair on anyone. An illegal entity has entered the country, done what they wanted and gotten away with it. I have been a law abiding, hard working citizen my whole life and this is the reward I have received.

I feel the Government has been criminal in their behaviour.

Kind regards,

Jim Skafidas