

From: george alexellis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2019 10:06 PM
To: taxiinquiry
Subject: Submission

I do not want this made public.....

My name is George Alexellis I use to be an owner operator of a Victorian metropolitan taxi license. I first began as a driver in 1990 then leased a license and after a couple of years made the very difficult decision to buy a license . At no time at the period of purchase did anybody within the industry or government say or warn me that hey one day you might loose everything you are putting in here. I was a newly wed young man with my first child and made the sacrifice to buy a taxi license instead of a home . The licence cost about \$128 000 I could have bought a house in Richmond for the same amount . A house in Richmond is worth today about \$1.2 to \$1.5 million and a license \$0 .

My second son is autistic he is 24 now , while he attended school life was manageable I worked full time my wife part time . After he finished school we struggled with placement for him my wife returned to full time work and I leased out the taxi license for about \$30 000 a year in order to support my son with his needs.

Since the Victorian governments reforms we have really struggled financially we basically live on one wage my wife's she works in admin for an accountant. I do the odd handyman job When I'm not looking after my son he is at home with no help and no respite because he has displayed aggressive behaviour towards careers. This puts an extreme amount of pressure on my wife and I , we both have medical problems that we are trying to deal with the best we can.

I didn't receive any money from the fairness fund because I thought they would only give it to people who had bought licenses for \$400 000 and upwards and were in extreme financial difficulties .

I'm 52 years old worked for myself most off my life should have been financially secured at this point off my life instead I can't work full time or part time and everything I worked so hard for sometimes 14 to 15 hours a day has amounted to zero.

Thank you for your time.