

Subject: Letter from Dirk to editor nierop.doc

To the Editors
of News Digital Media
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Dear Editors,

Your story in the Daily Telegraph and archived online at News.com.au mentioning Dirk Nierop defames me as it says I am guilty of assault when I am not. You can see from the attached court document that I am innocent of that charge.

To correct this, please delete the story from your web site or add an update to it or footnote based on the following statement.

“Dirk Nierop, 47, of Allambie, was convicted in the District Court Sydney in 2007 of assaulting Shane Bullock at Collaroy on April 9, 2006.

Nierop was acting as a security guard at the Surf Rock Hotel in Collaroy and Bullock was a patron of the hotel when the assault occurred.

The court found Nierop guilty of occasioning actual bodily harm but not guilty of maliciously inflicting grievous bodily harm with intent.

Nierop was convicted of the assault on February 23, 2007, but this offence was dismissed by the court on May 8, 2007, and no conviction was recorded.”

Please tell me within seven days what you do about this.

Here is a copy of the story to which I refer.

"News.com.au Top stories

'Cowardly' bouncers terrorising pub, club patrons

By Luke McIlveen and Andrew Chesterton

The Daily Telegraph

February 28, 2007 12:00am

COWARDLY bouncers are terrorising pub and club-goers by picking more fights than they stop.

As Manly surfer Sam Page showed the first signs of recovery yesterday from a brutal pub bashing, more cases emerged of an epidemic of violence sweeping hotels and clubs.

The NSW Council for Civil Liberties receives up to six complaints every month from people who have been assaulted by bouncers on a "power trip".

The council's president Cameron Murphy said that most security bouncers were properly trained.

"But you are always going to have rednecks who think that it is a licence for them to commit a crime against someone," he said.

And the Australian Hotels Association admitted a barrage of complaints from the public has prompted many licensed establishments to turn to in-house security led by former police, instead of hiring private firms.

Bashing victim Mark Thelander yesterday told how he was kicked unconscious outside the Narrabeen Sands Hotel, leaving him with permanent injuries.

He now is suing the private security firm which had employed the bouncers involved.

"I was there with my wife and a couple of mates," he said. "One of them was a bit loud on the dancefloor so bouncers started pushing him around," he said of the attack six years ago.

"I was punched and kicked. I don't remember anything afterwards but my mates told me they were taking a run up and kicking my head like a football after that," he said.

The law dictates that bouncers are put through background checks and personal skills training before working the doors, but the hotel industry is well aware of the barrage of complaints from the public.

"We are aware of the problem and publicans are turning to in-house security and people such as former police officers who know the law rather than private firms," a spokesman for the AHA said yesterday.

Sam Page's friends and family were given hope yesterday when he opened his eyes for the first time since he was allegedly bashed by bouncer Eugene White while celebrating his 21st birthday on Sunday night.

Mr Page squeezed his mother's hand and reached out to his father after being woken from an induced coma in Gold Coast Hospital just after dawn yesterday.

He had been under intensive care with a fractured skull and bleeding to the brain after he was allegedly punched outside Players Showgirls strip club on the Gold Coast.

The widespread pubs and clubs violence has become a growing concern.

Up for sentencing next month is Dirk Nierop, a bouncer from the Surf Rock Hotel in Collaroy, who was convicted last year of assaulting rugby league player Shane Bullock, breaking his nose and his eye socket.

In December 2001, Gregory Sprod was left brain damaged after being attacked by two bouncers in a lane near St Marys Band Club."

Thank you for your cooperation.