



David Elliott
Minister for Counter Terrorism
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Veterans Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

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CSNSW OFFICERS NAMED IN AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

A Corrective Services NSW officer working to improve the lives of veterans as part of efforts to rehabilitate inmates is among four staff honoured with an Australian Correctional Medal as part of the Australia Day Honours List.

Kylie Fogarty manages the Defence Community Dogs program at Bathurst Correctional Centre in which inmates have trained more than 40 abandoned dogs to assist ex-soldiers suffering physical and mental health problems, including Post-traumatic Stress Disorder.

The dogs are trained in behaviour supporting veterans, such as interrupting the early indicators of anxiety or turning on a light after a night terror. Some dogs can even assist with the removal of clothing such as socks, shoes and jackets.

Joining Ms Fogarty is Aboriginal Client Service Officer Mandy Zaccazan, Principal Correctional Officer Justin Beavis and 33-year CSNSW veteran David Thomas.

Minister for Corrections David Elliott congratulated the recipients, which have more than 75 years' service combined, and have assisted inmate rehabilitation and help protect the community.

"From delivering new initiatives to reduce reoffending, liaising with community and key stakeholders to creating a safer correctional environment, each officer has excelled in their role," Mr Elliott said,

"The NSW Government led a national push for the introduction of the Australian Corrections Medal, which is a fantastic opportunity to publicly recognise the difficult work staff do, which is mostly out of the community's sight."

Commissioner Peter Severin said staff were nominated by their peers, and all were great mentors.

"The Australian Corrections Medal is the highest acknowledgment of our staff who strive to go above and beyond their duties. I congratulate Kylie, David, Mandy and Justin on receiving the recognition they deserve."