

DONIE MURPHY

"I would like to address
the committee"

19/8/2020

TO SECRETARY SECURITY Joint Labour Committee,

AS RETIRED MAN FROM SECURITY SERVICES, I WISH TO MAKE A FEW PROPOSALS. THAT THE PAY FOR SECURITY OFFICERS, BE INCREASED TO A STARTING RATE OF 12.50 RISING TO 15 EUROS AN HOUR WITH FIVE YR AT SERVICE, ON 39 HOUR PLUS OVERTIME.

I JOINED GROUP 4 TOTAL SECURITY, IN THE NORTH LONDON BRANCH, AFTER A FEW YEARS IN THE ENGLISH POLICE. AS AT THE TIME THE POLICE GOT PAID NO OVERTIME AND SECURITY PAID OVERTIME AFTER 48 HRS WORKED.

I DID SECURITY GUARDING FOR A FEW MONTHS THEN VAN PATROL OFFICER AND CAPTAIN-TRAINOR AFTER A YEAR, I WAS PROMOTED TO SGT-SHIFT SUPERVISOR. AND AFTER 4 YEARS TO SECURITY INSPECTOR - ASS BRANCH MANAGER. THEN I RETURNED TO IRELAND. AND DID NOT RETURN TO SECURITY FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

AS I LIVE ON CORK, KERRY, LIMERICK BORDER. WHEN I RETURNED TO GHS, I WORKED AS A SECURITY GUARD AND LEAD GUARD IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS. I HAD TO START AS A NEW RECRUIT ON 3-TO AN HOUR. I FINISHED ON 11-75 PER HOUR BASED ON 48 HRS BEFORE OVERTIME RATE.

I WAS NOT IN THE PENSION SCHEME. AS LIKE A LOT OF SECURITY WORKERS, I CHANGED FROM GHS TO OTHER SECURITY.

COMPANIES THAT GOT THE CONTRACT AND BACK AGAIN TO G4S. WHEN THEY GOT THE CONTRACT BACK THAT SHOULD BE LOOKED INTO. THE SECURITY PENSION SHOULD BE RUN BY THE PRIVATE SECURITY AUTHORITY, TO INSURE THAT SECURITY WORKERS GOT A PENSION ON RETIREMENT.

PROMOTION MEANS NOTHING IN THE SECURITY INDUSTRY, OUR AREA REGIONAL MANAGER WITH 28 YEARS SERVICE. ONE DAY GOT A CALL TO GO TO HEAD OFFICE DUBLIN OF THE IRISH OPERATION OF G4S. HE WAS PLUNTLY TOLD TO HAND OVER HIS CAR KEYS AND PHONE AND GET OUT AS HE WAS MADE REDUNDANT. HE GOT THE 2 WEEKS TO THE YEAR, AS AFTER THE DOWN TURN IN 2009, THEY WANTED TO REPLACE HIM WITH A MANAGER ON HALF HIS PAY.

OUR AREA MANAGER WITH 32 YEARS SERVICE WAS ALSO MADE REDUNDANT AND REPLACED BY A MAN ON LESS PAY. SITE MANAGERS WERE REDUCED TO SECURITY GUARD. AND A LOT OF US SECURITY GUARD GIVEN TWO EIGHT HOUR SHIFTS. I WAS OFFERED THE TWO SHIFTS IN LIMERICK, WHICH WAS FORTY MILES AWAY FROM ME. I THEN DID NOT TAKE IT UP. IT WAS THE WAY TO GET RID OF A LOT OF GUARDS WITHOUT HAVING TO PAY REDUNDANCY.

SECURITY GUARDS ARE TOTALLY UNDEervalued. AND FROM MY EXPERIENCE OF THE SECURITY INDUSTRY. WONDER DID ANY ONE

the Joint Labour Committee, EVERY day
 work as a Security Guard. For in the
 event of a fire or major accident
 of a premises, the Security Guard
 is the person that must deal with it.
 It is now a high tech job and from
 my experience of security, the guards
 give 100% commitment to the job.

During my service, often a senior
 manager would come on site, either a
 X-Garda Senior Officer or Army Officer
 with no security experience, with
 no idea about the job just giving
 orders like they were used to in the
 previous role.

Mostly all the security inspectors that
 the security authority appointed, are
 either retired Garda Officers, or
 Army Officer.

Security inspectors would want to
 check up on security companies. You
 are not operating the 39 hour week
 as some of them are still paying on
 a straight hourly rate. No overtime
 rate. A few years ago, a wind farm
 was built near me after I got pension
 age. I was looking to a security
 guard, who told me he was paid 9
 euros an hour for 72 hours no over-
 time or Sunday rate. It was run
 by retired Army Officers the security
 company. I hope you will up the pay
 and put the real value on security.
 Thank you - Dave Murphy