John Elferink  
Shadow Minister for Police, Fire & Emergency Services, Local Government, Indigenous Affairs, Community Development, and Regional Development  

**Greater protection for Ambulance Officers - CLP initiative**  
11 February 2004  

The CLP will move to give greater protection to Ambulance Officers working in the field by making amendments to several pieces of NT Legislation it was announced today. The CLP will introduce bills making it an offence to hinder or obstruct an Ambulance Officer in the course of their duty as well as creating a specific aggravation to common assault when an Ambulance Officer is assaulted in their workplace.

Speaking in Alice Springs today the Shadow Minister for Police Fire and Emergency Services, John Elferink said,

"Ambulance Officers working in the field are all too often interfered with by people in the NT. Recently there was a star picket thrown though the windscreen of an Ambulance in Alice Springs and what has this government done to show its support for these officers?"

"Zero."

"Even in opposition the CLP will not wait till government to try and do something. We will introduce a bill that will give protection to Ambulance Officers working at the coal face and we will expect the government to support it.

"As soon as I can bring a bill before the house I will and I know that it will be received well by those people who are working to bring care to other Territorians.

"The CLP cares for those who care.

"The bill will extend protection to health workers providing ambulance style services not only in town but on remote communities as well.

Ends.