

Government Lawyer

Newsletter of the Law Society of NSW's Government Solicitors' Committee



The Law Society
of New South Wales

Chair's Message

By Kim Cull
Chair, Government Solicitors
Committee



2005 is promising to be another exciting year for the Law Society's Government Solicitors' Committee. I am pleased to welcome new members to the Committee, joining us this year are Michael Donohoe, Wendy Firth, Peter Michie, John Patterson, Lee Rayner, Geraldine Daley. Full details and e-mail addresses of our Committee members are provided on page 2.

I would like to thank retiring Committee members Gavin Bowman from the Australian Broadcasting Authority; Pauline Caust, C'wlth Director of Public Prosecutions; Elizabeth Espinosa, Sutherland Shire Council; Sian Leathem, Administrative Appeals Tribunal; Sonja Marsic, Australian Government Solicitor and Janis Watson-Wood, NSW Director of Public Prosecutions.

The 2004 John Hennessy Fellowship of \$5,000 has been awarded to Mr Michael Arch, Solicitor, Office of the City Prosecutor, Sydney City Council. Michael intends to use the Fellowship for a proposed survey of environmental issues/problems faced by local government bodies throughout NSW in applying current environmental protection legislation. Congratulations, Michael.

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A number of events have been programmed for the year including the Government Legal Department Heads Forums on Friday 13 May and 14 October. The Government Solicitors' Conference and Dinner to be held on Tuesday 6 September.

I am very pleased to announce that the Government Solicitors' Committee is seeking Expressions of Interest from young government lawyers to sponsor a solicitor to attend the Commonwealth Law Conference including the Commonwealth Association of Public Sector Lawyers (CAPSL)

...continued overleaf

Expressions of Interest Sought

The Law Society of New South Wales Government Solicitors' Committee wishes to sponsor a Young Government Solicitor to attend the Commonwealth Law Conference in London from 11 – 15 September 2005 and the Commonwealth Association of Public Sector Lawyers (CAPSL) on 10 September 2005 prior to the Conference.

Sponsorship to the Conference is an amount of \$3,000 which would assist in defraying the expenses of the conference fee, travel and accommodation costs.

Government Solicitors, under the age of 35 with at least 3 years experience as a lawyer in the Public Service (either Commonwealth, State or Local Government) are eligible to apply.

Applications should be made in writing to Robyn Davies, Government Solicitors' Committee, Law Society of New South Wales, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney 2000 (DX 362 Sydney).

Expressions of interest should address the following criteria:

- What would be the benefits to your current job and future career and
- How you would share the benefits of the Conference with colleagues and the wider government legal community.

The successful delegate will be expected to submit a written report on Conference and seminar attendance to the Council of the Law Society and write an article for the Government Lawyer newsletter.

WORD LIMIT: no more than 500 words
CLOSING DATE: 18 April 2005

Chair's Message *continued...*

Conference being held in London from 10 – 15 September 2005. Application details and criteria are contained on page 1. I urge you to apply to attend this first ever combined conference in London.

In the era of voluntary membership for the Law Society of New South Wales I would like to draw your attention to an article written by Mark Richardson, CEO on the advantages for lawyers and their departments in remaining members of the Law Society of New South Wales.

I look forward to working with the Committee to pursue a number of important initiatives throughout the year.

STOP PRESS

Government Solicitors' CLE Conference and Dinner will be held on Tuesday, 6 September 2005 in NSW Parliament House.

The programme will be available shortly.

A limited number of places will be available.

For early bird enquiries please contact

Robyn Davies on rad@lawsocnsw.asn.au

or Tel 9926 0276.

CAPSL Meeting in September 2005

In conjunction with the Commonwealth Law Conference, CAPSL will hold its satellite meeting on 10 September, 2005. At present arrangements for CAPSL's own involvement in the Commonwealth Law Conference are being refined.

Topics for the Conference include Pro Bono Work and Government Lawyers, Legal Professional Privilege in a Public Sector Context, Corporate Manslaughter, Problems for decision-makers in the public-sector, the law on bias and fettering discretion.

To obtain details of the Conference including venue visit the website on www.capsl.org or email capsl@bigpond.com.

The Committee's Projects for 2005

Government Legal Department Heads Forums in May and October – induction programme for junior lawyers entering the public sector; Excellence Award in Government Legal Service and John Hennessy Award, Government Solicitors' CLE Conference and Dinner Tuesday 6 September 2005.

Topics for development in 2005 include: Human Resources investment, Uniform Civil Procedures Bill and Rules, Pacific Rim Public Sector Lawyers Association (PRPSL) – Caring for Governments template, Government Law Handbook, Indemnity and vicarious liability arrangements for government sector lawyers, Commonwealth Association of Public Sector Lawyers (CAPSL).

2005 Government Solicitors' Committee

Chair

Ms Kim Cull, Chief of Staff, Office of the Director General and Assistant Director General, Ministerial & Parliamentary Services, Premier's Department NSW and Councillor, Law Society of NSW – Email: kim.cull@premiers.nsw.gov.au

Committee Members

Linda Barnes, Work Cover Authority – Linda.barnes@workcover.nsw.gov.au

Howard Bell, NSW Police Services – nswp.bell1how@police.nsw.gov.au

Geraldine Daley, Claims Assessment & Resolution Service, Motor Accidents Authority of NSW, Councillor, Law Society of NSW – gdaley@maa.nsw.gov.au

Michael Donohoe, Australian Government Solicitor – Michael.donohoe@ags.gov.au

Margaret Fahy, Consumer Credit Legal Centre NSW Inc. – mfahy1@bigpond.net.au

Wendy Firth, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions – wendy.firth@cdpp.gov.au

Charles Guillan, Australian Taxation Office – charles.guillan@ato.gov.au

Peter Michie, NSW Director of Public Prosecutions – pmichie@odpp.nsw.gov.au

John Patterson, NSW Department of Local Government – john.patterson@dlg.nsw.gov.au

Lee Rayner, Department of Education, Training – lee.rayner@det.nsw.edu.au

Mark Richardson, CEO, Law Society of NSW – mr@lawsocnsw.asn.au

Greg Ross, Secretary, CAPSL, Eakin McCaffrey Cox – ross@eakin.com.au

Penelope Waters, Abbott Pardy & Jenkins, Councillor, Law Society of NSW – pwaters@northnet.com.au

Mary Whitehead, Legal Aid Commission – mary.whitehead@legalaid.nsw.gov.au

Greg Williams, NSW Ombudsman – gwilliams@ombo.nsw.gov.au

Executive Members

Robert Leeder, Law Society of NSW – rsl@lawsocnsw.asn.au

Robyn Davies, Law Society of NSW – rad@lawsocnsw.asn.au

Commonwealth Law Conference September 2005 – Developing Law & Justice

The Commonwealth Lawyers' Association and the Law Society of England & Wales have recently announced that they will jointly host the 50th Anniversary Commonwealth Law Conference 2005 to be held at The Queen Elizabeth 11 Conference Centre located in the heart of Westminster, opposite the Houses of Parliament, London.

The Opening Ceremony will be held in the Great Hall of Central Hall Westminster, located next to the QE11. All breakout sessions, registration, refreshments lunch and exhibition will be held in the QE11, London, from 11 – 15 September 2005 in conjunction with the Law Society of England & Wales Annual Conference.

This is the first time that the Conference has been held in London since the inaugural Conference in 1955. Up to 2000 lawyers representing 53 Commonwealth countries are expected to attend.

The Conference offers a four day programme with keynote speakers and 60 working sessions. The Conference provides an opportunity to network with your peers and meet delegates from all fields of practice in the Commonwealth.

Some of the topics to be discussed include: The International Criminal Court, War Crimes Tribunals and the role of the Domestic Courts, International Co-operation in Relation to the Child (Islamic), Training in a Rapidly Changing Profession, Access to Justice in Environmental Law, Convergence in the Competition Law of the Commonwealth, Funding Access to Justice, The Death Penalty – Can it survive? Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Work/Life Balance: not just for young lawyers, Separation of Powers and the Accountability of the Institutions of Government, Issues of Judicial Independence (incl. Judges and Public Enquiries), In House Counsel, Insolvency Law Reform in the Commonwealth, Law, Liberty and Terrorism after 9/11, Legal Issues arising out of Natural Disasters, Environmental Law and Human Rights.

To find out more and to register your interest visit www.commonwealthlaw2005.com or email commonwealth2005@lawsociety.org.uk.

2005 Award for Excellence in Government Legal Service

It is time to start thinking about worthy nominations for the Excellence Award in Government Legal Service. The Government Solicitors' Committee has been administering this award since 1992 to recognise the outstanding achievements of public sector solicitors. The award is given to a solicitor or legal team who has performed 'above and beyond the call of duty'.

Does your legal work make a contribution to the community that is worthy of notice? Does your work enhance the standing of the government legal service? Does your work contribute to good government? If so, then you are eligible to nominate for the 2005 Excellence in Government Legal Service Award.

The award is presented at the Annual Government Lawyers' Dinner held on 6 September at Parliament House.

Last year Chris Wheeler, Deputy Ombudsman, received the Excellence Award for his special responsibility over several years for co-ordinating and preparing publications issued by the NSW Ombudsman's Office to guide and improve the performance of public officials in their duties.

Highly Commended Awards went to Michelle Gardiner, Policy Manager Legislation & Policy, NSW Attorney General's Department and Catherine Morgan, Manager of Legislation and Advisings, WorkCover Authority of NSW both project officers responsible at different times for the National Legal Profession Model Legislation.

Also to Jane Blackwell, Senior Legal Officer, (Contracts and Advisings) Department of Corrective Services and the project director for e-Contract.

Applications are open for the 2005 Excellence Award. You can nominate your own work or that of a colleague or staff member.

Please contact Robyn Davies at the Law Society of NSW on (02) 9926 0276 or rad@lawsocnsw.asn.au for an Excellence Award package containing a nomination form as well as the rules & conditions for the 2005 selection criteria.

The closing date for nomination is Friday 19 August 2005.

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NOMINATION
FORM
ON BACK
COVER

Australian Institute of Administrative Law Attention All Government Lawyers!

The Australian Institute of Administrative Law promotes knowledge of and interest in commonwealth and state administrative law. The NSW Branch offers a range of topical seminars throughout the year presented by leading academics and practitioners. Membership of the AIAL entitles you to a discounted fee for attendance at seminars plus the quarterly AIAL Forum, a journal of administrative law. The AIAL Annual Conference is held alternatively in Canberra and other states and membership also includes the published conference papers. Consider joining the AIAL! Membership inquiries to Ms Pamela Madafoglio, Secretary NSW Branch Tel 9921 4555 or Pamela.madafoglio@minterellison.com.

Law Society Membership: What's in it for Government Departments and Agencies?

By Mark Richardson, CEO, Law Society of NSW

Membership of the Law Society of New South Wales provides professional development opportunities and benefits with real value to your employer as well as to you individually. In this article, I focus on how Government departments and agencies can benefit when their employed solicitors are Society members. The comments relate to both Commonwealth and NSW Government Departments and their lawyers.

On 11 May, 2004 the Director-General of the Premiers Department NSW, issued a circular to all Government Chief Executives entitled "Voluntary Membership of the Law Society". This circular stated that "There may be instances... where membership of the Law Society will also benefit the department or agency concerned or membership is necessary for an individual officer to perform his or her duties. Department or agency heads should consider such requests on their merits." The memo then went on to set out the criteria, which it identified as "Relevant factors that could be considered", under which Government departments or agencies may choose to pay for their employed solicitors' Law Society membership. I will now examine, in the context of the Directive's criteria, how departments and agencies can benefit from employing solicitors who are Society members. While there are no Commonwealth guidelines, the NSW guidelines cover a number of issues relevant to all government solicitors. I have adopted the order in which the criteria appear in the memorandum.

■ **Criteria 1:**

staff members have a genuine need to access precedents and ethics advice provided by the Law Society in order to perform their work

The Law Society maintains an ethics unit which received in 2004 over 3,000 requests for assistance from solicitors including government solicitors. It issues guidelines and provides training to solicitors. The President of the Law society makes ethical rulings on request.

Departments or agencies whose solicitors are Society members can benefit from costs savings when purchasing precedents (which are discounted for members), and through these members' ability to access the advice and support offered by the Society's Practice Department. The Practice Department has officers devoted to each of the main areas of legal practice, and these officers are

also assigned responsibility to the relevant Society Committees relating to each area. This enables these officers to advise solicitor members on recent developments affecting each area. In the event that the Practice Department's staff members are unable to assist an inquirer, they can, through their committee contacts, often call on the expertise of other solicitors in the field, many of whom are often experts in their respective areas. Solicitor staff of Government departments or agencies who are not Society members are unable to use these Practice Department services.

■ **Criteria 2:**

membership is necessary for a staff member to maintain specialist accreditation (which is necessary for the staff member to perform his or her duties), or where such accreditation is of substantial benefit to the department or agency

When an employed solicitor working in a Government department or agency gains Specialist Accreditation (which is only available to Society members) his or her employer may benefit in a number of ways. For example, the accreditation of a solicitor as a specialist may expand that solicitor's legal skills, enabling him or her to work on matters previously beyond his or her expertise level. Such an improvement may produce immediate benefits for an employer, such as increased productivity and reduced staff costs. Furthermore, the high training requirements and workplace standards that are part and parcel of the Specialist Accreditation Programme may assist Government departments or agencies employing solicitors to nurture a workplace culture of continuous improvement and learning. The creation of such a culture, when combined with the Specialist Accreditation "expertise recognition" factor, may also improve legal staff morale and, as such, create lower legal staff turnover and higher productivity.

Furthermore, the accreditation of a department's or agency's solicitors, and even the fact that the department's or agency's solicitors have maintained their practising certificates and are Society members, can help the relevant department or agency to compete for work both within and outside the public sector with other legal service providers (whose employees may also be accredited Law Society members).

■ **Criteria 3:**

there is a need for the department or agency to maintain a relationship with the Law Society through staff memberships

Government departments or agencies employing legal staff will always benefit in some way from those staff remaining in contact with the Society and its members. Such contact not only puts a department's or agency's employed solicitors in touch with their colleagues from other areas, but it may also enable that department or agency to use its Committee and other contacts to communicate messages to the legal profession (around 93% of whom are currently Society members). Contact with the Society may also enable a department or agency to play a part in designing and participating in Society conferences and training programmes (such as mandatory continuing legal education (MCLE) events), and to seek feedback from the experts on the Society's Committees, or from Society members generally, on specific issues and proposals.

Any department or agency that employs Society members has, by virtue of this membership, a means through which it can communicate, via the Society's publications, with the majority of the legal profession. In addition, the participation of such legal staff on the Society's committees, and indeed on the Law Society Council (which now has two entrenched positions reserved for Government Solicitors) may provide a means through which a department or agency can establish an enduring and valuable relationship with the Law Society and its many members.

- **Criteria 4:**
membership will provide access to continuing legal education provided by the Law Society which is relevant to the staff member or the department or agency and is otherwise unavailable or is only available at an overall higher cost

The "mandatory" and "compulsory" nature of MCLE training, a certain level of which must be undertaken each and every year by solicitors wishing to maintain their practising certificates, makes the cost of such training a recurring budget item for many departments or agencies employing solicitors.

MCLE training represents a development opportunity for departments and agencies. As with Accredited Specialisation, those departments and agencies whose legal staff engage in MCLE training benefit through their staff's increased skill base.

The Law Society's Government Solicitors' Committee provides training which focuses on topics of common interest and utility to solicitors working in the public sector, such as Crown privilege, the requirements of Government departments to comply with requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 1987 or issues relating to bullying in the workplace (which was the subject of a recent Government Department Legal Heads session).

Departments or agencies employing solicitors will benefit financially through the discounts that those

solicitors receive on their costs for MCLE events if those solicitors are Society members, the savings can be substantial. Training sessions are offered in a number of formats but focus on issues relevant to all government solicitors. This allows departments and agencies greater scope to provide additional training on special areas of interest to their employees.

In addition, departments and agencies whose solicitors are Society members may also benefit from their legal staff's access to Society publications, such as the Journal and the weekly Monday Briefs email, and from their exclusive access to the full range of information contained on the Law Society web site.

- **Criteria 5:**
membership of the Law Society will allow for participation in committees of the Society which would benefit the department or agency as a whole

Departments or agencies whose legal staff participate in committees (another privilege only available to Society members) can benefit in a number of ways. For example, participation enables committee members to interact with others from fields similar to their own who may work for different types of employers, to consider a range of policy matters, and to make recommendations on issues of policy to the Law Society Council.

The Society's committees also provide an open forum of peer discussion in which members can generate and test new ideas (ideas that may be of benefit to their employers), and serve as a means by which committee members can more fully understand the needs of their own employer's clients and stakeholders and they enable committee members to remain on the cutting edge of reform in the area in which the committee operates.

Law Society Committees and the Council comment on many topics and policies which impact on work done by government solicitors and on the operation of government and its agencies. Furthermore, the Law Society makes numerous submissions on reform and other proposals under consideration by government agencies.

The Government Solicitor's Committee has commented on a number of matters affecting the profession, at both the State and Federal levels. This has included working with relevant governmental bodies on legislative proposals, ethical issues for government solicitors, and issues affecting the indemnity arrangements for government solicitors who are involved in litigation as part of their employment.

In conclusion, currently more than 92% of practicing solicitors in NSW have taken up membership of the Law Society, reflecting the value that lawyers place on being part of a strong and united profession. Membership charges for 2005-06 will be maintained at \$230 plus GST the same as for 2004-05.

Caring for Governments: the Capability-Based Case for a Client-Care Template

The Whole-of-Government Client

By Howard Bell, Government Lawyer, NSW

Debate preceding the launch of the Ethical Guidance for Government Lawyers in 2003 embraced the challenges associated with attempting to precisely identify a generic client who receives government legal services. One discernible approach deserving closer attention is to highlight the functional – as distinct from structural – identity of the government lawyer’s client. This approach enables the government legal service provider to focus on the net value to government of discrete legal services when prioritising service delivery, determining service level standards and managing capability development. The latter are crucial to government legal managers for several reasons. Primary amongst these reasons is that specific key government legal capabilities (KGLC) might be a particularly useful yard stick for planning the service delivery levels to tomorrow’s governments in both the developed and developing worlds.

If KGLC is to emerge as a valid planning consideration it needs to be defined in terms of competency-based capabilities of legal units to support the primary needs of the whole of government client.

Client Service and Economic Rationalism

Government-driven productivity saving initiatives in many jurisdictions has seen re-structures, changes to out-sourcing arrangements and significant measures to avoid duplication of effort in relation to services to governments. Shared-services models now abound in the public sector in relation to financial processing, administration of employee entitlements and the provision of other support to front-line government business. It takes little imagination to see this trend arising in relation to government legal support. As government lawyers are required to do more and more with less and less, the move towards centralised whole-of-government legal service units is inevitable. In parallel with this move to a shared services model there will necessarily be a rationalisation of the legal products that will continue to be provided on the one hand and those that will no longer be provided on the other.

This rationalisation process, whilst anathema to government lawyers who are accustomed to being all things to all clients at all times, can hardly be resisted when governments place a premium on the prioritisation of services that meet or exceed a

particular value-add threshold. We can argue that it has the potential to devalue our currency as a profession. We can even raise, as broad industrial issues, the spectre of workplace stress, psychological hazards that arise from this and the career development inhibitions that come from limiting our skill base or the way our client organisation invests in us as valuable human resources. But when the dust settles, we are left only with the cold reality that we must work smarter not harder if we are to be a sustainable force in contemporary budget-driven government.

Why a Template?

The simple reality is that governments are increasingly seen by their constituents as providing goods and services for which they are paid through public revenue. Modern-day voters hold governments responsible in more ways than through simple parliamentary accountability. This is apparent from the increased incidence of legal actions against states arising from breach of duty of care, breach of statutory duties, breach of contractual obligations and other forensic grounds.

Through all this one can discern an invariance in the core business of governments and a complementary invariance in the core legal work required for effective government. It is in this context that the operational imperative of core legal needs for cost-effective government arises.

If shared legal services is going to become the reality of our governments in being and our next governments then the governments after next will, probably inevitably, seek to centralise some legal services across state lines and even off-shore within their regions. This possibility illustrates the potential value of both a clear statement of core legal requirements and key capabilities required to meet those needs. My view is that this would be best set out in a client-care template with the quality of transportability off-shore.

PRPSL: A Timely Vehicle for The Template

Herein lies probably the most urgent project that should be undertaken by the Pacific Rim Public Sector Lawyers (PRPSL) upon its launch in 2005. The project will necessarily be research-based. What needs to be learned is the stakeholder-perceived minimum level of legal service for effective government (MLOLSFEG). Ideally this very impressionistic data will be gathered by carefully surveying the MLOLSFEG perceived through the eyes of:

- attorneys general
- solicitors general
- government legal heads
- selected government legal practitioners

- planners and non-legal professionals in agencies that are operationally reliant on legal service products.

The field work to generate the data will be conducted in Australian jurisdictions and will extend beyond the Australian States and Territories into a range of regional jurisdictions including New Zealand, Vanuatu, East Timor, Papua New Guinea and other regional nations whose governments, and their supporting legal practitioners, wish to become involved. Naturally membership of PRPSL would tend to accompany involvement in the project.

Analytical treatment of the raw MLOLSFEG data from the respondent groups will enable us to postulate the KGLC which, I apprehend, will be capable of expression in absolute terms across state and national lines. With the KGLC identified and validated, we will be in a position to construct the client care template. Its properties will include functional value as a tool that will allow us to gauge the nature and extent of financial and human resource investment that should be channelled into any given government legal product. For example,

the template will allow us to provide guidance to our client government agencies on the comparative amount of legal professional time that can be justifiably invested into the provision of legal advice on aspects of departmental policy on the one hand, and into providing representation to public agencies or officials in various categories of state-initiated or state-defended litigation on the other.

Conclusion

The case for a device that facilitates consistent, objective and benchmarked decision-making and planning for cost effective legal care to governments must not be understated. The current cost benefit philosophy influencing strategic planning in government demands that we develop a body of field data on essential legal service needs and thereby evaluate the key capabilities needed to meet them. This will allow us to develop an inter-jurisdictional template to guide the allocation of valuable legal professional attention at levels that result in optimum care for those busy, accountable and litigation-vulnerable governments and their agencies whom we serve.

Inter Pacific Bar Association Conference 2006

The IPBA Conference 2006 is to be held in Sydney. The IPBA was founded in Tokyo in 1990 and currently has approximately 1,800 members in 57 countries. It is an association of lawyers who have an interest in the Asia Pacific region either because they live in the region or have business interests there.

The conference will be held from 30 April to 3 May 2006 and will provide an excellent opportunity for Australian lawyers to meet their counterparts from other countries. The theme of the Conference is Free Trade Agreements which will be of interest to many Government Lawyers.

For details see the conference website www.tourhosts.com.au/ipba2006 and for further details of the IPBA see the association's website www.ipba.org.

**The 2005 conference is to be held in Bali from 3 to 7 May 2005.
For details see website www.ipba2005bali.com**

Government Lawyer Newsletter...

The Government Solicitors' Committee would appreciate your feedback in regard to the content of the "Government Lawyer".

Would you like to have the publication:

- Involve the reader more by printing responses to issues canvassed in the newsletters;
- Available on the Law Society web site or/and linked to "Monday Briefs";
- Include letters to the editor;
- Include changes to government legal departments (including senior staff movements);
- Include Legislation updates (including exposure bills, discussion papers);
- Contain "snippets" consisting of small pieces of information pertinent to government lawyers.

As the Committee is in the early stages of arranging guest speakers for the Annual CLE Conference we would be pleased to have your views of topics to be discussed and/or guest speakers.

The Committee would be pleased to receive your comments by letter to Robyn Davies, Government Solicitors' Committee, DX 362 Sydney or email to rad@lawsocnsw.asn.au by the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 14 April 2005.

Excellence Award in Government Legal Service



The Law Society
of New South Wales

Nomination Form

(Please copy and complete)

FAX (02) 9223 1496
DX 362 SYDNEY

We hereby nominate for the 2005 Excellence Award in Government Legal Service
Please print name of nominee or work group – attach particulars separately, if necessary:

who is employed at (*name of employer*): _____

whose address is: _____

DX: _____ Telephone: _____

Position held during the last 12 months – *give title or titles of positions held/or function of project team:*

Admitted as a solicitor/s on – *attach list regarding qualifications/positions of team members, practising certificate details:*

Nominator's name: _____

Position/Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please note:

- 1) attach to the nomination form in 500 words or less, why the above named has been nominated and outline the outstanding contribution that has been made to Government legal service, the community etc.
- 2) attach two (2) references or supporting documents.
- 3) for Rules and Conditions please contact Robyn Davies at the Law Society of NSW on (02) 9926 0276 or email rad@lawsocnsw.asn.au

Closing date for nomination is Friday 19 August 2005.

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