



JOHN HENNESSY RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

ADMINISTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT SOLICITORS COMMITTEE

Background

The Law Society of New South Wales Government Solicitors Committee (GSC) is proud to sponsor the John Hennessy Research Scholarship.

John Edmund Hennessy was born in 1940 and commenced work in the Crown Solicitor's Office in 1957. Admitted as a solicitor in 1965, John was appointed Assistant Crown Solicitor, Civil Law Branch, in 1980 where he worked until he was appointed as Acting Magistrate in 1996 and Magistrate in 1997. John then served on the Legal Aid Review Committee as the Attorney General's nominee for 17 years. He retired on 31 January 1999 and died on 13 February 1999.

John served the Attorney-General's Department, the profession and the administration of justice in a range of roles for over 40 years and in doing so he combined the highest professional standards as a solicitor with long and dedicated service to the public. The GSC considers it most fitting that the Research Scholarship for public sector solicitors should be awarded in his name.

Overview

The John Hennessy Research Scholarship has been established by the GSC to support public sector solicitors to undertake a research project into legal systems in another jurisdiction and to make recommendations for the improvement of the legal system in NSW.

The Scholarship is an 'occasional scholarship' that will be offered from time to time and covers travel and other approved expenses to the value of \$5,000.

It is expected that the successful applicant will complete his/her project and forward a final project report to the GSC within six months from the date of being notified of the grant of the Scholarship.

Who can apply?

All NSW based Government and local Government solicitors holding a current NSW Practising Certificate who are members of the Law Society of New South Wales.

How to apply

Applications should include a Curriculum Vitae, the names and contact details of two referees, a description of the research project (including a brief estimate on costing), to be funded in full or in part by the Scholarship. All applications must be typed and should outline:

- the relevance and potential benefit of the project to the legal system in NSW
- the potential for the project to produce improvements in the operation of the legal system in NSW
- the budget/cost feasibility and timetable for the proposal
- the candidate's experience and interest in the area which is the subject of the application
- the Project Sponsor's details
- a brief statement by the Sponsor on the research project which should confirm support.

Referees

The applicant must include the names, addresses, telephone and facsimile numbers of TWO referees as well as the name and consent of the Project Sponsor (please see overleaf).

Selection criteria

Each application will be assessed on the criteria outlined above. The decision of the GSC will be final.



JOHN HENNESSY RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

ADMINISTERED BY THE GOVERNMENT SOLICITORS COMMITTEE

Project report

The successful applicant is required to submit a final project report (of around 1000 words) to the GSC no later than six months after the grant of the Scholarship with a view to publication in the *Law Society Journal* and/or *The Government Lawyer* Newsletter.

The final report should make recommendations to improve the operations of the Sponsor government legal department and/or the legal system in NSW.

At the request of the GSC, the successful applicant may also be required to present a report at the annual Government Solicitors Conference in the year following the award of the Scholarship.

Project Sponsor

Each applicant must have a Project Sponsor within the government (including local government) legal sector in NSW. The role of the Project Sponsor is to:

- assess the usefulness of the project to the particular public sector department/s, and/or to the NSW legal system (to be attached to the application),
- provide the applicant with assistance and support where necessary, in completing the project, and
- document the assessment in a one page report which is to be attached to the final project report.

Lodgment of applications

Applications are to be lodged no later than close of business on Friday 3 August 2012.

It is anticipated that any successful applicants will be announced at the Annual Government Solicitors Dinner on 28 August 2012 at the Hilton Hotel, 488 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Please forward applications to:

Government Solicitors Committee

Law Society of New South Wales
170 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000
DX 362 Sydney

Further information

For further assistance or information please contact:

Policy & Practice Department

Law Society of New South Wales

Tel: (02) 9926 0285

Fax: (02) 9233 7146