Monday Briefs | 1 March 2010 | Issue 270
A weekly update on regulatory changes, events and information relevant to the legal profession

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NEWS

Changes due to the refurbishment of the Law Society Building

As notified in the Monday Briefs of 22 February, the Law Society has commenced a refurbishment of its premises at 170 Phillip Street Sydney necessitating the relocation or temporary closure of a number of services. The changes are effective from 1 March and include:

- The Legalink Settlement Room and Kiosk facilities will now be available at Level 3, 175 Castlereagh Street. Until further notice, the Law Society will retain a Settlement Room for general use on level 1, 170 Phillip Street, Sydney to conduct settlements, but without the current Kiosk.
- The Level 2 meeting rooms are temporarily closing, with affected Committee meetings relocating to 55 Hunter Street.

- The Law Society Restaurant on level 2 is closing until July 2010.

For details please refer to the building refurbishment project information site.

The Law Society Award for Enhancement of the Standing of the NSW Legal Profession

The Law Society in conjunction with ALB Australasian Law Awards 2010 would like to recognise a legal practice (not limited to traditional law firms) that has made a significant contribution to the enhancement of the legal profession in one or more of the following ways:

- The advancement of the course of ethics education in their own practices.
- Active participation in the development of legal policy.
- Involvement in law reform designed to improve the delivery of legal services.
- Mentoring of new admittees and younger lawyers in the profession within their practices.
- Contribution to community legal services.

To nominate a law practice, or nominate your own law practice, please email a one-page summary addressing the award criteria to Bridget Sordo before close of business 12 March 2010. For award criteria and further details phone Bridget on 9926 0344 or email bridget.sordo@lawsociety.com.au.

Free Practitioner's Guide to International Law< P> – Update

The Young Lawyers International Law Committee's publication, *The Practitioner's Guide to International Law*, kindly sponsored by The Federation Press and Allens Arthur Robinson, is now available.

For your free copy email ylgeneral@younglawyers.com.au.

Please note that the email address provided in the previous edition of Monday Briefs was incorrect.
If you haven't received a response to your initial email request, please resend your details to the email address above.

2010 Australian Government - Rio Tinto NTRB Scholarships

Applications close Friday 19 March for two scholarships offered by the Australian Government and RIO Tinto to lawyers currently working or interested in working at Native Title Representative Bodies or Native Title Service Providers. Further information.

The program commences in September 2010.

Judicial appointments/retirements

- Mr Malcolm Craig, QC, will be sworn in as a Judge of the Land and Environment Court of NSW on Tuesday 2 March.
- A formal ceremony will be held on Friday, 12 March, 9.30am in Courtroom 1, Level 21, Law Courts Building, Queen's Square, Sydney to mark the retirement of the Honourable Chief Justice Michael Black AC.

Courts update

Sydney Family Law Courts' Liaison Meetings for 2010

The Family Court of Australia and Federal Magistrates Court will be holding its regular Family Law Liaison Meetings with the legal profession in 2010. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for the Courts to brief the profession on recent developments and hear from the profession about their views on issues. All practitioners are welcome to attend.

The dates for this year's meetings are: Wednesday 24 March, 23 June, 8 September and 1 December.

All meetings commence at 5pm in Conference Room 1 on Level 8 Lionel Bowen Building, 99 Goulburn Street, Sydney. Reminders will also be sent closer to the date of each meeting.

Media

Law Society in the News

- Lawyers Weekly, 26 Feb p10,11 'Lifting her way to the top' – Mary Macken, Law Society President
- Radio 2GB (Sydney) 'Ask Your Lawyer' – regular weekly segment with President.

Other

- NSW Government to set up Relationship Register – 23 Feb
- Securing Australia, protecting our community – 23 Feb
- Legislation to combat people smuggling – 23 Feb

LEGAL & POLICY

Proclamation of commencement

- Crimes Amendment (Fraud, Identity and Forgery Offences) Act 2009 No 99: 22 February 2010.

Restatement of Medico-Legal Relations between The Law Society of NSW and The Australian Medical Association (NSW)

The Law Society is pleased to announce its continued collaboration with the Australian Medical Association (NSW) Ltd and the production of a revised Statement of Medico-Legal Relations, effective from 1 March 2010.

The revised Statement incorporates current terminology and references, and details appropriate methods of re-calculating the allowances and suggested fees for medico-legal reports, examinations and attendances. See the revised Schedule of Allowances to Witnesses and Suggested Fees.

Succession Amendment (Intestacy) Act 2009

The Succession Amendment (Intestacy) Act 2009 commences on 1 March 2010. To assist practitioners, the Law Society's Elder Law & Succession Committee has prepared a Commentary which provides an overview of the Act, a useful Glossary of Terms, an analysis of the intestacy changes and examples of entitlement.

Subpoena – Increase in processing fees

The processing fees (conduct money) for subpoenas increased as of 1 February 2010. For more information see a notice from the NSW Police Force Subpoena Unit.

Remaking of the Guardianship Regulation 2005

The Regulation is due to be remade this year and the Guardianship Tribunal is conducting a public consultation on whether any changes should be made to the Regulation and the nature of those changes.

Among the issues to be canvassed, important consideration will be given to the process of witnessing enduring guardianship appointments, eligible witnesses and safeguards, as well as to the current definitions of special, major and minor medical and dental treatments.

The discussion paper is available now from the Guardianship Tribunal. The closing date for submissions is Monday 29 March 2010. The Elder Law & Succession Committee will be making a submission to the review and welcomes input from interested practitioners. For more information please contact sherida.currie@lawsociety.com.au.

Submissions

Law Council of Australia

- 22 February 2010: ASIC Consultation Paper 128: Handling confidential information (2240)
- 22 February 2010: Members' Schemes of Arrangement (2241)

EDUCATION & EVENTS

Historic Address: South African Human Rights Lawyer George Bizos SC

The NSW Bar Association and the Law Society will host a breakfast talk by renowned South African human rights lawyer George Bizos SC on Monday 8 March 2010 from 8am to 9am in the Bar Association Common Room. Entry is free and all members are welcome. Read more.

Corporate Lawyers Seminars – Last chance to register

Hear From the ACCC Before They Come Knocking

Tuesday 2 March, 4.30 to 6.00pm
201 Sussex Street Sydney
Cost: $50
Register now

Ethics Seminar: Risking It All

Thursday 18 March, 5.30 to 7.00pm
201 Sussex Street Sydney
Cost: $50.
Register before 11 March

2010 Specialist Accreditation Information Nights

These evenings provide the opportunity for prospective applicants to ask questions about the required standard and assessments for each area of practice being offered for accreditation this year. Sessions will be held from 6.00pm on the following dates:

- Personal Injury Law: 16 March
- Local Government & Planning Law: 17 March
- Employment and Industrial Law: 23 March
- Immigration Law: 24 March

For more information, or to register online, please view the Invitation. You may also register via email to specialists@lawsociety.com.au. Please RSVP by 12 March.

If you would like to attend an Information Night for Dispute Resolution please email, Program Coordinator Sophie Friggens at sophie.friggens@lawsociety.com.au.

Enrol now for 2010 Online Training Courses

Enrolments are being accepted for the following Law Society courses:

- Online Conveyancing and Wills & Probate procedural courses. There are still some vacancies for March sessions.
- Legal Secretarial program. There are still some vacancies for the next sessions for each course commencing in May.

For further information, please send any queries to onlinetraining@lawsociety.com.au or visit the Law Society website. Places are strictly limited for all courses.

Young Lawyers CLEs

March CLE

- OH&S, Equal Employment Opportunity and Workplace Discriminaton, OH&S, Equal Employment Opportunity and Workplace Discrimination, Wednesday 3 March, $112.00
- Costs in the Land and Environment Court, Costs in the Land and Environment Court, Wednesday 10 March, $112.00
- How and Why to Argue For and Against Journalists Privilege and Australian Secrecy Laws and the Media, Wednesday 17 March, $112.00
- Overview of Trust Money and Trust Records, Tuesday 23 March, $82.00
- Unfair Dismissal Update, Unfair Dismissal Update, Wednesday 24 March, $112.00
- The Three Cs - Communication, Conflicts and Costs, The Three Cs – Communicaiton, Conflicts and Cost, Thursday 30 March, $82.00

2010 One Day Programs

- Family Law, Saturday 6 March 2010, InterContinental Hotel- $380.00
- Litigation, Saturday 13 March 2010, Hilton Hotel - $380.00
- Criminal Law, Saturday 20 March, InterContinental Hotel- $380.00
- Property Law, Saturday 27 March, AJC Royal Randwick Racecourse, $380.00

DVDs and Papers

Learn on your own time with DVDs of past Young Lawyers seminars. A full listing of DVDs is available from the Law Society online shop.

- Criminal Appeals to the District Court (2 CLE Units), $55, CR86/1125
- Planning Reforms Update – What you Need to Know (2 CLE Units), $55, EN27/1114
- Ten Commandment of Cross Examination (1 CLE Units), $44, CR/739
- Getting the Assignment Right: A Guide to Assigning Leases (1 CLE Units), $44, PRO68/1145
- Child Support Agreement: The New Order (2 CLE Units), $55, FL59/1100

For more information or to obtain a copy of the registration material please contact Christina Piazza on 9926 0270, fax 9926 0282, email christina.piazza@lawsociety.com.au or purchase online.

The College of Law CLEs

Register for all March seminars including the Autumn Intensive sessions.

- The 2010 Judges' Series – Practical Litigation in the Supreme Court and the Federal Court.
- Essential Guide to Family Law Practice and Procedure – Tuesday, 2 March 9:00am to 4:30pm
- Ethics & Professional Responsibility: The Current Context – Tuesday, 2 March 5:00pm to 7:00pm
- Drafting Effective Legal Documents – Wednesday, 3 March 9:00am to 12:30pm
- Franchising: General Principles & Recent Developments – Wednesday, 3 March 5:30pm to 7:00pm
- Property & Planning Day with Martin Place Chambers – Thursday, 4 March 9:00am to 4:15pm
- Commercial Litigation Issues – Thursday, 4 March 5:30pm to 7:00pm
- The Essential Guide to Challenging a Will – Friday, 5 March 9:00am to 4:30pm
- Drafting Skills for Property Lawyers – Monday 8 March 1.00pm to 2.00pm – Please note this seminar is available via live telephone seminar or live audio webconference only.
- Fraud, Identity and Forgery Offences Reform – Thursday, 18 March 3.30pm to 5.00pm

REMINDER

- Unrestricted Practising Certificate – Practice Management Corporate and Government Course – Friday 21, Saturday 22 and Friday 28 May 2010.

Events

Event	Date and Location
Historic Address: South African Human Rights Lawyer George Bizos SC The NSW Bar Association and the Law Society of NSW will host a breakfast talk by renowned South African human rights lawyer George Bizos SC .	Monday 8 March 2010 between 8am to 9am in the Bar Association Common Room. All members welcome. Details.
2010 Specialist Accreditation Information Nights Members from the relevant advisory committees will be on hand to answer questions about the required standard and assessments for each area of practice being offered for accreditation this year.	Personal Injury Law: 16 Mar Local Govt & Planning Law: 17 Mar Employment & Industrial Law: 23 Mar Immigration Law: 24 Mar From 6.00pm. For venues and to register online view the invitation. Alternatively, register via email to specialists@lawsociety.com.au RSVP by 12 March.

Anglo Australasian Lawyers Society Breakfast. Guest speaker Rt. Hon Lord Justice Carnwath C.V.O, Senior President of Tribunals on 'The new world of administrative tribunals in Britain'. Non-AALS members : $63 pp Enquiries: Christina Bunbury Ph 9420 8717,fax 9427 7419	7.30am for 7.45am, concluding 9.00am Monday 8 March 2010 The Union, University & Schools Club, 25 Bent Street, Sydney. Book: aalsociety@optusnet.com.au.
Anglo Australasian Lawyers Society Guest Speaker Robert Heslett, President of the Law Society of England and Wales on 'Forging new links in a global legal profession'. Enquiries: Christina Bunbury Ph 9420 8717,fax 9427 7419	7.30am for 7.45am, concluding 9.00am Thursday 11 March 2010 The Union, University & Schools Club, 25 Bent Street, Sydney. Book: aalsociety@optusnet.com.au.

REMINDERS

- Family Violence: Tightening the safety net Wednesday 17 March 2010, 4pm, Luna Park
- Commonwealth & NSW Australian Government Solicitor Administrative Law Symposium, 24-26 March 2010, Sydney Law School.
- 2010 CPD Immigration Law Conference – Russell Kennedy, 496 La Trobe St, Melbourne 26 & 27 March 2010
- Intensive Course on Mediation of Commercial Disputes 21 & 30 April
- Conference of the Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law 1-4 July 2010, University of Adelaide, North Terrace campus (South Australia).
- The Lawyers Guide to Sanity, Profitability and Wellbeing Seminars:
  Sydney City 29 March
  Port Macquarie 11 March
  Orange 18 March

Regional events and CLEs

For all current regional events, see the online CLE & Events Calendar.

NEW LISTINGS

City of Sydney

- Using Social Media to Promote Legal Practices, Wednesday 17 March 2010, 5:30pm - 6:30pm, Level 3, 115 Pitt Street Sydney
- Regulation 176 Seminar – Wednesday 24 March 2010, 5:30pm - 6:30pm Level 3, 115 Pitt Street.
- Towards the Paperless Office - Wednesday 31 March 2010, 5:30pm - 6:30pm Level 3, 115 Pitt Street.

Regional

- Southern Tablelands Law Society: Ethics seminar, Novotel Hotel, Canberra, Friday 12 March, 4.30pm - 6.00pm. .
- Newcastle Law Society MCLE Seminar: 'Costs & Equal Employment, Discrimination & Harassment', 2 - 5pm, Monday 15 March, Mulubinba Room, City Hall King Street, Newcastle.

UPDATED

- Albury & District: CLE Day 5 Mar. (Updated)

REMINDERS

- Liverpool Fairfield Law Society: Dinner meeting, 6.30 for 7pm, Wednesday 17 Mar, Mt Pritchard Community Club
- Bankstown and District Law Society: Reg 42 MCLE seminar, 2pm Wednesday 17 March, Revesby Workers Club
- Nepean Hawkesbury Law Society: Seminar, Saturday 20 Mar
- Clarence River & Coffs Harbour Law Society: Seminar, Friday 26 Mar.
- City of Sydney: Compliance & Profitability, Wednesday 3 Mar , 5.30 to 6.30pm
- City of Sydney: Identification Surveys and Subdivisions, Wednesday 10 Mar, 5.30 to 6.30pm
- Orana: Regulation issues and Property Law, 12 Mar.
- The Lawyer's Guide to Sanity, Profitability & Wellbeing, see Event listing above.

Also see Rural, Regional and Remote job opportunities.

SERVICES AND SUPPORT

Corporate Express: great savings for members

Corporate Express is Australia's leading single source supplier for all office requirements. It prides itself on fast, reliable and local service to all of its customers.

Through a strategic alliance between the Law Society and Corporate Express Australia Limited, members can benefit from a very competitive supply arrangement.

Benefits include:

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- Extensive geographic coverage
- On-time delivery
- Comprehensive range of management and expenditure reports
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More information for members only.

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- Save 0.15% pa off a Fixed Rate Home Loans for loans greater than $250,000.
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