Monday Briefs | 6 June 2011 | Issue 331
A weekly update on regulatory changes, events and information relevant to the legal profession

MONDAY BRIEFS

THE LAW SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

This week: Survey for victims of crime; Sydney Family Courts Liason meeting; final Legal Secretarial training for 2011.

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Previous issues

Message from the President, Stuart Westgarth

One of the important functions of the Law Society is to scrutinise and provide comments on proposed new legislation. Sometimes this is part of a consultation process but on other occasions there is no formal consultation and the Law Society, with the help of its expert committees, works quickly to analyse a Bill following its introduction to Parliament. This was the case in relation to the Crimes Amendment (Murder of Police Officers) Bill 2011, introduced by the NSW Government on 26 May 2011. The Bill seeks to amend the Crimes Act 1900 to provide for mandatory life sentences to be imposed on persons convicted of murdering police officers.

The Criminal Law Committee reviewed the Bill and on the afternoon of 26 May I wrote to the Government, Opposition and Cross Benches to express the Law Society's strong opposition to mandatory sentences and in particular mandatory life sentences.

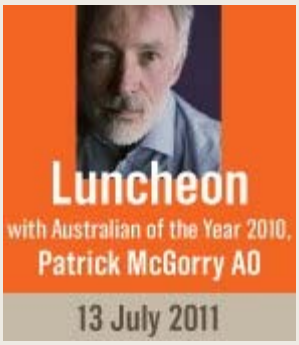
Last week the Bill was passed by the Legislative Council with the support of the Christian Democrats and the Shooters and Fishers party. The Opposition and Greens voted against the Bill, and speakers from both parties referred to the Law Society's submission. The Bill is now in the Legislative Assembly.

NEWS

> Help improve the experience of victims of crime
The University of Sydney Law School is looking for participants for a research study on Measuring Access to Justice (MA2J). This research will assess victims' experiences with the criminal justice process. If you work with victims of crime please pass on the survey link. For more information please contact Rita Shackel rita.shackel@sydney.edu.au or phone 02 9351 0368.

> Reminder: appointment to the NSW Supreme Court
The Attorney General the Hon. Greg Smith, SC MP announced the appointment of Ashley Black as a judge of the Supreme Court of NSW who will be sworn in on 4 July. Mr Black has been a partner at Mallesons Stephen Jaques for 16 years and has been involved in a range of high profile commercial litigation cases.

> Reminder: Financial Services Briefing 2011
This exclusive event on 8 June at 5.30pm is for in-house lawyers. *Financial Services Briefing - an overview of developments in law reform, tax and governance,* is hosted in



Mental Health Luncheon with Patrick McGorry
13 July
You are invited to a luncheon with Patrick McGorry, 2010 Australian of the Year about mental health and depression in

conjunction with HWL Ebsworth and places are filling quickly. Phone Lauren Hann on 02 9926 0360 to RSVP to this event Further details for this event.

> Sydney Family Law Courts Liaison meeting: 22 June 2011
The next Family Law Liaison meeting with the legal profession will take place on Wednesday 22 June at 1pm. Meeting details.

> Department of Immigration and Citizenship's NSW Client Reference Group (CRG) input
Practitioners are invited to a meeting on 15 Jun, 5.30pm, Level 18, Australia Square, to discuss issues to be raised at the next CRG meeting on 24 Jun. RSVP by COB 14 March to Sonya Scott (02) 8247 8247 or sscott@malyonlaw.com. Alternatively, if you are unable to attend but wish to have a matter raised, please email details to info@malyonlaw.com

> Invitation from the Anglo-Australian Lawyers Society (AALS)
AALS President, Mr Maurice Neil QC and the Committee invite you to attend a Breakfast Address by the Hon Greg Smith SC MP, NSW Attorney General and Minister for Justice, 10 June, the Union, University & Schools Club, 7.30am and concluding at 9am. The cost (incl GST) for AALS Members is $53, non-members & guests $65. Enquiries and RSVP to Christina Bunbury on ph (02) 9420 8717 or e-mail aalsociety@optusnet.com.au

> Final Legal Secretarial Training Program on 1 August 2011
The last Legal Secretarial Training Program for 2011 will start on 1 August 2011. This comprehensive 12 week course runs two evenings a week. Enrolments are strictly limited but there are still some places left in this intake. Information and enrolment details or call Nicole or Lek on 9926 0255.

> Reminder: Care to share?
Thank you to everyone who has donated money to Carers NSW, 2011 President's charity of choice. A reminder that if all the 23,760 solicitors in NSW donated just $2 each, together we would raise $47,520. Carers NSW is the peak organisation for carers in NSW and a very worthwhile cause. Information on how to donate.

one's professional career.
Further details.

The following Precedents suites have been updated:

> ASIC, Business Names & AIA
> Business Law
> Conveyancing – Mortgage
> Conveyancing – Purchaser
> Conveyancing – Vendor
> Deed of Charge
> Family Law
> Leese
> NSW Court Forms

Updates available from the Precedents website.

Media Updates

26 May	Mandatory life sentences opposed by The Law Society of NSW (Law Society of NSW)
27 May	Law Council welcomes Reconciliation Week (Law Council)
30 May	National Cyber Security Awareness Week and Cybersafety Summit - Helping protect Australians online (Federal Att. Gen)
30 May	2011 Emergency Management Volunteers Summit (Federal Att. Gen)
31 May	Law Society launches CLE video podcasts for the profession (Law Society of NSW)
31 May	Swearing out ceremony for Chief Justice of NSW (Law Society of NSW)
1 June	Law Society welcomes new Chief Justice of NSW (Law Society of NSW)

LEGAL & POLICY

High Court Judgments

> The Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia v BHP Billiton Limited & Ors
Income tax – Allowable deductions – Funds advanced for construction of plant and facilities

> Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Lanepoint Enterprises Pty Ltd (Receivers and Managers Appointed)
Corporations law – Winding up in insolvency – Application for winding up by Australian Securities and Investments Commission

> Jemena Gas Networks (NSW) Limited v Mine Subsidence Board
Mining – Compensation – Section 12A(1)(b) of Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961 (NSW)

Submissions - Law Council of Australia

> United Nations Convention against Corruption
> Statutory Compensation Review

Assents

> Real Property Amendment (Torrens Assurance Levy Repeal) Act 2011 No 7; Assent 25 May 2011

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NSW Young Lawyers CLE

Seminars

June
8 Mental Illness and Family Law
15 Protecting and Exploiting Intellectual Property and Product Liability Fundamentals
21 Residential Appeals under s34AA of LEC Act
22 A practical insight into Family Relationships and Children's Contact Centres
28 'Reasonable prospects of success' - what does it mean in practice
29 Succession Planning - Superannuation and Trusts

July
6 What not to wear, say, text or touch - Managing inappropriate conduct in the workplace
12 Client Communication - Wills and Estate Planning
13 Practical aspects of ethics for commercial lawyers
20 Introduction to Australian Covered Bonds
26 Litigation Strategy Series - Commercial Litigation
27 Directors Duties - the tax perspective

Law Society of NSW CLE

Now on demand

Now available in podcast for immediate download. View new seminars right now. Click for the Podcasts.

College of Law

Seminars and webconferences

June
7 The ABC of Will Drafting
8 New Reform - The Personal Property Securities Act
8 Estate Planning: Unravelling the Complexities
8 Regulation 176: Legal Profession Regulation 2005
8 Unfair contracts, Consumer Law and Property Transactions
9 Drafting Effective Pleadings

> Upcoming webconferences

Practice Management Courses
> Sole Practitioners 17- 19 June
> Small to Medium Partner Firms 22 - 24 July

EVENTS

Law Society events

CONTACT 2011
17-24 September 2011
Join other legal professionals for this stunning adventure and the chance to learn from Aboriginal Australians.
Find out more.

How to Care 2011
Thursday 30 June
Your invitation to a CLE breakfast on care related topics including Capacity Issues, Elder Law; and obligations of solicitors. Proceeds go to Carers NSW.
More information.

Regional law societies

New listings:

> Central Coast Law Society: June Dinner Meeting, 22 Jun, Terrigal
> Inner West Law Society: MCLE Dinner Seminar, Personal Property Securities Act, 22 Jun, Balmain
> Don't Be Careless – Connect with Carers Regional Luncheons, various NSW Regional Law Societies, Jun
> Hunter Valley Law Society: Free CLE Day, 29 July, The Imperial Hotel, Maitland

See the Law Society's online CLE & Events Calendar for all current regional events.

Regional, rural and remote vacancies: Solicitor, Forbes

The legal community

There are no new external events this week but please see the Law Society website for current events previously listed in Monday Briefs.

SERVICES & SUPPORT

View the latest member benefits in the Member Connexions June 2011 e-newsletter

Savings on Lenovo, Dell and more with PowerBuy

Subscribe to PowerBuy for free and take advantage of these great savings and fantastic end of financial year deals. Collect a $300 rebate on the new Lenovo X 1 Laptop (Lenovo's answer to Apple MacBook Air), save 10% on selected Dell Vostro laptops and 10% on all printer ink and toner from Harris technology. Share and back up your files at a much cheaper price than a traditional server with a 32 % saving on a NETGEAR ReadyNAS Pro 2 storage device.

View all our June offers.

^Coupon terms and conditions apply for all offers. See www.powerbuy.com.au for details. Offers end 30 June 2011.

One day free on weekends with Hertz

Law Society of NSW members are entitled to special rates and benefits from Hertz. Rent selected vehicles from participating locations for a minimum of three (3) days on the weekend and you will receive a free day*.

To make a booking, visit www.hertz.com.au or call 13 30 39. Remember to quote the Law Society of NSW CDP number 100961 and PC number 157905 to take advantage of this great offer. For more information on Hertz.

*Terms and conditions. Offer ends 30 June 2011

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THE LAW SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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