Monday Briefs | 3 October 2011 | Issue 348
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: Precedents updates; voting for Law Society Council Elections; Expressions of Interest for Law Society Committees.

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Previous issues

Law Society Council Elections - your vote your voice

All solicitors would have received notification of the current election of new Councillors to the Law Society's Council. I urge all solicitors to submit their ballots by the closing date of 24 October 2011. The quality of those elected to Council and the policies of Council are very much dependent upon an active electorate.

The 21 elected Councillors represent a cross-section of both the profession and the community, guiding the objectives and policies of the Law Society, monitoring performance and delegating authority on various matters to a network of Committees.

Please review the ballot papers and exercise your right to vote.

Stuart Westgarth, President 2011

NEWS

> New NSW Supreme Court judge announced

Barrister Christine Adamson SC has been appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of NSW. Ms Adamson became a senior counsel in 2003 and recently acted in inquiries for the Independent Commission Against Corruption. She has also appeared on behalf of the NSW Bar Association in disciplinary matters.

> Law Society Precedents updates

The following suites have been updated:

- Conveyancing – Mortgage
- Conveyancing – Purchaser
- Industrial Commission Forms
- Lease
- Personal Injury – Common Law & Motor Vehicle Accident
- Personal Injury – Workers Compensation
- Unit & Discretionary Trusts

2011 Annual Members Dinner

27 October

The President of the Law Society invites you to the 2011 Annual Members Dinner with the Hon. Greg Smith SC MP,

More information and to download the updates, alternatively contact the Precedents Administrator on 9926 0278.

> NSW Women Lawyers Achievement Award winners
We would like to congratulate all the recipients of the Women Lawyers' Association of NSW (WLA NSW) 2011 NSW Women Lawyers Achievement Awards. The Awards were supported by the Law Society of NSW, the NSW Bar Association, the Attorney General & Justice Department of NSW, the Australian Corporate Lawyers Association and the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency. Further information on the winners.

> Play a greater role in your Law Society - Expressions of Interest: 2012 Law Society Standing Committees reminder
Solicitors practising in New South Wales are invited to submit Expressions of Interest for membership of 2012 standing committees. Further information and the Expression of Interest forms. Please submit forms by 28 October 2011 by mail, fax or email (using the interactive form). For enquiries email marcelle.drinkwater@lawsociety.com.au.

> Last seminar for 2011 on Conveyancing Procedures
The Law Society is running a two day seminar, 31 Oct – 1 Nov, on NSW Residential Conveyancing Procedures for Legal Support Staff, Paralegals and Secretaries. Topics covered include Contracts (preparation through to Settlement), Titles, Stamp Duty, Mortgages and Leases. Further information or phone the Training Department on 9926 0255.

NSW Attorney General and Minister for Justice.

In this month's LSJ: Approving financial statements after Centro, cross border litigation, carbon price gouging, and technology's effect on the jury system. Look out for your copy.

> Reminder: Expressions of Interest for 2012 Specialist Accreditation Advisory Committees
The Law Society invites Expressions of Interest for the Specialist Accreditation advisory committees. Committee members assist in the governance, policy development and business strategy of the Scheme and contribute to the development of a specific area of practice. Please complete the form and submit by COB 28 October 2011. For enquiries email anita.khosla@lawsociety.com.au.

> Reminder: Voting in the Law Society Council Election
Ballot papers for the 2011 Law Society Council Election were forwarded to Solicitor Members in the last week of September. Solicitor Members are urged to vote (for up to 8 candidates). The ballot closes on Monday 24 October 2011 at 2pm.

Media Updates - September 2011

26 Macquarie wins $95m dispute with ATO (Sydney Morning Herald)
26 Forrest takes business row to High Court (The Age)
28 Rogue liquidators in regulator's sights (Sydney Morning Herald)
29 Senior counsel appointed a Supreme Court judge (NSW Attorney General)
29 Clearer picture after Supreme renovations (NSW Attorney General)

FOLLOW US

LEGAL & POLICY

High Court Judgements

> Roy Morgan Research Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Taxation [2011] HCA 35 (28 September 2011)Catchwords: charge - compulsory exaction - private and direct benefit - public purposes.
> Lithgow City Council v Jackson [2011] HCA 36 (28 September 2011)
Catchwords: evidence – admissibility – hearsay evidence – negligence – causation

Assents

> Appropriation Act 2011 No 42; Assent 20 September 2011.
> Duties Amendment (First Home - New Home) Act 2011 No 43; Assent 20 September 2011.
> Business Names (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2011 No 44; Assent 20 September 2011.
> Identification Legislation Amendment Act 2011 No 45; Assent 20 September 2011.
> Veterinary Practice Amendment (Interstate Veterinary Practitioners) Act 2011 No 46; Assent 20 September 2011.

Proclamation of commencement:

> Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal Amendment Act 2008 No 51: 23 September 2011.

Submissions: Law Society of NSW

> Amendments to the Victims Support and Rehabilitation Act 1996.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Links to:

Young Lawyers CLE

Seminars

October

05 Litigation Strategy Series: Why Going To Trial Is A Bad Bet (But If You Must, How To Improve The Odds)
11 Business Structuring for SMEs – Tax and Practical Aspects
18 Repeal of Part 3A – What's Next? An update on the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Part 3A Repeal) Act 2011
26 Trust Account Compliance – an overview of trust money and records

Location: Level 3, 170 Phillip St, Sydney. Contact 99260270 or email ylgeneral@lawsociety.com.au

Register now for the Annual One Day CLE 2011 Seminar on the Evidence Act, 29 October, Hilton Sydney.

College of Law

Seminars

October

18 Making Contracts Work for You
18 Sentencing in the Local Court - An Update
19 Drafting Effective Pleadings
20 Developments in Family Law
20 Practical Impacts of the IP Laws Amendment (Raising the Bar) Bill 2011
24 Modern Property Developments - Strata and Off the Plan Purchases

Postgraduate Applied Law Programs: October Information Sessions on programs in Family Law, Wills & Estates or Commercial Litigation.

Centre for Best Practice: Unrestricted Practising Certificate – Small to Medium Partners Course, 14, 15 and 22 October.

EVENTS

Law Society events

Rural Issues Conference 2011
28 October
The Rural Issues Conference features distinguished speakers including the Hon Associate Justice Philip Hallen, Supreme Court of NSW and Nicholas Cowdery AM QC, Former Director of Public Prosecutions and Adjunct Professor of Law.
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Regional law societies

New listing:
> City of Sydney Law Society: Chairmanship and meeting procedure, 5 Oct, 115 Pitt Street, Sydney

Reminders:
> City of Sydney Law Society: 2011 Cocktail Function, 7 Oct, Downing Centre, Sydney
> Newcastle Law Society: Risk Management in Legal Practice, 7 Oct, City Hall, Newcastle

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

The legal community

Ross Parsons Address in Taxation and Corporate Law and Book Launch, 27 Oct, University of Sydney.

Justice for All? The International Criminal Court: Ten Years in Review, 13 - 15 Feb 2012, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Also see the Law Society website for current events previously listed in Monday Briefs.

SERVICES & SUPPORT

Member Connexions October 2011 e-newsletter

Life insurance for professionals – cover up to $2.5 million

OnePath Life has developed a new and exclusive life insurance product for professionals called Professionals Life Cover Plus. It can help with expenses in the event of major illness, injury or death and provides a Life Benefit of up to $2.5 million with no medicals or blood tests required.

For more information visit OnePath Life or call 1800 658 679.

Achieve the Platinum Reserve Card status with American Express

Platinum Reserve Credit Card's benefits include a complimentary annual flight to one of 37 domestic or international destinations,* a preferential annual Card fee and more. Receive up to 1.5 points for every dollar spent with Membership rewards Ascent*, or 1.25 points for Qantas Direct. Plus, if this is your first American Express Card, you'll be welcomed with 25,000 Bonus Points.

Apply online and spend at least $500, following approval on your Card,

before 31 December 2011 to earn your reward.

*Full terms and conditions.

Discounted advertisement rate for members on Seek

Place an ad on Seek today and receive a discounted Law Society rate of only $162 (plus GST). Seek gives you access to over 4500 legal jobs in Australia.

Further details on this member offer from Seek.

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