

MONDAY BRIEFS



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

News

Legal & Policy

Professional Development

Events

Services & Support

This week: Workcover review and reform; Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act update; reminder on PC renewals.



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Committees, submissions and practising certificate reminder
An important part of the Law Society's mission is to contribute to law reform and legal policy development. Much of the Law Society's work in this area is undertaken by committees of solicitors who volunteer their time and expertise to improve our legal and justice systems. The Law Society is proud to do this work, and I take this opportunity to thank the many members who contribute.

Through this network of committees, the Law Society is engaged in a constant process of consultation with government and made over 100 legal policy [submissions](#) in 2010 - 11.

As a result we have seen implementation of our proposals to repeal the Torrens Assurance Levy, review the Bail Act 1978 and amend driver licence regulation so that demerit points are not recorded when an offence is proven but no conviction recorded. Recent submissions cover areas as diverse as planning law, "anti-bikie" legislation and the operation of the Fair Work Act. We will be vigilantly monitoring and making strategic policy representations to any proposed reforms of the Workers Compensation Scheme.

Finally just a reminder that practising certificates are due for renewal by 15 May and I encourage practitioners paying by credit card to take advantage of [online renewal](#) which is again available this year.

Justin Dowd, President 2012

NEWS

- > WorkCover review and reform
Minister for Finance and Services the Hon Greg Pearce MLC has announced that a Parliamentary Committee will oversee upcoming reform to the workers compensation system in NSW. WorkCover has released an Issues Paper outlining issues for consideration. The Issues Paper can be found at www.workcover.nsw.gov.au. The Law Society's Injury Compensation Committee is considering the Issues Paper and will advise Council accordingly.
- > Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act update
The NSW Law Reform Commission (LRC) has released for public comment its [first four question papers](#) relating to the review of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 (NSW) (the Act). These question papers outline and discuss some of the most



National Law Week
2012
14 - 20 May
Law Week has become

fundamental aspects of sentencing law and ask questions designed to encourage a critical review of the assumptions underpinning this vital area of the law.

> Intellectual Disability Rights Service

The Intellectual Disability Rights Service (IDRS) is seeking volunteer solicitors to provide legal advice to people with an intellectual disability who have been arrested outside of regular office hours. This 24 hour/7 day per week police station service is looking for volunteer solicitors for one to two nights per month to give legal advice by phone. Volunteers will also work in with trained support persons who provide face-to-face support. Solicitors who have at least 2 years' experience in practice in criminal law are encouraged to contact Alex Faraguna at Alex@idrs.org.au for further information and an application form. Interested solicitors can also visit the [IDRS website](#).

> Mock Trial Competition seeking magistrates

Volunteer magistrates are required for the Mock Trial Competition in Deakin, Coonabarabran, Bathurst, Mudgee, Forbes and Cootamundra. This is a great way to become involved with your community while helping high school students learn more about the legal system. For more information, or to register your interest, email Tania Dalton at Tania.Dalton@lawsociety.com.au.

> Reminder: 2012/13 Practising Certificate Renewals

Forms for renewal of practising certificates for 2012/13 are currently in the process of being mailed to the profession and the return date is 15 May 2012.

Practitioners paying by credit card may lodge online by going to www.lawsociety.com.au/pcrenewals. Practitioners will need to login to access their personalised form. If you do not remember your username and/or password, please fill in your email address on the login page and it will be immediately emailed to you. If you have never logged in before, please complete the 'Don't have a login' section of the login page and login details will be immediately emailed to you.

> Promoting your firm

We encourage small practices to use their Law Society membership as a marketing tool. As the largest and most influential membership association for solicitors in Australia, our brand is well known and trusted in the general community. [Login to read more and download the logo](#).

> Young NSW Property Lawyer of the Year Award - call for nominations

Nominations are now open for the [NSW Young Property Lawyer of the Year Award](#). Please forward your nominations by close of business 18 June 2012 to email gdn@cbp.com.au.

> The Family Provision and Cost Symposium 2012 CPD Seminar is open for registrations

[This seminar](#) will be held on 8 May and promises to be an interesting evening of discussion and observations about trends and developments over the last five years. Special guests include The Hon. Justice Brereton, The Hon. Associate Justice Hallen, Lindsay Ellison SC, Law Society of NSW Past President Gordon Salier AM, Raoul Wilson Barrister and Anthea Kennedy of Teece Hodgson & Ward Solicitors.

> 2012 Children's Law Awards

The National Children's and Youth Law Centre (NCYLC) have announced that the [2012 Children's Law Awards](#) are now open for nominations until 8 June 2012. The Awards are supported by the Federal

an important event in the legal calendar. It seeks to connect with and educate the community about law and justice.

Three expos will be held in the Sydney area in addition to activities and events across NSW.

[Further information on Law Week](#).



Fitting the Forum to the Fuss - ADR:

More than Mediation?

Examining the ADR Toolkit
12 June

A panel of distinguished speakers will examine the full range of alternative dispute resolution techniques.

[More information on this ADR seminar](#).

Attorney-General's Department and will be presented in August at King & Wood Mallesons' office in Melbourne.

> Legal Support Training update

Online Wills & Probate courses: This covers the administrative procedures involved with making a will, creating power of attorneys, applying for probate and administering an estate matter. The course for legal support staff starts on **7 May** and the course for solicitors starts **2 July**.

Family Law Procedures Day course: This practical course for legal support staff and solicitors new to the area of family law, focuses on the administrative procedures involved when dealing with Family Law matters including Divorce, Parenting Orders and other disputes. **Register for this course on 16 May**.

Media Updates

April 2011

13 New President for the Children's Court of NSW (NSW Attorney General)

16 Review of NBN compliance with FOI (Federal Attorney-General)

21 Australia's Human Rights Framework is making our nation greater (Federal Attorney-General)

LEGAL & POLICY

Submissions - Law Society of NSW

> Statutory review of the Crimes (Appeal and Review) Amendment (DNA Review Panel) Act 2006

> Statutory Review of the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Law Society CPD

Seminars sponsored by legalsuper

May

8 Family Provision and Costs Symposium 2012: Issues revisited – advanced session

Young Lawyers Seminars

May

01 Successful negotiation strategies for commercial disputes – fundamentals

09 Retention of titles clauses and terms of trade: where do they stand under the PPSA - fundamentals

09 Estate Fundamentals & Vulnerable Beneficiaries - intermediate

10 The Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments and Awards: Procedure, Practice and Strategy - fundamentals

15 New WHS laws and responsibilities for property owners, investors and managers - fundamentals

24 The ABC of Costing - fundamentals

24 Dealing with the PPSA: Beyond the basics - intermediate

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

College of Law

Seminars

May

04 Effective Advocacy in Family Law

Links to:



Specialist Accreditation Conference 2012: Business & Property and Personal Injury, 1 - 2 June (early bird offer expires today, 30 April).



Interactive Online Seminars - full listing

Centre for Best Practice: Obtain your Unrestricted Practising Certificate

Small to medium partner firms: 18, 19 and 25 May

EVENTS

Law Society events



Corporate Law Conference
21 August
Join the panel of distinguished speakers who will discuss regulation of the financial services sector after Dodd-Frank and the sovereign debt crisis. [More information on this Corporate Law conference.](#)



Golden Gavel 2012
18 May, 7.30am
The 2012 Golden Gavel competition is hosted by NSW Young Lawyers. This breakfast is one of the most entertaining events in the legal calendar. [Purchase your tickets.](#)

Regional law societies

New listings:

- > Newcastle Law Society: Practice Management Seminar, 4 May, 2pm, City Hall
- > City of Sydney Law Society: Building Industry Security of Payment Act, 2 May, 5:30pm

Reminders:

- > Inner West Law Society: AGM Dinner, 2 May, 6:30pm, Balmain
- > Macarthur Law Society: Dinner with the Hon. Michael Kirby, 4 May, 6:30pm, Harrington Grove Country Club
- > Southern Tablelands Law Society: Property & Estates Issues, 4 May, 10:00am, Mittagong
- > Far West Law Society: Local Court Advocacy Day, 12 May, 9:30am, Palace Hotel, Broken Hill
- > City of Sydney Law Society: 2012 Law Week Breakfast with the Hon. Robert Bruce McClelland, 16 May, 7:15am, Swissotel, Sydney

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

The legal community

Secrecy: The Key to Independence - the story of East Timorese Women's experiences,
Women Lawyers Association of NSW and Women's Legal Services NSW, 9 May, 5.30pm.

Why are SMSFs growing so fast? Are they for you? 14 May, Commercial Law Association in conjunction with RI Advice and OnePath, Sydney.

The Janet Coombs Lunch for New Female Barristers, 18 May, 1.00pm, Women Barristers Forum and Women Lawyers Association of NSW.

Should the principles of good faith be enshrined in Australian legislation? Q&A debate, 23 May, Commercial Law Association, Sydney.

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

SERVICES & SUPPORT



Enjoy the Platinum Edge with American Express

The Law Society of NSW American Express **Platinum Edge Credit Card** makes your membership even more rewarding with up to \$797 worth of special savings and benefits.

Plus, if this is your first-ever American Express Card, you'll be welcomed with a \$250 David Jones Gift Card*. Simply **apply online**, be approved and spend at least \$500 on your Card within the first two months of your Card being approved to earn your reward*.

***Terms and conditions**. Offer ends 31st December 2012



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* Terms and conditions apply



Income replacement insurance from OnePath

OnePath Life's **ProSecure Income Replacement Plan** can provide up to 75% of your monthly earnings (to a maximum of \$20,000 per month)¹ for up to two years². To find out more, visit the **OnePath website** or call 1800 658 679.

ProSecure Income Replacement Plan is issued by OnePath Life Limited (ABN 33 009 657 176, AFSL 238341). You should consider the Product Disclosure Statement, available online at [insert address] or by calling [insert number], in deciding whether to acquire or continue holding this product.

1. The monthly amount payable for the Total Disability Benefit is the lesser of (1) the monthly benefit that you choose to insure (to a maximum of \$20,000) and (2) 75% of the first \$20,000 per month of your pre-claim earnings plus 50% of the next \$10,000 per month of your 'pre-claim earnings' less 'other payments'. Please refer to the Glossary in the PDS for further information on 'pre-claim earnings' and 'other payments'. It is in your interest to not insure more than the maximum you can be paid. The monthly amount payable excludes business expenses.

2. The maximum cumulative benefit period for any mental illness condition or for any condition arising from or contributed to by a mental illness which gives rise to the disability (as determined by a registered and qualified psychiatrist who is a medical practitioner) is 12 months.

Law Society Counselling Services for solicitors

The Law Society promotes access to confidential, free counselling services:

> The Lawyers Assistance Program (LAP) is available to any solicitor experiencing practice or personal issues. Call 1800 777 662 or visit www.lap.com.au.

> The Members Assistance Program (MAP) is a service for Law Society



members and their families. Call 1300 360 364 or visit
www.davcorp.com.au

Quick links

Young Lawyers

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Precedents

Member Connexions

The Law Society of New South Wales
170 Phillip Street Sydney New South Wales 2000
Contact us : lawsociety@lawsociety.com.au
Visit Website : <http://www.lawsociety.com.au/>



Disclaimer: This email is sent as a service to members by the President of the Law Society of New South Wales (ACN 000 000 699) of 170 Phillip Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Phone 9926 0333. Fax 9231 5809. Email monday.briefs@lawsociety.com.au.

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