

# CHANGES TO PRACTISING CERTIFICATE AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Law Society of NSW is acutely aware of the critical impact COVID-19 is having on our members' livelihoods and wellbeing at this time.

As the COVID-19 situation has developed, the Law Society has been working to consider and implement measures to support members and keep the lines of communication open during these challenging times.

We believe we have a responsibility to respond to the developing crisis in a timely way for the benefit of our members, their staff, and their families – and, ultimately, the communities they serve.

The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally disrupted our social and economic order. We now find ourselves at a moment in time when a \$410 Law Society membership fee seems like a lot of money.

**This is why the Law Society is reducing membership fees for practising solicitors to \$10 per practitioner (plus GST) for the 2020/21 practising year. This practical one-off measure will allow you to direct this \$400 saving to areas of more pressing need during the COVID-19 crisis.**

It will also ensure you can remain part of a strong and vibrant legal community in the weeks and months ahead.

In a world where social distancing has become the new normal, staying connected and maintaining a sense of community for our legal profession has never been more crucial. This is one of the major and practical benefits of membership.

As I have stated many times in recent days, our priority is to support our members, now and in the future. There has never been a greater need, in recent memory, for a strong, united and independent legal profession.

If we continue to work as a unified profession, we will get through this.

**Richard Harvey, Law Society President**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PRACTITIONERS

### **Date change for Practising Certificate (PC) and membership renewals**

Please note that, given the challenges of COVID-19, the Law Society has deferred the launch date for practising certificate (PC) and membership renewals until 7 April

2020 (moved from 1 April). This is to ensure any necessary revisions to the online application process can be implemented and properly tested before renewals go live.

### **Critical step before renewing your PC**

It would greatly assist the successful delivery of this year's PC renewals process for all legal practitioners to ensure they have registered for a LawID before 7 April 2020. Activating your LawID does not take long: click the [activation link](#), submit your details, and check your inbox for instructions to complete the process. Support is available at (02) 9926 0185 or [support@lawid.com.au](mailto:support@lawid.com.au).

### **Law Society services**

While our Phillip Street premises are closed during this time, we have alternative arrangements in place, with a particular focus on the PC and membership renewals process. We are doing our best to provide seamless service under difficult circumstances, so please bear with us, particularly when we experience a high volume of applications. Our staff are working remotely and are available Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm, on (02) 9926 0156 or [registry@lawsociety.com.au](mailto:registry@lawsociety.com.au).

### **Further assistance and information**

The Law Society has launched a Daily Update newsletter (except Mondays) to keep you up to date with all relevant information affecting legal practice and the justice system during the COVID-19 epidemic. [Sign up to receive it here](#) if you are not already receiving it.

To read more about Law Society membership, visit our [website](#). For all other enquiries relating to PC renewals please see the contact details above.

## **CONTACT US**

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### **Law Society Registry**

Call: [\(02\) 9926 0156](tel:(02)99260156)

Email: [registry@lawsociety.com.au](mailto:registry@lawsociety.com.au)

Visit: [www.lawsociety.com.au](http://www.lawsociety.com.au)

#### **The Law Society of New South Wales**

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