



## New Appointment

LAWASIA, the professional association of representatives of Bar Councils, individual lawyers and legal associations from the Asia Pacific region, has appointed a new Secretary General.

Management, marketing and communications specialist, Roslyn West, will take up the position on 1 February 1996 when the Secretariat of LAWASIA relocates to Darwin.

Ms West Holds an MBA and is currently the Director of Marketing and Communications, Territory Health Services, Northern Territory Government.

She was previously a Ministerial Adviser to two consecutive Ministers in the NT Government and a Development Officer for a national non-government organisation based in Melbourne.

She is an Executive member of the

Marketing Institute of Austral-Asia and an Associate Fellow of the Marketing Institute of Austral-Asia and an Associate Fellow of the Marketing Institute of Australia.

LAWASIA President, Donald Yap said, "Ms West's skills will take LAWASIA through the next developmental stage, building on the excellent consolidation work achieved in the past twelve months"

In outlining future directions for the Association, Ms West said, "communication with and providing a range of quality services to members is a clear imperative.

The development and implementation of marketing initiatives is also a priority".

## Further Practice Directions

The following direction is issued pursuant to section 20AB of the Domestic Violence Act and will apply from 1 January 1996.

### Background

The following guidelines have been developed to govern access to Domestic Violence files by parties and members of the public. The guidelines deny access by parties to the correspondence section of a Court file. However, in some cases it may be appropriate for a party to view correspondence from another party to the Court. Practitioners seeking to view correspondence should make a request to the Judicial Registrar/Registrar.

### Access by party

- a) A party may view and take a copy of:
- the court file cover
  - applications
  - orders
  - affidavits of service or declarations of service.
- b) A party may view but NOT take a copy of:
- exhibits, without an order of the Court.
- c) A party may view but NOT take a copy of:
- transcript
  - Pursuant to section 13 of the *Records of Dispositions Act*, a party may apply in writing for a copy of the transcript and, upon payment of the prescribed fees, a copy will be provided.
- d) A party may NOT have access to:
- correspondence
  - file notes (written by staff or magistrate)
  - subpoenaed documents or other documents not yet in evidence, without an order of the Court
  - affidavits not yet in evidence or relied upon, without an order of the Court.

### Access by non-party

A non-party may NOT view nor take a copy of any documents on the Court file, without an order of the Court.

### Procedures

Documents and files cannot be removed from the Registry.

Access to a document or file may be subject to a search fee.

Copying costs are to be borne by the person copying the documents.



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