

*Family Court of Australia*  
**Provisions of  
 Information as to  
 Previous Orders**

A letter from the Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia addressing his concerns in regards to the provision of information as to Previous Orders has been sent to the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia.

Difficulties have arisen because of practitioners' failure to provide information as to previous proceedings, including domestic violence intervention orders, when instituting interlocutory proceedings.

His Honour points out that "Order 12 Rule 3(b) of the Rules, in relation to ex-parte applications, requires *'particulars of any orders currently in force between the parties, specifying the courts in which such orders were made'*, this would obviously include domestic violence from Magistrates' Courts.

"It seems that the requirements of this Rule are often ignored by applicants."

The Court is obviously concerned that it may unwittingly place a party at risk if it is unaware of such previous proceedings.



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# Juries: your duty



Persons whose names appear on the electoral roll are eligible for jury service, although each jurisdiction provides exceptions to the rule. A jury of 12 is available to all persons on indictment or presentment for trial, although in some states certain specified indictable offences may be tried summarily if the accused, and the Crown, consent. A jury must make a decision on the basis of evidence presented during the course of a trial. A jury may convict if it is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt of the guilt of the accused. In some jurisdictions a majority verdict of 10/12 may convict, although unanimity is generally required. Civil juries are no longer widely used in Australia, except in personal injury cases.

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 Deputy President  
 Administrative Appeals  
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## GC O'Donnell Copyright Essay Prize

The trustees of the GC O'Donnell Biennial Prize Trust have announced a competition for the 1995 GC O'Donnell prize. This competition is in honour of Gus O'Donnell — author and founder of the Australian Copyright Council and one of the fathers of copyright in Australia.

The prize of \$3000 will be awarded to the author of an essay displaying original thinking on a topic of the author's choice regarding copyright and the protection of the interests of authors.

This competition is open to any interested persons including authors, lawyers and students.

Entries should be received by the GC O'Donnell Prize Trust, c/- Professor DC Pearce, Law Faculty, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200 by the closing date of August 1 1995.

For further information contact the Australian National University on (06) 249 3398.