

# Law and Disorder

## Stateside



**Lawyer:** "Was that the same nose you broke as a child?"

**Witness:** "I only have one, you know."

### Accused, Defending His Own Case:

"Did you get a good look at my face when I took your purse?" The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to ten years in jail.

**Lawyer:** "What is your date of birth?"

**Witness:** "July 15th."

**Lawyer:** "What year?"

**Witness:** "Every year."

**Lawyer:** "Can you tell us what was stolen from your house?"

**Witness:** "There was a rifle that belonged to my father that was stolen from the hall closet."

**Lawyer:** "Can you identify the rifle?"

**Witness:** "Yes. There was something written on the side of it."

**Lawyer:** "And what did the writing say?"

**Witness:** "'Winchester!'"

**Lawyer:** "Can you describe what the person who attacked you looked like?"

**Witness:** "No. He was wearing a mask."

**Lawyer:** "What was he wearing under the mask?"

**Witness:** "Er...his face."

**Lawyer:** "How old is your son, the one living with you?"

**Witness:** "Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which."

**Lawyer:** "How long has he lived with you?"

**Witness:** "Forty-five years."

**Lawyer:** "Sir, what is your IQ?"

**Witness:** "Well, I can see pretty well, I think."

**Lawyer:** "Did you blow your horn or anything?"

**Witness:** "After the accident?"

**Lawyer:** "Before the accident."

**Witness:** "Sure, I played for ten years. I even went to school for it."

**Lawyer:** "Trooper, when you

stopped the defendant, were your red and blue lights flashing?"

**Witness:** "Yes."

**Lawyer:** "Did the defendant say anything when she got out of her car?"

**Witness:** "Yes, sir."

**Lawyer:** "What did she say?"

**Witness:** "'What disco am I at?'"

**Lawyer:** "How far apart were the vehicles at the time of the collision?" ↓



**Victoria Legal Aid**  
Lawyers And  
Legal Services

### Public Defenders and Senior Public Defenders Criminal Law

#### Expressions of interest

#### Do you want to work as a defence advocate in an exciting and dynamic environment?

Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) is seeking expressions of interest from advocates to join its developing Public Defenders Unit. There are immediate opportunities, as well as opportunities likely to arise, and VLA would like to establish contact with interested practitioners at both Public Defender and Senior Public Defender level.

VLA has a broad mix of exciting work to offer you in criminal law advocacy. Depending on your experience, you will be appearing in the Magistrates, County and Supreme Courts and the Court of Appeal. You will be a leader and mentor to VLA lawyers practising in criminal law. You will have a strategic role in policy development and law reform. VLA will offer you opportunities for advocacy training and career development.

#### Salary:

Public Defenders – VLA5 \$84,628 - \$107,710 p.a.

Senior Public Defenders – VLA6 \$107,711 - \$123,900 p.a.

VLA offers attractive salary packaging and conditions. Salary negotiable for fixed term contracts. Visit our website [www.legalaid.vic.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au) to see the Position Description and Key Selection Criteria and details of how to apply.

If you would like to discuss these opportunities please call Helen Spowart (Co-ordinating Senior Public Defender) on (03) 9269 0213 or Saul Holt (Director of Criminal Law Service) on (03) 9269 0129.

