

# THE NEW SOUTH WALES BAR ASSOCIATION BAR COUNCIL

# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

# Thursday 12 October 2017 in the Boardroom of the New South Wales Bar Association at 4.30 pm

**PRESENT:** Moses SC; Loukas SC; Game SC; Bell SC; Callan; Weinstein SC;

Nomchong SC; McHugh SC; Shead SC; Walker; Welsh; Khandhar; Mitchelmore; Izzo; Higgins; Gleeson; Antipas; Roy; Hutchinson

**APOLOGIES**: Terracini SC, Katekar, Deputy Executive Director;

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Executive Director; Director, Professional Conduct (for professional

conduct matters)

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of 21 September 2107 were confirmed.

## FOR CONSIDERATION

Memorandum to Bar Council dated 26 September 2017 from the Executive Director – Review of Bar Exams

Bar Council accepted the recommendations of the Committee and referred the report to the Education Committee and Examination Working Party for consideration and implementation. Weinstein SC as Chair of the Examination Working Party thanked Bar Council for the report. The Senior Vice-President and Chair of the Bar Examination Review Working Party thanked the members of the Working Party for their work, mentioning in particular the work of Julia Roy, Greg Antipas and the Executive Director.

Letter to the Executive Director dated 28 September 2017 from the Australian Human Rights Commission – Invitation to sponsor the 2017 Human Rights Awards

It was agreed to hold this matter over until such time as the Executive is able to provide a recommendation taking into account the current spend on sponsorship in the financial year and the budget for sponsorship.

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 29 September 2017 from the Director, Professional Development – Bar Practice Course 2/17 – Satisfactory Completion

**Noted** 

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 4 October 2017 from the Director, Professional Development – Bar Council Elections – Polling Officers

**Noted** 

Letter to the President dated 11 October 2017 from the President of the Court of Appeal – New Practice Note No. SC CA 1

<u>Noted</u>: The President asked for any feedback to be provided to the Executive Director by Wednesday 18 October 2017. The President will write to the President of the Court of Appeal on 20 October 2017.

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 12 October 2017 from the Certification Officer – Non renewal of membership of the Association

RESOLVED: Pursuant to clauses 6.2.2 and 7.2.1(b) of the Constitution of the New South Wales Bar Association, to terminate the membership of the individuals named in the memorandum of 12 October 2017

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 5 October 2017 from the Professional Development/Education Department – Bar Practice Course September 2017

<u>Noted</u>

Memorandum to the Bar Council dated 11 October 2017 from the Education Committee – Extension of Currency of Exam Passes

RESOLVED: to accept the recommendations contained at paragraphs 7 and 11 of the memorandum.

Nomination of Noel Hutley SC as President of the Australian Bar Association

RESOLVED: To nominate Noel Hutley SC as President of the Australian Bar Association.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

## **CTP Reform**

Welsh spoke to a memorandum and draft letter from the Common Law Committee updating the Council on the process of CTP reform.

<u>RESOLVED</u>: to send the draft letter to the Premier with the final version to be settled by the President and Welsh.

# **Legal Aid Funding**

The President updated Council on the poor response the Bar Association has received as regards its request for increases in Legal Aid Funding. He has requested a meeting with the CEO of Legal Aid, Tim Game SC, Dean Jordan SC and the Chief of Staff to the Attorney-General.

# Appointment of Magistrates

The President noted that the Bar Association has been approached by the Attorney General to nominate a member to sit on an appointments committee for a magistrate recruitment round. The President will sit on the committee.

#### FOR INFORMATION

Letter to the President of the Australian Bar Association dated 19 September 2017 from the Legal Services Council – Rule 101(n) of the Legal Profession Uniform Conduct (Barristers) Rules 2015 – Application to Tribunal Members

#### Noted

Memorandum to all members dated 29 September 2017 from the President – Senior Counsel appointments 2017

## Noted

Letter to the Chairman of Trustees, Public Purpose Fund dated 5 October 2017 from the Deputy Executive Director – Bar Association's Legal Assistance Referral Scheme, Report on Scheme Activities 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2017

# Noted

# **Legal Aid Committee Report**

## Noted

<u>Noted</u>
ADR Committee Report
<u>Noted</u>
Costs and Fees Committee Report
<u>Noted</u>
Human Rights Committee Report
<u>Noted</u>
Legal Services Commissioner media release issued 10 October 2017 – LSC welcomes new
<u>Noted</u>
The Bar Council congratulated Ruth Higgins SC on her appointment as Senior Council on 29 September 2017
The meeting closed at 6.10 pm.
Confirmed as a correct record:
Arthur Moses SC President
Date:

Practice Development Committee Report