

Criminal Code Amendment Acts

NT Attorney-General's Department announces that the Criminal Code Amendment Bill (No 6) and the Criminal Code Amendment Bill (No 5), each of which were passed during the February 1996 sittings of the Legislative Assembly were assented to by the Administrator on 10 April 1996 and are now known as the *Criminal Code Amendment Act* (No 2) 1996 - No. 11 of 1996 and the *Criminal Code Amendment Act* (No 3) 1996 - No. 12 of 1996 respectively.

Notice of Commencement appeared in Gazette G20 15 May 1996 and each Act commenced on 20 May 1996.

Insurance Ethics

Insurance Brokers Dispute Facility has supplied the Law Society with copies of its publications *General Insurance Brokers' Code of Ethics* (large & small booklets), *Insurance Brokers' Dispute Facility Terms of Reference* and *Do you Have a Problem with Your Insurance Broker?*

Further copies may be ordered from:
Consumer Relations Manager
IBDF

Level 2 North, 60 Jolimont St
JOLIMONT VIC 3002
or by fax 03 9654 7038

Commonwealth DPP Library – Change of Address

The Commonwealth DPP Library advises of their new address:

GPO Box 3140
Canberra City ACT 2601

or

Quadrant Building
41 Marcus Clarke St
Canberra City ACT 2601

Tel: 06 2065683

Fax: 2065685

Take note: Eurotext Scam

Ian Dunn, Executive Director of the Law Institute of Victoria warns of a scam being perpetrated by a company known as Eurotext International who claim to run an international business register.

Firms in Darwin have been approached from England and the local "representative" has been calling on local practitioners over the past few weeks. The matter has been reported to the police who are making enquiries into the scheme.

The company has been calling solicitors throughout the country with the stated aim of recruiting firms to whom work relating to relocating of businesses to Australia from overseas would be referred. They ask for an up-front fee of \$4,700 and at a meeting, press the targeted firms for an immediate decision and payment, citing a need to advise other competing firms of the outcome.

According to advice from the LIV, the Melbourne Fraud Squad is satisfied that it is a scam and have suggested that the LIV warn interstate Law Societies. Engineers, architects and accountants have also been approached by Eurotext International.

Change of Scene for CLRC

The Copyright Law Review Committee announces that, as part of the review of the Committee, the Attorney-General has decided to relocate the Secretariat from Sydney to Canberra.

As from 6 May, their new address will be:

Attorney-General's Dept
Robert Garran Offices
BARTON ACT 2600
TEL: 06 250 6313

Please address all correspondence to The Director, Mr Peter Tryde at the above address. WWW Home Page remains at: <http://www.agps.gov.au> and e-mail address remains at: clrc.secretariat@ag.ausgovag.telememo.au

Claims against QBE

The General Counsel of QBE Insurance Group requests that the following be brought to the attention of members:-

"In order to increase efficiency in claims handling within QBE, especially dealing with service of originating process and subpoenas, QBE Insurance requests all documents include any details known to the member which may identify the matter to QBE.

Examples are policy type, policy number, date of loss, full name and address of insured, QBE office which issued the policy, QBE office last involved with the claim and name and position of QBE officers and name and address of QBE agent, loss adjuster or external lawyer.

This is because claims are handled locally by claims managers with assistance as required from external lawyers.

Documents may be served on Duncan Ramsay, General Counsel, QBE Insurance Group Ltd, Level 2, 82 Pitt St, NSW 2001, DX 10171, Sydney Stock Exchange, telephone 02 375 4422, fax 02 235 3166.

All documents once served will be sent to the relevant claims manager.

For claims involving the former Australian Eagle Insurance Co Ltd (now QBE Group (Investments) Ltd), the proper defendant is QBE Insurance Ltd since it assumed Australian Eagle's insurance liabilities effective 30 June 1993.

The operating insurance companies in the QBE group in Australia are:

- QBE Insurance Ltd ACN 000 157 899
- QBE Workers Compensation (NSW) Ltd ACN 003 195 604
- QBE Workers Compensation (VIC) Ltd ACN 005 020 413
- Western Underwriters insurance Ltd ACN 009 079 850

The registered office of each of these companies is Level 2, 82 Pitt St, NSW 2001."

PI Insurance – Claim Forms

The Law Society advises all practitioners that it now holds a supply of the new Professional Indemnity Insurance claim forms from Sedgwick. These may be obtained from the Society on request.

