

# Pro Bono Clearing House (PBCH)

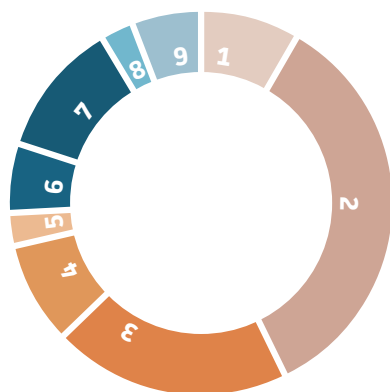
## Marian Wilson

Senior Policy Lawyer, Pro Bono Coordinator  
Law Society Northern Territory

The PBCH has seen a busy 2015/16 year and would like to acknowledge the work of the previous coordinator, Lily North, who left the Law Society Northern Territory in early 2016.

During 2015/16 the PBCH received a total of 38 enquiries, up from 27 last year (an increase of 40.7%).

Applications received for pro bono assistance totalled 35, up from 14 last year (an increase of 150%). Unfortunately, the PBCH was unable to find assistance for 5 eligible applicants.



### Pro bono 2015/16 applications by areas of law:

1 Civil, 2 Admin law, 3 Criminal, 4 Employment, 5 Family, 6 Immigration, 7 Native title, 8 Wills probate & admin, 9 Other

An increased number of applications received were from both the Darwin and Alice Springs Correctional Centres. However, a majority of the applications were for civil law matters.

The PBCH would like to recognise the individual practitioners who have assisted with eligible pro bono applications and furthermore, would like to thank the dedicated practitioners on the panel that continue to assist with assessing applications.

The PBCH gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for their contribution throughout the 2015/16 year:

- Paul Maher (Paul Maher Solicitors)
- Tamzin Lee (William Forster Chambers)
- Hai-Van (Clayton Utz)
- David Alderman (William Foster Chambers)
- Miles Crawley (William Foster Chambers)
- Rene Laan (Libertas Legal)
- Ron Lawford (Ron Lawford Solicitors)
- Lyma Nugent (William Foster Chambers)
- Jeff Collins (Ward Keller)

Pleasingly, 12% of the Northern Territory legal profession who can participate in the scheme are volunteers of the PBCH—a 2% increase on last year.\* It is hoped that these numbers will continue to grow in the coming year.

The PBCH will be working hard to continue to build the register of volunteers to ensure the needs of the community are met. If you are interested in pro bono work, please email Marian Wilson [probono@lawsocietynt.asn.au](mailto:probono@lawsocietynt.asn.au) to register your interest.

\* 10% excludes government practitioners as they do not hold indemnity insurance and are unable to volunteer under this program.