



Media release

11-17 May 2009
'The Law and Your Community'

Legal services reach out to NSW communities during Law Week 2009

Wednesday 6 May

The community will have a chance to access free legal information next week as the state's key bodies join to bring services directly to the public for National Law Week 2009.

A number of events, seminars and workshops will be held across NSW offering free legal information in line with this year's theme "The Law and Your Community".

The President of the Law Society of NSW, Joe Catanzariti today said Law Week is crucial in promoting public understanding of the law and how to access legal services and advice.

"Most people find the law and obtaining legal information quite intimidating. The aim of this year's Law Week is to educate the public about the law and highlight services that are available," Mr Catanzariti said.

"Law Week is an excellent opportunity to find answers to a range of legal issues whether it be making a will, accessing pro bono legal advice or asking about your financial rights and responsibilities. For young people it's a chance to learn about the justice system."

A range of Law Week events will be held throughout the Sydney CBD, metropolitan and regional NSW that will aim to cover topics including:

- family law
- legal issues for older people such as wills & Power of Attorney retirement villages and the law
- neighbourhood disputes
- property issues concerning strata, tenancy, local government and planning law, buying and selling a home
- financial rights and responsibilities, mortgage debt and stress;

- domestic and family violence and
- immigration law.

Open Days will be held at various local courts across NSW together with mock-trial exercises and debates for school students. A Law Week Roadshow, co-ordinated by the Legal Aid Commission of NSW in partnership with other legal services, will also travel from Dubbo to Nyngan offering free information and workshops.

On Friday 15 May senior members of the legal profession will be joined by their colleagues in a Walk for Justice around the Sydney Harbour foreshore to raise awareness and promote the importance of pro bono work.

“Law Week caters for everyone in the community. I encourage as many members of the public to get involved and take advantage of the services and events being held across NSW,” Mr Catanzariti said.

For a full list of law week events held in your area, please visit www.lawweek.com.au

Law Week is sponsored by the NSW Motor Accidents Authority and led by the Law Society of New South Wales, in partnership with the Attorney General’s Department of NSW, the New South Wales Bar Association, the Legal Aid Commission of NSW, the New South Wales Police Force, the New South Wales Department of Education and Training, the Motor Accidents Authority and the Legal Information Access Centre. Law Week will run from May 11-17 2009.

Note: A full list of Law Week events is attached.



Law Week is sponsored by:
www.Arrivealive.com.au