

CLE SPECTACULAR



DibbsBarker invites you to participate in our CLE Spectacular. These sessions are designed to help lawyers satisfy the NSW Law Society's MCLE requirements and are deliberately scheduled as a half-day package in February to avoid the March mayhem. These sessions are offered at no cost.

DATE: 23 February 2012
TIME: 8.30am - 12.30pm
VENUE: DibbsBarker
Level 8 Angel Place
123 Pitt Street, Sydney
RSVP: 15 February 2012
syd.events@dibbsbarker.com

AGENDA:
8.30am Registration
9.00am Ethics
10.00am Professional Skills
11.00am Morning tea
11.15am Practice Management and Business Skills
12.15pm Light luncheon

ETHICS | SOLICITORS' RULES FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

ANGUS MACINNIS, SENIOR ASSOCIATE

When did you last look at the Revised Professional Conduct and Practice Rules 1995? (Indeed, did you know that the Solicitors' Rules had such a long title?) For some lawyers, the answer might be "when I was considering my own ethical obligations", for others, to answer the question, "surely my opponent can't behave like that?" For other lawyers, the answer might be, "good question, but it was a long time ago".

If it has been a while since you revisited the Solicitors' Rules, this session will bring you back up to speed. The session will highlight those Rules which are of most relevance to in-house counsel, with a particular focus on recent decisions in which failure to comply with the Solicitors' Rules (and their equivalents in other jurisdictions) have led to disciplinary action.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS | SETTLING UP - THE ART AND SCIENCE OF EFFECTIVELY RESOLVING DISPUTES

MARK ADDISON, PARTNER

It's rare that lyrics from 'The Sound of Music' can be fashioned into CLE topics, but "Let's start at the very beginning; it's a very good place to start," is as true of dispute resolution as it is of music. In-house counsel will often be there at the beginning of a dispute, which provides an opportunity to identify, and resolve, a potential dispute before the need to engage external lawyers arises.

This session will deal with the practical skills necessary to identify and resolve disputes (and just as importantly to put you in the best position if the dispute can't be resolved). It will include the use of various dispute resolution topics, the process of resolution (including the correct, and incorrect, use of without privilege communications), and ensure that once you have a resolution, that resolution will be both legally and commercially enforceable.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS SKILLS | RISK MANAGEMENT - THE 3 AREAS THAT KEEP IN-HOUSE COUNSEL AWAKE AT NIGHT

ROB MCINNES, PARTNER; ROSS RYDGE, SENIOR ASSOCIATE; DANIELLE KUTI, ASSOCIATE

No matter how long you've been in practice, all lawyers have areas of law about which we think, "I wish I knew a little more about that", or "I wish there was a way to update my knowledge about that". Identifying knowledge gaps is a key risk management issue - at the very least, you need to know what you don't know so that you can obtain expert advice when needed.

This session will deal with three areas of law which fall into this category - legal privilege, intellectual property and the new Unfair Contract Terms Law. The emphasis will be on the key areas of risk and on providing a concise update which you can use as a key risk management checklist.