



Fifth Annual Conference

Friday 23 May 2008

*“The Appropriate Management of Difficult
Situations in Tribunal Hearings”*

The Sydney Room, Menzies Sydney Hotel, Carrington Street



14 March 2008

Dear Members and Interested Persons,

The 2008 Annual Conference of the Council of Australasian Tribunals NSW Inc is being held on Friday 23 May 2008 in the Sydney Room, Menzies Sydney Hotel, Carrington Street, Sydney (adjacent to Wynyard Railway Station).

The Conference program, a combined 'Annual Conference and Subscription' form and 'Membership Application' form are attached.

Current financial members who wish to come to the conference should complete the 'Annual Conference and Subscription' form only, and return it immediately with a cheque for \$165 to the Secretary, Belinda Cassidy at the address shown at the foot of the form. If you are a current financial member and wish to renew your membership but cannot come to the conference complete the Annual Subscription part of the form and return it to us with your cheque for \$20.

Persons wishing to join the COAT NSW Chapter will need to complete the 'Annual Conference and Subscription' form but will also need to complete and return the 'Membership Application' form. If you are unable to provide signatures from two current members to propose your membership, please do not delay submitting your form. We will contact you as soon as possible after the Annual Conference to help you complete this requirement.

Please note that the Annual Conference will begin at 9am sharp. I urge you to take your seat in the Conference room well before the starting time. Morning tea and lunch will be provided to all attendees and there will be light refreshments available at the conclusion of the conference to provide further opportunities for discussion and networking.

Please complete and return your form(s), together with your cheque as soon as possible, but no later than Friday 16 May 2008.

I look forward to seeing you at the Conference.
Yours sincerely

Judge Kevin O'Connor AM
Convenor, COAT NSW Chapter Inc.

Conference program

The appropriate management of difficult situations in tribunal hearings

- 8.30 – 9.00 **Registration**
- Morning session convenor: His Honour Judge Kevin O'Connor AM, Convenor, COAT NSW Chapter
- 9.00 – 9.10 **Welcome and conference opening**
- His Honour Judge Kevin O'Connor AM, COAT NSW Chapter Inc.
- 9.10 – 10.00 **Keynote address**
- The Hon Justice Catherine Branson, Federal Court of Australia
- 10.00 – 10.30 Report on COAT: National & other chapters
- Ms Kay Ransome, Chairperson, Council of Australasian Tribunals
- 10.30 – 11.00 **Morning tea**
- Late morning session convenor: Mr Gary Byron, Vice Convenor COAT NSW Chapter & Chairperson, Conference Sub-committee
- 11.00 – 12.00 **Assessing credibility**
- The Hon Justice Peter McClellan, Chief Judge at Common Law, Supreme Court of New South Wales
- 12.00 – 1.00 **Lunch**
- Afternoon session convenor: Mr Robert Quickenden, Committee Member, COAT NSW Chapter and Member, Conference Sub-committee
- 1.00 – 2.00 **Dealing with persistent complainants, difficult people and the querulous litigant**
- Dr Grant Lester, Consultant Psychiatrist & Director of the Victorian Forensic Psychiatry Training Program, Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health
- 2.00 – 4.00 **Dealing with difficulties in the absence of legal representation**
- Presentations & interactive panel discussion
- Chairperson: Ms Narelle Bell, Senior Member, Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Committee Member COAT NSW Chapter, and Member, Conference Sub-Committee
- Ms Sue Bullock, Director NSW & ACT, Social Security Appeals Tribunal
 - Ms Kay Ransome, Chairperson, Consumer Trader and Tenancy Tribunal
 - Mr Jim Simpson, Presiding Member, Guardianship Tribunal
- 4.00 – 4.10 **Concluding remarks**
- His Honour Judge Kevin O'Connor AM
- 4.15 – 5.00 **Refreshments**

Annual conference and subscription form

Annual conference and subscription

Please enclose a cheque for \$165 payable to COAT NSW Chapter Inc. This is the total cost to attendees and includes conference registration and the 2008/2009 annual membership subscription

- 1 I will attend the COAT NSW Chapter annual conference and renew my annual subscription
- 2 I will attend the COAT NSW Chapter annual conference and apply to join the chapter (see point 3 below)

Annual subscription only

Please enclose a cheque for \$20 payable to COAT NSW Chapter Inc.

- 3 I cannot attend the COAT NSW Chapter annual conference but wish to renew my annual subscription
- 4 I cannot attend the COAT NSW Chapter annual conference but wish to join the chapter (see point 3 below)

Please write legibly

Surname First name(s)

Tribunal(s)

Current address

Suburb State Post Code

Phone Email

IMPORTANT

- 1) Send this form and your cheque to Belinda Cassidy, Secretary, COAT NSW Inc., PO Box 268 Darlinghurst, 1300 as soon as possible, but if you are coming to the conference, no later than Friday 16 May 2008
- 2) Please keep a copy of this form for your records and income tax purposes
- 3) If you are not a member of COAT NSW Chapter Inc, you must fill out the attached 'Application for membership' form and include it with your cheque and this form
- 4) If you are not sure whether or not you are a member of COAT NSW Chapter, please ring Judy Nash on 8267 1487

Office use only

Membership details confirmed

Payment received date

Membership application to committee

Cheque amount

Please keep a copy of this application form for your records before you send it to:
 Belinda Cassidy, Secretary, COAT NSW Chapter Inc. PO Box 268, Darlinghurst, 1300

Membership application form (to June 2009)

I,

Full name of applicant including title, i.e., Justice, Judge, Mr, Ms, Mrs, etc. . .

Of

Street address

Suburb *State* *Post Code*

Phone *Fax*

Email

Principal occupation

agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Council of Australasian Tribunals, NSW Chapter Inc. and hereby apply to become a member of this chapter. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the chapter for the time being in force. I declare that I am supportive of the Objectives of the Council of Australasian Tribunals.

- I am a member of the following tribunals:
- I am NOT a member of, or otherwise employed by a tribunal

Tribunals

.....

Signature / / 2008

I, *Signature* / / 2008

a member of COAT NSW Inc., nominate the above applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the chapter

I, *Signature* / / 2008

a member of COAT NSW Inc., nominate the above applicant, who is personally known to me, for membership of the chapter