



Employment Law Forum 2011

Hyatt Hotel Canberra **Wednesday 30 November 2011**

The Fair Work Act and the Work Health and Safety Act – what are we learning?

The public sector is experiencing the full impact of changes to the industrial landscape wrought by the *Fair Work Act 2009*.

Many agencies have been through enterprise bargaining or are still bargaining. The processes have not always been smooth, and there is a lot to be learned about good faith bargaining and the industrial action that has sometimes followed.

The public sector has also been dealing with more adverse action claims brought under the general protections provisions, particularly in response to underperformance and misconduct action. Some commentators have suggested that there has been a dramatic change in the balance of power in the employer-employee relationship that is hampering reasonable management of employees.

We are also preparing for the Work Health and Safety legislation, with consultation continuing on draft Codes of Practice in the lead-up to the new law commencing in January 2012.

Has the industrial landscape radically changed or are we simply experiencing the ebb and flow of a dynamic system? Join us as we examine how things are playing out in practice, how the Work Health and Safety legislation will change employer's obligations, and the implications of both for public sector human resource managers and their legal advisers.

This forum has been designed specifically for public sector human resource managers and their legal advisers.

AGS has been advising on public sector employment law and workplace relations matters for many years. We have been involved in numerous high-profile individual HR matters, and our lawyers have had critical input into all of the recent employment and workplace relations law reforms, as well as advising a large number of agencies on the implementation of those reforms in Commonwealth employment.

Details

-
- Date:** Wednesday 30 November 2011
- Time:** 9 am to 4 pm
(registration from 8.30 to 9 am)
- Venue:** The Ballroom, Hyatt Hotel
Commonwealth Ave Canberra
- Cost:** \$660 (GST inclusive)
Lunch provided
- RSVP:** to Michelle Easte by Friday 25 November
T 02 6253 7211 F 02 6253 7313
rsvp@ags.gov.au

Website

For a full review of AGS services,
visit www.ags.gov.au

Speakers

Ian Govey	<i>Chief Executive Officer, AGS</i>
Paul Barker	<i>Senior Executive Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Melbourne</i> Expert in complex public sector employment and industrial relations litigation
Paulina Fusitu'a	<i>Senior Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Sydney</i> Regulatory, administrative and public sector employment law specialist
Richard Harding	<i>Senior Executive Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Sydney</i> <i>Leader of AGS's National Employment and Industrial Law Team</i> Expert in public sector employment and industrial relations law
Amanda Johnston	<i>Senior General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, AGS Canberra</i> Expert in public sector employment and industrial relations law
Catherine Mann	<i>Senior Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Canberra</i> Public sector employment law and dispute resolution specialist
Virginia Masters	<i>Senior Executive Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Melbourne</i> Expert in resolving complex and protracted employment disputes
Damien O'Donovan	<i>Senior General Counsel, Dispute Resolution, AGS Canberra</i> Experienced advocate in public sector employment litigation
Rodger Prince	<i>Director, AGS Adelaide and Darwin</i> Specialist in public sector employment and industrial relations law, OH&S, workers' compensation and personal injury matters
Craig Rawson	<i>Senior Executive Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Melbourne</i> Expert in public sector employment and industrial relations law
Simon Sherwood	<i>Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Melbourne</i> Employment and administrative law specialist
Bianca Wellington	<i>Counsel, Office of General Counsel, AGS Canberra</i> Specialist in public sector employment and industrial relations law
Sarah Wright	<i>Senior Executive Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, AGS Canberra</i> Expert in public sector employment, industrial relations and administrative law

Forum program

8.30 am	Registration
9 am	Welcome and introduction ▶ Ian Govey <i>Chair</i> ▶ Virginia Masters
	Good faith bargaining and recent industrial action in the public sector and elsewhere ▶ Amanda Johnston, Sarah Wright and Damien O'Donovan
	Individual flexibility arrangements – a blessing or a curse? ▶ Catherine Mann
10.30 am	<i>Morning tea</i>
11 am	Round-up of adverse action decisions over the last 12 months ▶ Paulina Fusitu'a
	The <i>Barclay</i> appeal – what are the key issues the High Court will look at? ▶ Craig Rawson
	How are the adverse action provisions affecting managers' decision-making? ▶ Richard Harding
	Round-up of unfair dismissal decisions over the last 12 months ▶ Simon Sherwood
12.45 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1.45 pm	The new Work Health and Safety legislation – what is really new about it? ▶ Bianca Wellington
	Tired and harassed? Codes of Practice under the WHS Act – how will they affect work in the public sector? ▶ Paul Barker
	Workplace bullying – a Work Health and Safety issue ▶ Rodger Prince
	Closing remarks – <i>Chair</i> ▶ Virginia Masters
4 pm	Close



Registration

Employment Law Forum – Wednesday 30 November 2011

Tax Invoice No. 5033 **ABN 69 405 937 639**

Name _____

Position and area _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Your organisation's ABN _____

Payment options **\$660 (GST inclusive)**

For Electronic Funds Transfer quote 'EF11'
 Email EFT remittance advices to canbaccounts@ags.gov.au
 Branch – 092009
 Account – 918766
 Account name – Australian Government Solicitor
 Legal Practices Operating Account Barton

or

Visa MasterCard Amex

Card number

Amount _____ Card expiry date _____

Cardholder's name _____

Cardholder's signature

Notification of future AGS seminars

Yes, please notify me of any future AGS seminars.

Tax invoice

This registration form is a **tax invoice/receipt for GST** when fully completed and payment is made. **Please retain this original as your receipt for tax purposes and your CPD point record.**

Payment

Please ensure that payment accompanies registration. Full payment must be made prior to the event.

Closing date for registrations

The closing date for registering to attend is **Friday 25 November 2011**, or earlier if the room capacity is reached.

Confirmation

We will email confirmation of your registration 3 days from receipt of your fax or email. If you haven't heard from us by then, please contact us.

Cancellation policy

Payments are non-refundable. Substitutes are welcome, or the conference pack can be provided.

Program

All efforts will be made to present the program as outlined in the brochure. However, the convenors reserve the right to change or cancel the program if the need arises due to unforeseen circumstances.

Mailing address

Australian Government Solicitor
 50 Blackall Street, Barton ACT 2600

CPD points

Attendance at this forum
 = 5 CPD points

RSVP to Michelle Easte
 by Friday 25 November
 T 02 6253 7211 F 02 6253 7313
rsvp@ags.gov.au