



Plain Language Law

NO. 74, MARCH 2015 | A newsletter that aims to keep community, legal and government sectors up-to-date with a selection of recent plain language law resources produced in NSW. To browse our online database of recent and past products visit www.lawfoundation.net.au/pllsearch

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COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

Care and protection: law for community sector workers - Wagga Wagga (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10699&calType=2>

This workshop will give an overview of the Care and Protection System. It will cover: reporting, care plan agreements, parental responsibility contracts and temporary care arrangements, Children's Court processes and where to get legal help. Thursday 30 April from 9:30am to 12:30pm at Mercure Wagga Wagga, corner of Morgan and Tarcutta Streets Wagga Wagga 2650. Registration is essential as places are limited.

Domestic Violence and Debt (NSW), 2015, [Webinar], Women's Legal Services NSW, Free, 02 8745 6900, reception@wlsnsw.org.au <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1740637222666702850>

This webinar will explain what sexually transmitted debt and financial abuse is and how victims can deal with it. Loan and mortgage repayments, bankruptcy, and practical tips for women to protect themselves from financial abuse will all be covered. 2:30 to 3pm Tuesday 12 May 2015. Register at the above URL to attend.

Energy and water: helping our clients stay connected - Sydney CBD (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Public Interest Advocacy Centre - Workshops, \$40, 02 8898 6503, piac@piac.asn.au <http://www.piac.asn.au/trainingevent/energy-and-water-helping-our-clients-stay-connected>

As electricity and water bills get more and more expensive the risk of disconnection increases, especially for vulnerable people. Aimed at community workers, this workshop will talk about the help and consumer

protections available to keep people connected. This workshop will be held on Wednesday 20 May in the Sydney CBD from 9am to 1pm. To register, visit the above URL or phone Lena Lowe at Public Interest Advocacy Centre on 02 8898 6503.

Family law: law for community sector workers - Lismore (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10805&calType=2>

This free workshop will cover issues stemming from separation and divorce including: arrangements for children and family dispute resolution, property settlement and where legal help can be accessed. Thursday 26 March 2015 9:30am to 12:30pm at Invercauld House 161 Invercauld Road Lismore 2480. Registration is essential as places are limited.

Fines and WDOs: law for community sector workers - Leumeah (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10726&calType=2>

This workshop covers each option for dealing with fines including the review process, Work and Development Orders (WDOs) and where to get legal help. Wednesday 29 April 2015, 2:30-3:30pm at Western Suburbs Leagues Club 10 Old Leumeah Road Leumeah 2560. Registration is essential as places are limited.

Immigration law: law for community sector workers - Blacktown (NSW), [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10725&calType=2>

This workshop will provide information on refugee and humanitarian visas, family stream migration, visa holders and relationship breakdown, review options available to clients and where to get legal help. Monday 18 May from 12:30 to 3:30pm at Blacktown Workers Club, 55 Campbell Street Blacktown 2148

Recordings, surveillance and domestic violence (NSW), 2015, [Webinar], Women's Legal Services NSW, Free, 02 8745 6900, reception@wlsnsw.org.au <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4762372252725425154>



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Aimed at community workers, this half hour webinar will answer the following questions: can you record someone without their permission? Can a woman record her ex partner if she is worried about her safety? In which situations are surveillance devices legal? Can recordings be used as evidence? Click on above URL to register.

Traffic law: law for community sector workers - East Maitland (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10716&calType=2>

This workshop will look at common traffic offences and penalties, laws that regulate vehicles, going to court, how demerit points work and where to go for legal help. Wednesday 20 May 2015 at Easts Leisure & Golf, Tenambit Street East Maitland 2323. Registration is essential as places are limited.

Young people and the law: law for community sector workers - Nowra (NSW), 2015, [Workshop], Legal Aid NSW - Workshops, Free, 02 9219 5879, cle@legalaid.nsw.gov.au <http://laxextra.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/ClemsPub/Web/EventDetails/EventDetails.aspx?e=10706&calType=2>

This workshop will cover under 18's and criminal law, sentencing and diversionary options, and where to get legal help. Thursday 21 May 2015 12:30-3:30pm at Shoalhaven City Arts Centre 12 Berry Street Nowra 2535. Registration is essential as places are limited.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Are you being squeezed for debt? [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028

A new, plain English version of this factsheet will be published soon.

Best for kids (NSW), 2015, [Web page], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028

An updated version of the Best for kids website will be launched in April 2015 with additional videos about criminal law (police powers to search and arrest, changes to court processes), care and protection, civil law (Centrelink issues, contracts, employment) and AVOs/family violence.

Disability support pension (NSW), [Pamphlet], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028,

An updated version of this pamphlet will be available soon.

Drink Driving (NSW), [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028

An updated version of this factsheet will be published shortly. It will include information about the Mandatory Alcohol Interlock Program.

A guide to bail (NSW), 2015, 8p., [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, Free, 02 9219 5028

<http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/publications/factsheets-and-resources/guide-to-bail>

This factsheet has been updated to include changes to the 'show cause' and 'bail concerns' categories. Another updated version will be available soon which will also include terrorism threat under 'show cause.' This factsheet is available in English, Arabic, Chinese (simplified) and Vietnamese.

Visa Cancellations (NSW), [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028

A new fact sheet is being prepared which will explain what people need to do if the Department of Immigration is considering cancelling their visa.

GUIDES TO THE LAW

Alcohol Interlock Program: guide for magistrates, legal practitioners and police prosecutors (NSW), 2015, 16p., [Booklet], Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), Free, 13 22 13

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/roads/safety-rules/mandatory-alcohol-interlock-program-legal-guide.pdf>

This guide gives an overview of the Mandatory Alcohol Interlock Program for legal professionals. It includes information about specific offences for which an alcohol interlock device is part of the penalty, exemption orders and subsequent offences.

Alcohol Interlock Program: participant guide (NSW), 2015, 20p., [Booklet], Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), Free, 13 22 13

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/documents/roads/safety-rules/mandatory-alcohol-interlock-program-participant-guide.pdf>

From 1 February 2015 the Mandatory Alcohol Interlock Program came into effect. It is a court ordered penalty for NSW drivers who commit serious drink driving offences. This booklet is for participants and provides an overview of the program.

Child care and protection (Hot topics 81) (NSW), Judy Cashmore, 2015, [Booklet & Online], Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC), Free, liac.library@sl.nsw.gov.au http://www.legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au/guides/hot_topics/child_care_and_protection/index.html

This issue covers parent and government responsibilities towards children, abuse and neglect, the Children's Court, out-of-home care of children and international obligations. The 2015 edition has been updated to reflect changes in the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* and the *Adoption Act 2000*. Available online or in print in all NSW public libraries.



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Crashed your car? (NSW), 2015, 20p., [Booklet], Legal Aid NSW, Free, 02 9219 5028

<http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/publications/factsheets-and-resources/have-you-crashed-your-car>

This booklet goes through the steps you need to take if your car is damaged after an accident. It includes information for each type of insurance as well as what to do if you only have Compulsory Third Party (CTP) insurance. It has just been translated into Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Farsi, Dari, and Vietnamese.

Defend yourself: facing a charge in court (Australia), Tim Anderson, 2014, 3rd ed., 128p., [Book], Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC), liac.library@sl.nsw.gov.au

http://www.legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au/guides/defend_yourself/

This practical guide to defending a criminal charge in court is now available in full text online as well as in all NSW public libraries free of charge. A hardcopy edition is also available from Federation Press for \$30 <http://www.federationpress.com.au/bookstore/book.asp?isbn=9781862879614>. The guide covers areas such as: arrest and questioning; bail; lawyers; self-representation; court procedure; pleas; hearings and trials; how to research and prepare for a criminal case; evidence; sentencing; appeals; diagrams of a magistrate's court; character references; and warrants.

Kids in care factsheets (NSW), [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, Free, 02 9219 5028

<http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/publications/factsheets-and-resources>

This series of six factsheets gives advice for parents whose children are in care. The factsheet series includes: Community Services want to talk about my kids, What will happen?; Going to the Children's Court; Things have changed and I want my kids back, what can I do?; The Children's Court made a decision I am unhappy about, what can I do?; What happens when my kids are in care?; and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and care. These factsheets are now available in nine languages besides English including: Arabic, Dari/Farsi, Dinka, Kirundi, Chinese (simplified), Swahili, Tamil, Thai and Vietnamese.

Managing your own divorce factsheets (NSW),

[Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, 02 9219 5028,

<http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/publications/order-a-publication>

This series of four factsheets covers the divorce process from beginning to end. They cover: how to apply for a divorce, how to serve the divorce documents to your spouse, the divorce hearing and separation under the same roof. Each factsheet is now available in six languages other than English including: Arabic, Dari/Farsi, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (traditional), Thai and Vietnamese.

Your workplace rights during natural disasters and emergencies (NSW), 2015, 4p., [Factsheet], Legal Aid NSW, Free, 02 9219 5028,

<http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/publications/factsheets-and-resources/your-workplace-rights-during-natural-disasters-and-emergencies>

This factsheet for private sector employees explains leave entitlements if you are injured, choose to assist with disaster relief or need to care for your family in the event of a natural disaster or emergency.

SEARCHABLE PLAIN LANGUAGE LAW (PLL) DATABASE

Resources included in past editions of the newsletter can be found in our PLL Database which contains over 1200 resources and is searchable using the PLL search tool. Resources are searchable by format (e.g. DVD, booklet, etc.), language, law type and target group.

ABOUT PLL

PLL is produced by Harriet Pocock and Jane Kenny, Law and Justice Foundation of NSW, (02) 8227 3200, with assistance from the Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC).

Additional sources of plain language law material can be found at LIAC's website, www.legalanswers.sl.nsw.gov.au, or call LawAccess on 1300 888 529 or check their website at www.lawaccess.nsw.gov.au.

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