



# NATIONAL LAW WEEK 2014

## About National Law Week 12-18 May 2014

National Law Week is an annual event, held during the third week of May, to promote public understanding of the law and its role in society. All states and territories around Australia hold their Law Week activities simultaneously.

National Law Week is aimed at increasing public awareness about the law, the legal system and the legal profession as well as educating the community about the legal services available nationwide.

The theme for National Law Week is 'Law and justice in your community'.

Most people in the Northern Territory will come into contact with the legal system at some stage of their lives and Law Week provides advice about how to best access the law when this happens.



In addition, Law Week provides an opportunity for legal service providers throughout the Northern Territory to participate in programs and events that engage the public and highlight social issues in the community.

Law Week programs are developed to include people from diverse backgrounds, organisations and perspectives in the planning and implementation of programs

and in the audience Law Week activities serve.

Law Week is managed in the Top End by the Law Society Northern Territory in conjunction with other stakeholders from the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory, the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission, members of the Community Legal Education Network and Northern Territory Young Lawyers.

### IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**Legal Aid Helpline Freecall** 1800 019 343  
Monday to Friday 8am – 4.30pm

**Darwin Community Legal Services  
FREE Legal Advice Clinics**

Freecall 1800 812 953

DCLS' free legal advice clinics are held three times a week (excluding public holidays) at different locations around Darwin.

The sessions operate on a 'first in - first served' basis, so just show up and you will see a solicitor in order of arrival. Legal advice clinics are also held at a range of venues in the Top End including Katherine.

DCLS provides free and confidential legal advice sessions about the most common legal problems. The lawyer will give you advice, suggest further action, and in some cases, help you to write a letter or prepare other simple documents. Clients may attend these free clinics more than once.

DCLS does not give advice in the following cases:

- urgent family law matters
- criminal matters needing legal representation
- sale of property or conveyancing matters
- probate or wills • commercial matters
- immigration • landlords

If you require an interpreter (including Auslan) we will provide one for free. Please phone for an appointment.

Free Legal Advice Sessions: (Excluding Public Holidays)

**DARWIN:** Thursday 5.30 - 7.00pm

DCLS Office, Cnr Manton & McMinn Streets, Darwin

**CASUARINA:** Saturday 10.00 - 11.45am

Casuarina Library, Bradshaw Terrace, Casuarina

**PALMERSTON:** Monday 6.00 - 7.00pm

Palmerston Library, Goyder Square, Palmerston

#### Phone Advice

For those who are outside the Darwin area or who are unable to attend one of these advice sessions, phone advice is available on Thursdays between 9.00 and 12.00 noon.

#### Credit and Debt Legal Service

Appointments are available for consultations in person or by phone every Tuesday.

## Law Week 2014

Darwin Community Legal Service has proudly served the Northern Territory community since 1991. Situated at the Corner of Manton and McMinn Streets in Darwin, DCLS is ideally located to provide assistance to the public on a range of civil matters.

DCLS Executive Director, Caitlin Perry said, "We always look forward to Law Week, as talking to the community about the law is a vital means of helping marginalised people get access to justice"

Darwin Community Legal Service provides general civil law advice and has specialist services in the areas of general civil law, including employment matters, homelessness, credit and debt matters, tenancy, disability discrimination, aged and disability advocacy and welfare rights.

Darwin Community Legal Service is pleased to be part of the Law Week 2014 activities to be hosted throughout 12 - 19 May including an information stall about our services on Wednesday 14 May at Raintree Park 12 - 2 pm

During Law Week we will also be hosting our regular free legal advice drop - in sessions:

- Monday 12 May Palmerston Library 6 - 7 pm
- Thursday 15 May DCLS office 8 Manton St Darwin 5.30 - 7 pm
- Saturday 16 May Casuarina Library 10 - 11.45 am

For more information about our services by phone 8982 1111 or free call 1800 812 953

## Law week workshop - identifying legal issues for your clients

Ever wondered if there is more you could do about your clients' issues like welfare worries, credit crunch, housing horrors, workplace woes...

Did you know there is a time limitation period for many courses of action in legal matters?

Learn how we can work together for the best outcome for the client, before matters escalate.

An informative, interactive workshop will be held on Monday 12 May 2014 from 9.30 - 1.30 and should not be missed by anyone who works directly with clients.

Service providers who wish to attend must register their booking with DCLS - phone 8982 1111 or email [info@dcls.org.au](mailto:info@dcls.org.au) for more information.

## NAAJA Legal Education, Training and Projects

NAAJA has a dedicated Legal Education, Training and Projects team that delivers high quality, culturally responsive legal education, leadership, crime prevention and governance projects in a range of urban and remote locations.



Above: NAAJA Legal Educator Will Crawford being taken to the cells by student police after being sentenced in "You be the Judge" exercise

The NAAJA Night Patrol project provides training and crime prevention activities in 10 communities including Wurrumiyanga, Lajamanu, Ngukurr, Katherine, Timber Creek, Wadeye, Maningrida, Ramingining and Milingimbi. During these trips we also have a focus on domestic and family violence education and prevention and run programs in partnership with NT Government, Women's Safe Houses, Strong Women and Strong Men's groups and schools.

NAAJA runs legal education training to schools and youth services in both Darwin and remote areas on cyber-bullying, sexting,

the age and need for consent, and interacting well with police. Youth sessions have a focus on how to avoid offending, teaching de-escalation techniques, promoting respectful interactions and an understanding of the law and its application in relevant circumstances.

We have also developed a range of legal education tools including educational posters, fact sheets and lesson plans on a range of topics.

In partnership with the Aboriginal Resource Development Service and the Aboriginal Interpreter Service, NAAJA has created a Plain English-Yolngu Matha Legal Dictionary. The Plain English definitions have been developed in collaboration with linguists and Yolngu interpreters to promote meaning based translations where equivalent terms and processes often don't exist in Yolngu law.

NAAJA has also collaborated with NTLAC and CAALAS to create a Fines Kit for support workers to assist clients to understand fines, why they should be paid and how to seek assistance if clients dispute the fine or seek to set up a payment plan.

If people would like electronic or hard copies of any of these resources or training from NAAJA, please contact our team at [cle@naaja.org.au](mailto:cle@naaja.org.au).



**DARWIN COMMUNITY  
LEGAL SERVICE**  
PROUD TO BE PART OF  
LAW WEEK 2014

Free drop in legal advice sessions:

Mondays 6 - 7 pm Palmerston Library

Thursdays 5.30 - 7 pm DCLS 8  
Manton Street Darwin

Saturdays 10 - 11.45 am Casuarina Library

8982 1111

[dcls.org.au](http://dcls.org.au)

**Know your rights and responsibilities**



### Identifying legal issues for your clients

Ever wondered if there is more you could do about your clients' issues like welfare worries, credit crunch, housing horrors, workplace woes...

This workshop will assist you to identify legal problems your clients may have and the appropriate solutions.

Learn how we can work together for the best outcome for your clients, before matters escalate.

An informative, interactive workshop that should not be missed by anyone who works directly with clients

This exciting opportunity is made available through Law Week 2014 and the Public Purposes Trust. Please note spaces are strictly limited.

Hilton Hotel Signatures Room  
32 Mitchell Street Darwin

**9.30 am - 1.30 pm Monday 12 May 2014**  
**Lunch provided**



### National Pro Bono Day

Tuesday 13 May is National Pro Bono day.

Thank-you for the invaluable pro bono work undertaken by the legal profession in the Northern Territory. Last year Legal Practitioners volunteered their time to provide 368 free legal advice sessions at DCLS alone.

Nationally we celebrate in excess of 8369 volunteer hours per week! Providing assistance to the community through community legal centres.



### Law Week Morning Tea at CAWLS

**Friday 16 May, 9.30 - 11.00am**

CAWLS courtyard, Shop 6, Bonnani Arcade, 2 Gregory Terrace, Alice Springs.

Community and service providers alike can obtain information about women and the law - legal issues, rights and how to uphold them - whilst enjoying an informal morning tea. All welcome.

Contact: [lauren.macauley@kawls.org.au](mailto:lauren.macauley@kawls.org.au)