



Victorian Government
Solicitor's Office

VGSO - 2009 seminar program

The VGSO seminar program is designed to target the most relevant legal issues facing government today. As well as providing an analysis of the issues, we include real life examples, practical applications and implications – to ensure you take away as much valuable information as possible. Our guest speakers regularly feature and add additional expertise.

26 February 2009

Legal and Professional Privilege for Government

This seminar will discuss the latest cases and give a comparison to lawyer's duty of confidentiality. This covers the Ethics and Professional Responsibility unit in Continuing Professional Development.

26 March 2009

Obligations of a Decision Maker: Latest Cases in Procedural Fairness

Decision-makers need to be aware of the requirements of procedural fairness when making decisions which affect a person's rights or interests. The Victorian *Charter of Human Rights* now also provides that a person charged with a criminal offence, or party to a civil proceeding has a right to have the charge or proceeding determined after a 'fair' hearing. This seminar will give an overview of the latest cases.

30 April 2009

Contract - Probity and Procurement in Government

This seminar will focus on government's responsibility to act with probity and what this means for the tender process. We provide an overview on what probity requires and the potential risks and legal liabilities that can arise for government agencies. We provide practical guidance on managing the tender process effectively.

28 May 2009

Charter update: The implications of *Kracke v Mental Health Review Board & Ors* and looking forward

What does this decision mean for your obligations under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act*? We explore the implications of this significant *Charter* decision and outline important upcoming *Charter* decisions and cases for 2009.

18 June 2009

Part 1—Mental Illness, Suicide and Duty of Care: A Discussion of the Recent High Court case of *Stuart v Kirkland-Veenstra*

Part 2—Dealing with the Media and Avoiding Sub Judice Contempt

The first part of the seminar will discuss the law relating to the imposition of a common law duty of care to exercise discretionary statutory powers.

The second part of the seminar will discuss the branch of contempt that deals with public statements about a case before the courts.

Strategic advice
practical legal solutions



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30 July 2009

Whistleblowing in the Victorian
Public Sector

Presented by the Victorian
Government Solicitor, this seminar
will discuss what steps should be
taken when the Ombudsman
knocks.

27 August 2009

Freedom of Information

Each year we present a comprehensive
overview of emerging issues in Freedom
of Information, including its
interpretation under the *Charter*.

24 September 2009

Managing Information under
Government Contracts

Learn about how government
contracts should deal with ownership
and management of information
generated by contractors and
consultants providing services to
government. We will examine Public
Records Office of Victoria guidelines,
intellectual property issues and
privacy and FOI requirements.
Recent reviews have considered new
models for distribution of government
information, such as Creative
Commons licenses. We look at their
recommendations and the
implications if these are adopted.

29 October 2009

Constitutional Law - State and
Commonwealth Relations

This seminar will deal with
conflict of laws and the call for
co-operative federalism.

26 November 2009

Charter Update: Human Rights
Round-up

As we draw close to two years of
full operation under the *Charter*,
we will discuss key cases and
developments.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

To ensure our seminars address the most relevant legal issues you face, topics in the program may alter to allow us to speak with you about other significant findings or cases that occur during 2009.