



The New South Wales Bar Association



Tuesday 17 November 2009

media release

Chief Justice of NSW the Hon J J Spigelman AC to chair Rule of Law Conference

The NSW Bar Association in conjunction with the Rule of Law Association of Australia will be convening a conference on the rule of law - Is the Rule of Law under Challenge in Australia? The details are as follows:

Date: Friday 20 November 2009
Time: 9 am – 12.30 pm
Venue: Hilton Hotel, Sydney

The questions that will no doubt arise include:

- Is the weight of parliament made law so heavy and complex that individuals are losing their rights?
- Are there sufficient checks and balances so as to ensure that our many regulatory and enforcement agencies do not become agents of the *rule by law* as opposed to the rule of law, and trample on individual rights and liberties?
- How do we ensure that the administrative and enforcement agencies apply the law impartially and fairly?
- Is the Parliament sufficiently well equipped in terms of its scrutiny procedures to ensure that individual rights and liberties are protected?
- Will a bill of rights or some derivative thereof better protect our rights?
- Are the courts equal to the challenge presented by the imperatives of the Rule of Law?

Speakers include:

- The Hon Robert McClelland MP, Attorney-General of Australia (or Government representative)
- Senator the Hon George Brandis MP, Shadow Attorney-General
- The Hon JJ Spigelman AC, Chief Justice of NSW
- The Hon Justice Margaret Stone, Federal Court of Australia
- The Hon Justice David Hammerschlag, Supreme Court of NSW
- His Hon Judge Michael Bozic SC, District Court of NSW
- Mr Richard McHugh SC
- Professor David Weisbrot AM, President Australian Law Reform Commission
- Professor Martin Krygier, Professor Law UNSW
- Mr Robin Speed, Rule of Law Association

Media wishing to attend should register by 5:00pm on Wednesday 18 November 2009 by emailing as below.

CONTACTS

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