



CLIENT NEWSLETTER

We are certainly in unprecedented times. The consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic will be far-reaching and will endure for quite some time.

We write to update you as to the steps we have taken to ensure that Penmans will, as it has for the last 75 years, continue to support and provide sound legal advice and representation to you through this testing time. Over the last month, we have been planning for what will undoubtedly be a different way of practising law for at least several months. We have put procedures in place within our office to ensure that we are practising social distancing, hand hygiene and other procedures so that we keep our team and our clients as safe as we possibly can.

It is highly likely that, at some point, the Government will give a directive that businesses based from offices will need to close. If that happens, we want to assure you that, whilst the doors of our physical office will close, our practice will continue to operate. Some of our solicitors and support staff are already working from home testing those systems and shortly most of our team will be working remotely.

If the office closes, our phones will be diverted so you can continue to call 4324 1266. You will speak to our receptionist who will arrange for the appropriate person to get back to you as soon as possible.

Both the Federal and NSW parliaments are currently considering and passing emergency legislation that will impact and assist many of our clients.

There are currently temporary legislative changes before the parliament which will affect particular legal matters including leases, insolvency, employment law and other areas of business. We encourage you to contact us early if you have questions regarding any legal issue in which you need assistance including issues that have arisen as a result of COVID-19.

We will be able to issue documents to you by email. We are expecting that there will shortly be legislation passed that will enable us to witness documents remotely, so that matters can continue to progress.

For clients who have matters before the Courts, we will keep you up-to-date as to inevitable delays that will occur as the Courts focus on urgent matters only. We are also awaiting advice as to how deceased estates will be administered, including changes to how we will be able to witness Affidavits.

We want to assure you that we are here to support you in any way we can. We value the longstanding relationships that we have with our clients, and look forward to not only journeying with you through this crisis, but continuing to do so when COVID-19 is behind us.