

Media Release

Sooner Rather than Later for Legal Problems

Peninsula Community Legal Centre is urging people to seek advice about legal problems as soon as they arise, to avoid the poor outcomes that can result from delays or not taking action.

The Centre has been providing free legal services to the Kingston community for around 20 years and operates a fortnightly visiting service in Chelsea.

Principal Lawyer, Victoria Mullings, says:

“Recent research suggests that around half of Victorians experience a legal problem each year.

The *Legal Australia-Wide Survey: Legal Need in Australia*, published by the Law and Justice Foundation of New South Wales last year, also confirms our experience that people who are disadvantaged are more likely to have legal problems, and those problems are often serious and complex.

The survey found that around one in five people took no action for their legal problems, which frequently led to poorer outcomes. Reasons for not taking action included stress, cost or not knowing what to do.

With financial support from the City of Kingston, as well as federal and state governments, Peninsula Community Legal Centre offers free legal advice on most areas of law, with ongoing assistance for clients experiencing disadvantage.

Clients using the Chelsea visiting service commonly seek help with family law, family violence, motor vehicle issues, wills and powers of attorney. Clients can also access the Centre’s Tenant and Consumer, Rooming House Outreach, Family Law and Child Support Programs.

Dealing with a legal problem “sooner rather than later” not only helps resolve the problem, but can avoid huge emotional, health and financial costs down the track. We strongly encourage anyone who thinks they may have a legal problem to contact us to find out how we can help.”

For more information about free legal services, please call (03) 9783 3600 or visit www.pclc.org.au.

END.

6 May 2013

CONTACT:

Andrea Staunton, General Manager, Volunteers & Education
PENINSULA COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE INC.



Peninsula Community
Legal Centre Inc

Registered No. A8T
ABN 23 591 244 622

Head Office
441 Nepean Highway
Frankston Vic 3199

t 03 9783 3600
1800 064 784
f 03 9770 5200
dx 19953 Frankston
e pclc@pclc.org.au
www.pclc.org.au

Bentleigh Branch
82 Brady Road
Bentleigh East Vic 3165
t 03 9570 8455

Cranbourne Branch
Bella Centre, Suite 12
33-39 High Street
Cranbourne Vic 3977
t 03 5995 3722

Pines Branch
2A Candlebark Crescent
Frankston North Vic 3200
t 03 9786 6980

Rosebud Branch
1375 Point Nepean Road
Rosebud Vic 3939
t 03 5981 2422

**We gratefully acknowledge
the financial assistance of:**

- Commonwealth Attorney-General’s Department
- Department of Justice (Vic)
- Consumer Affairs Victoria
- Victoria Legal Aid
- City of Casey
- City of Glen Eira
- City of Kingston
- Frankston City Council
- Mornington Peninsula Shire

**Donations over \$2.00
are tax deductible**

*Service to the
Community
since 1977*

