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CONTENTS

Casenote – Greg Reinhardt

Wentworth v Rogers [2002] NSWSC 1198.....177

The Discovery of Electronic Evidence

Peter G Naismith.....180

The widespread use of e-mail and other electronic communication and data management tools by modern businesses has spawned something of an “e-discovery” industry populated by information technology experts and tech-savvy lawyers. In this article, the author discusses relevant statutory and judge-made law in this topical area and, having regard to the peculiar characteristics of electronic evidence, suggests some guidelines for the effective discovery of electronic evidence.

Professional Development for Judges: Adopting an Holistic Approach

M J Le Brun202

This article describes how workshops and conferences can be enhanced by the provision of online learning. Although the article focuses specifically on the professional development of judicial officers in Australia, it addresses broader concerns that may be of interest to continuing legal educators and trainers. It summarises some of the shortcomings of limiting professional development programs to face-to-face workshops, indicates how workshops and conferences can be enhanced through the development of flexible learning initiatives, and describes a prototype website that can be created for providing professional development programs for judges online.

The Reflective Judge: Aims and Content of Judicial Education

John Goldring.....216

Judicial education is not a process of teaching judicial officers how to do their job. Rather, it should be a process of assisting them to “reflect” on what they do and how they do it, so that each can better formulate the standards that he or she must establish for himself or herself, and the ways in which he or she can determine whether or not those standards have been met. Formal programs will assist judicial officers to develop these techniques in the course of their judicial work.

The Enforcement Review Program

Anne Condon and Annie Marinakis.....225

This article concerns the Enforcement Review Program, a joint initiative of the Melbourne Magistrates’ Court and the Sheriff’s Office. The ERP was established under Sch 7, cl 10A, of the *Magistrates’ Court Act 1989* (Vic) to support members of the community who have “special circumstances” and who are incurring a variety of multiple infringements that have been registered at the PERIN (Penalty Enforcement Registration of Infringement Notices Court) and which are progressing to warrant stage. The purpose of the program is to assist people who may not comprehend the consequences of their actions, have no capacity to pay fines and do not have assets that can be seized and sold. Although the concept of “special circumstances” is not legislatively defined, it is generally considered to include people who are at the margins of society, including those who experience homelessness, intellectual disability, psychiatric illness, alcoholism, substance abuse, family fragmentation and severe social dysfunction. This article provides information about the program’s background and operation, as well as summaries of the numbers of matters and dollar values of the warrants and court orders which have been dealt with through the Enforcement Review Program.

Volume 12 2002-2003

Table of Authors235

Table of Casenotes236

Index237