

## **WA legal profession *Walks The Talk***

The annual Law Access Walk for Justice on Tuesday 16 May celebrates National Pro Bono Day and the generous pro bono contributions of Western Australian lawyers and law students.

The event also raises funds for Law Access, Western Australia's pro bono clearing house with lawyers, firms and law schools vying for the top fundraiser trophies.

Law Access Chairperson, Adam Ebell said, "Law Access provides a safety net, assisting some of the most vulnerable people in WA, who would otherwise be unable to obtain legal assistance. We receive requests for assistance from all over the State, and in all areas of the law, and match those who will most benefit from legal assistance, with lawyers willing to provide pro bono assistance."

"Law Access allows scarce pro bono resources to be utilised in the most effective way possible, benefiting both applicants and the profession." said Mr Ebell

"Law Access referrals are accepted by lawyers from all areas of the profession. Small, medium and large firms as well as sole practitioners and barristers all generously give their time and expertise" said Mr Ebell.

This year the walk increased in size by 60%, a symbol of the growing pro bono culture within the legal profession in Western Australia.

The Chief Justice of Western Australia, the Hon Wayne Martin AC, opened the Walk for Justice this morning. Together with the Hon. Robert French AC and fourteen other eminent Event Ambassadors, the Chief Justice led the walkers from the Bell Tower at Barrack Square to Point Fraser and back.

The Hon. John Quigley LLB, JP, MLA, Attorney General of Western Australia also joined the walk, demonstrating his support for this important cause.

The enjoyable event was followed by a 'recovery' breakfast at Annalakshmi Restaurant where Mr Ebell announced that close to \$30,000 had been raised to directly assist the work of Law Access

Similar events to celebrate National Pro Bono Day have also occurred today in South Australia, Queensland and Victoria.

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For comment please contact:

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