

# RPA News

## Regulation. Prosecution. Action.

*News update for all practitioners from the Victorian Legal Services Board + Commissioner*

**No. 20**

**Issued May 2015**

### Legal Profession Uniform Law to commence on 1 July 2015

Victorian Attorney-General, the Hon. Martin Pakula MP, [has announced](#) the Legal Profession Uniform Law will commence on Wednesday 1 July 2015.

The Victorian Legal Services Board + Commissioner welcomes the opportunity that Victoria and NSW will now have to harmonise and simplify regulation for over 70 per cent of Australia's lawyers.

#### **New Rules**

With the approval of the Victorian and NSW Attorneys-General, the Legal Services Council has finalised [the new Legal Profession Uniform Rules](#). These Rules will govern the legal profession across both states and cover issues including admission to the profession, registration, professional conduct, legal costs disclosure, trust accounting and continuing professional development.

I encourage all lawyers to follow the above link to review the new rules in preparation for the commencement of the new regulatory scheme.

These reforms offer the prospect of reduced interstate barriers to legal practice, while significantly improving consumer protections and safeguarding an independent legal profession.

#### **Government lawyers**

Under the Uniform Law, government lawyers practising in Victoria will be required to hold a practising certificate as of 1 July 2015. Further information on practising certificates for government lawyers will be provided on the [Government Lawyers page](#) of the Board + Commissioner website from Monday 1 June.

#### **Uniform Law fact sheets**

For further information on how the Uniform Law will affect you, please see the fact sheets on the [Board + Commissioner's website](#).

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