

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR AND ADMINISTRATOR HIGHER COURTS REGISTRY, SUPREME AND DISTRICT COURTS BRISBANE

## MEMORANDUM TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

Control of the Supreme Court precincts is statutorily vested in the Chief Justice, by s 119A of the Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991. Those precincts include the courtyard at the front of the building in Brisbane, and the Court Terrace Restaurant, including the open-air terrace at the rear of the restaurant. This memorandum is issued with the Chief Justice's authority.

Persons entering and leaving the courthouse are entitled to unhindered access through the courtyard, and they are entitled to a reasonable degree of privacy when using the facilities at the restaurant. Accordingly, media organizations have been asked not to photograph persons who are within the court building, inside the restaurant or on its terrace.

A person moving through the courtyard is not to be harassed by questioning or commentary, especially where that is being filmed. That is not to exclude a courteous request for an interview.

Recent footage of questioning early this week by a media representative within the precincts of the court - the front courtyard - went beyond reasonable bounds and should not recur.

A guide for the assistance of media organizations is currently being prepared. All organizations will be consulted and given an opportunity to raise matters for consideration prior to the finalization of that guide.

K T Toogood **Principal Registrar & Administrator** 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006

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