



Child Protection Practitioners
Association of Queensland Limited
ABN: 83 151 398 480

Practice Paper Series Third Practice Paper

1 September 2011 – 31 August 2012

PO Box 12056 Brisbane George Street QLD 4003

www.cppaq.com.au

CPPAQ's Third Practice Paper – Tuesday, 22 May 2012

CPPAQ is very pleased to announce Judge Fleur Kingham and Specialist Brisbane Childrens Court Magistrate Pam Dowse have joined the panel to present this Practice Paper with Kathryn McMillan SC. Chief Magistrate Judge Butler has also agreed to Chair this Paper.

Topic: “Why ethics matter in child protection litigation”

This CPPAQ Practice Paper will consider the sources of relevant ethical and professional responsibilities for lawyers, child protection workers and other professionals in child protection litigation. It will explore the concepts of procedural fairness and natural justice as they apply to child protection litigation and will review the Model Litigant Principles. It will critically consider the ethical responsibilities of a broad range of practitioners in the health and legal professions and their practical application. The panel will consider ethical dilemmas experienced in practice, from the Court and disciplinary Tribunal's perspective.

Request to members : Please submit any questions via email that you would like the panel to consider. We will select some of these for the panel to consider in question time. Please maintain strict confidentiality if referring to a factual scenario.

Venue: Grant Thornton 102 Adelaide Street Brisbane City (on King George Square-near Central Station/pay parking at King George Square)

Time: 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Cost: Free for members or \$30 one off attendance

RSVP: By email to cppaqld@gmail.com (please indicate all the names you are rsvping for and whether they are members or paying a one off \$30 fee)

About our panel:

Kathryn McMillan SC is a Barrister who was called to the Bar in 1988 and appointed Senior Counsel in 2006. Kathryn's main areas of practice are Alternative Dispute Resolution (Arbitration/Mediation/Evaluation), Civil & Human Rights/Discrimination, disciplinary matters before QCAT, Family Law and Inquests/Commissions of Enquiry/Statutory Tribunals. She has appeared in the "Bundaberg Hospital Inquiry" for the Medical Board. Kathryn has prepared and presented papers in these areas. Kathryn is currently a member of Bar Association of Queensland and a member of its Conduct Sub-Committee. Kathryn is a contributor to 1998 CCH Family Law & Practice and 1997 Caxton Street Legal Service Handbook. She is a current Board member of Montrose Access. Ms McMillan is a member of CPPAQ.

Fleur Kingham is a judge of the District Court of Queensland, the Childrens Court of Queensland and the Planning and Environment Court of Queensland. She is the Deputy President of QCAT, which has jurisdiction to review decisions which impact upon child protection, including arrangements for children in care and blue



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card decisions. Judge Kingham also presides in the health practitioners disciplinary jurisdiction and conducts conferences in disciplinary proceedings against members of the legal profession. In this role, Judge Kingham is required to consider the ethical responsibilities of a broad range of practitioners in the health and legal professions.

Pam Dowse has been the Specialist Childrens Court Magistrate in Brisbane since June 2007. As a Childrens Court Magistrate, Ms Dowse considers applications for child protection orders on a daily basis and emphasises the responsibility of the Court to recognise the difficulties that children and young people have and the power of the Court to intervene positively to promote strategies that will help break the cycle. Magistrate Dowse believes it takes time, patience and understanding from everyone involved in the process. She also has 15 years experience presiding in Magistrates Courts in Queensland, since her appointment as a Magistrate in 1997. Magistrate Dowse was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1982. Between 1974 and 1996, she worked at the Supreme and District Courts, Crown Law Office, the Magistrates Courts in Mackay and Ipswich, and Legal Aid Queensland's Brisbane office.

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