



## CPPAQ Practice Paper Series Upcoming Paper: 11 June 2013

### "Assessment of Risk of Harm to Children"

- Venue:** Grant Thornton, Level 18, 145 Ann Street, Brisbane
- Time:** Tuesday 11 June 2013 - 5:30 to 7:00 pm
- Cost:** Free for members or \$30 one off attendance
- RSVP:** Your name and whether you are a member to [cppaq@officelogistics.com.au](mailto:cppaq@officelogistics.com.au)  
**by Friday, 7 June 2013**

This CPPAQ Practice Paper will consider the assessment of risk of harm to children by professionals with various roles within the child protection system.

#### The paper will explore:

- The current research regarding the assessment of the risk of harm;
- Key considerations in assessing risk of harm from the perspective of a Judge, an Independent Children's Lawyer, a Police Officer and a Departmental Officer;
- The differences in organisational thresholds for the level of unacceptable risk;
- Risk considerations in different contexts;
- The ways in which child protection practitioners in varied roles work well together to protect children from risk of harm and the gaps in service delivery.

#### Our Panel:

**Judge Kevin Laphorn**, Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia

His Honour Judge Laphorn was appointed to the bench in August 2005. Upon his admission as a barrister in 1989, he worked as in-house counsel for the Crown Law Office and then Queensland Legal Aid. His Honour moved to the private bar in Brisbane and then Sydney and he practiced primarily in family law, child protection and prohibited employment matters.

**Professor Clare Tilbury**, Professor at the School of Human Services and Social work at Griffith University.

Clare has over thirty years experience as a social work practitioner, researcher and educator. Her research has a policy focus on child protection systems, outcomes, accountability and performance measurement, with particular attention to children's wellbeing and perspectives.

**Kate Bint**, Solicitor and experienced Independent Children's Lawyer.

Kate has twenty years experience as a solicitor representing parties and children in both family law and child protection matters. Kate was a Registrar of the Family Court and Federal Magistrates court and is now Principal of CM Bint Family Lawyers

**Kate Black**, former Detective Sergeant at the Cairns Child Protection and Investigation Unit and currently Principal Investigator at NSW Education and Communities.

Kate is a former Detective Sergeant in the Queensland Police Service. Kate has worked in Kowanyama (an Aboriginal community, Cape York) and from 2004 until 2013, in the Child Protection and Investigation Unit in Mount Isa and Cairns. Kate was awarded the Valour Award in 2003 and the Queensland Police Medal in 2007. Kate is now a Principal Investigator with the New South Wales Department of Education, investigating predominately child protection matters.