

## PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LEGAL ETHICS IN QUEENSLAND

REVIEWED BY VIVIAN ROSSI-PRICE

*Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics in Queensland* by Stephen Corones, Nigel Stobbs and Mark Thomas: Lawbook Co, Australia, 2014, ISBN 9780455323126.

*Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics* in Queensland is now in its necessary second edition. Originally published in 2008 prior to the introduction of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal and its consequent jurisdiction to hear complaints brought by the Legal Services Commission and the adaptation of the Australian Solicitor Conduct Rules, the second edition includes crucial references to these developments. Reference is also had to the potential applicability of the *Australian Consumer Law* to the provision of legal services throughout the text.

Written by academics from the Queensland University of Technology it bills itself as an invaluable reference for practitioners and an important student resource explaining ethical principles and their application in the workforce. Together the authors have produced a comprehensive overview of the legislative and common law rules applicable to legal practice in Queensland.

It is an attractive book with an artfully lit image of Lady Justice on the cover.

The book is structured like most textbooks with a table of cases, statutes and rules at the beginning. There are 12 individual chapters which include: Ethical and Regulatory Environment, Admission as a Legal Practitioner, Ethical Dilemmas, Legal Practices, Communications, Costs Disclosure and Billing Practices, Duty to Account, Compliance with Undertakings, Negligence, Conflicts of Interest, Duty to the Court and Barristers' Obligations. Essential appendices of both the Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules and Bar Association of Queensland Barristers' Conduct Rules are helpfully included for easy reference.

Statements of principle are clear as are the case studies that are discussed which are readily understandable. The book while focused on the Queensland legal profession and market, helpfully does not limit itself to it.

Chapter 2 is a new addition and concerns itself with admission to the legal profession. It's a welcome addition. Current and future applicants, indeed the profession, will benefit from the authors perceptive case commentary.

The book makes good on its promise as an invaluable reference tool. It strikes the right level of academic and historical writing with helpful practical examples. Recommended for students and practitioners alike.

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