

Self-reporting obligations under the Legal Profession Act 2007 ('LPA')

End of year parties can leave a lot of mess to clear up. Unfortunately, this may include solicitors charged with criminal and traffic offences arising from festive celebrations.

Being charged or convicted may give rise to a "show cause event",¹ by which a solicitor must notify the Queensland Law Society ('the Society') within set time periods. These periods and the information required depend upon the nature of the charges.

Other circumstances, such as taxation offences² and insolvency³ may also give rise to reporting obligations, either when they occur or when renewing your practicing certificate.

For more information, including the relevant forms please see the QLS Website here: [Show cause events](#)

Below is a brief summary of the most common self-reporting obligations:

Nature of event	When you must give notice	Reference
Charged with a Serious Offence* ⁴	Within 7 days (form 6)	LPA 57 (1)(b) & Schedule 2
Convicted of any offence (including drink driving).	Within 7 days	LPA 57(1)(a)
Convicted of a Serious Offence	Within 7 days (form 7) Within 27 days (explanation)	LPA 68
Convicted of a Tax Offence	Within 7 days (form 7) Within 27 days (explanation)	LPA 68

Stafford Shepherd
Director, QLS Ethics Centre
12 January 2017

¹ *Legal Profession Act 2007* ('LPA'), s 68; also see Schedule 2 "show cause event" definition.

² *Ibid*, Schedule 2 "tax offence" definition.

³ *Ibid*, Schedule 2 "show cause event" definition.

⁴ *Ibid*, Schedule 2 "serious offence" definition.