

30 May 2018

Our ref: CrLC:BDS

Commissioner Martin APM
Queensland Corrective Services
Department of Justice and Attorney-General
Office of the Commissioner
GPO Box 1054
Brisbane Qld 4001

By email: Commissioner@dcs.qld.gov.au

Dear Commissioner

Ipswich Magistrates Court – bail issue

The Queensland Law Society has, in recent times, been contacted by members that undertake work in the Ipswich Magistrates Court.

It has come to the attention of practitioners and the Society that a practice has been instituted by the courts that concerns the revocation of bail of defendants in custody in certain circumstances.

The preliminary information received from the court is that this change has been brought about as a result, in whole or part, of concerns that were raised by Corrective Services Officers who deal with prisoners within the Ipswich Court system. It appears that the change entails a prisoners bail undertaking being revoked by the court if the defendant has more than one group of charges and/or bail and has bail on one file but not another.

The Society has recently met with stakeholders in an effort to understand the imposition of this change and the reasons for it. What has not been clear is the issue that Corrective Services have experienced to request that change.

Would your office give consideration to a meeting with Society representatives to explain the concerns that they held so that we can gain an understanding and explain that to its members and possibly discuss the matter with the court.

If you have any queries regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our Legal Policy Manager, Ms Binny De Saram on (07) 3842 5895 or by email to b.desaram@qls.com.au. We look forward to your prompt response.

Yours faithfully


Ken Taylor
President