

31 MAY 2017

**LATEST NEWS FROM MST LAWYERS**

## **TOOTHLESS TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON? THE ACCC'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS**

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has announced it will be fighting tooth and nail in 2017 – demanding higher penalties, confronting the market leaders and defending small businesses against unfair standard form contracts. Investigations are underway and the ACCC will be taking enforcement action this year against numerous companies for unfair terms in business-to-business standard form contracts.

[> Learn more](#)



**MEET RAYNIA  
THEODORE**

## **STAMP DUTY CUTS AND CHANGES TO FIRST HOME OWNER GRANT EFFECTIVE 1 JULY 2017**

Housing affordability is one of the biggest issues facing young people in today's society with many first home buyers 'locked out' of the property market due to a decline in housing affordability. In a push to make housing more affordable for Victorians, the government has made changes to the First Home Owner Grant and stamp duty. This article explains how this will affect you.

[> Learn more](#)

## **COURT AFFIRMS BROAD SCOPE FOR ESTATE CLAIMS BY STEPCHILDREN**

The Supreme Court of Appeal recently clarified the scope for a stepchild to claim further provision from their step-parent's estate. The court expanded the definition of 'stepchild' to include the child of a deceased's domestic partner.

[> Learn more](#)

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## **STAMP DUTY AND TRANSFERS BETWEEN SPOUSES AND DOMESTIC PARTNERS**

Victorian couples contemplating altering their property holdings between themselves must act quickly to avoid paying stamp duty. These changes were announced in the Victorian State Budget and will come into effect on July 1, 2017.

[> Learn more](#)

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## **UPDATE ON FAIR WORK AMENDMENT (PROTECTING VULNERABLE WORKERS) BILL 2017**

The Fair Work Amendment (Protecting Vulnerable Workers) Bill 2017 proposed by the Liberal Government has been a cause for concern amongst many stakeholders in the franchising industry. This article provides an update on the progress of the Bill and summarises proposed changes advanced by third parties.

[> Learn more](#)

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## **MST LAWYERS FINALIST AT LIV'S LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

This year has started strongly for MST Lawyers, and we are thrilled to be finalists at this year's LIV awards night for the category of Medium Law Firm of the Year. We offer our congratulations to Colin Biggers & Paisley who took the award and to all the other nominees; it was an honour to be amongst such great company.

MST Lawyers has a long and proud history, having grown into a dynamic mid-tier, commercial and private client legal practice with 10 principals and 50 plus lawyers and support staff. It is with their commitment, talent and exceptional dedication that we have become as successful as we are.

Of equal importance, we also would like to thank you, our clients, for your loyalty throughout our journey to date.

**great service sensible solutions**

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