

# Legal Services COMMISSIONER

9/330 Collins St Melbourne VIC 3000 DX 185 Melbourne  
t 1300 796 344 (local call) t 03 9679 8001 f 03 9679 8101  
www.lsc.vic.gov.au ABN 66 489 344 310

Your ref:  
Our Ref: LSC/07/2437  
Ms Barac

7 April 2008

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr Hari Iyer  
16 Cuthbert Place  
BURNSIDE VIC 3023

Dear Mr Iyer,

**COMPLAINT AGAINST MR STRONG, BARRISTER**

I acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated 12 July 2007, 23 July 2007 and 7 August 2007.

Please note that I did not respond to your correspondence earlier because you indicated that further proceedings were on foot at VCAT. I assume those proceedings have now concluded.

Whilst I cannot assist you in respect of your concerns about the conduct of VCAT members, if anything relevant has arisen from those proceedings, which relate to a complaint against a legal practitioner, then you may lodge a new complaint in writing.

In respect of your complaint against Mr Strong, I note the further information that you have provided however there is no evidence that Judge Strong appeared on behalf of Westpac.

Finally, I note your comments that you hope that my office will at least do something to correct the situation in the future. As previously advised, the Legal Services Commissioner investigates complaints of professional misconduct or unsatisfactory conduct by legal practitioners. I have no power to assist you in respect of your substantive legal matter with Westpac Banking Corporation. You may wish to seek further legal advice in respect of that matter.

Yours sincerely,

VICTORIA MARLES  
Legal Services Commissioner

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# Legal Services **COMMISSIONER**

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Your Ref:  
Our Ref:

LSC/07/2437  
Ms Barac

25 May 2007

## **PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr Hari Iyer  
16 Cuthbert Place  
BURNSIDE VIC 3023

Dear Mr Iyer,

### **COMPLAINT AGAINST MR STRONG, BARRISTER**

Thank you for contacting my office. The Legal Services Commissioner is an independent official who investigates complaints of professional misconduct or unsatisfactory professional conduct by legal practitioners.

I acknowledge your letter of complaint which was forwarded to me by Detective Sergeant James McDonald of Victoria Police. Your matter has been allocated case number LSC/07/2437. Please quote this reference number in any future contact with this office.

To assist me in dealing with your complaint I require further information. In particular, would you please forward me the following information, within the next 16 days:

- 1 I note there is a barrister in Victoria by the name of Mr Strong. On what basis do you assume Mr Strong, who represented Westpac in your VCAT matter, is in fact Justice Michael Strong of the County Court?
- 2 Do you have a copy of any Order or correspondence from VCAT, which may indicate who was representing Westpac at the Directions Hearing?
- 3 If so, please provide me with copies.

I am unable to deal with your complaint until you supply this information.

Should you have any queries please telephone Angela Barac on 1300 796 344.

Yours sincerely,

**VICTORIA MARLES**  
**Legal Services Commissioner**

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