

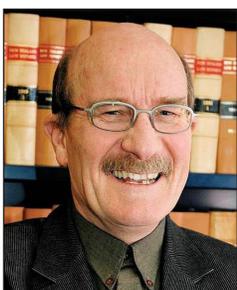
CHAIR



David Bates, Barrister, Tauranga

David spent 17 years in the New Zealand Police before taking up the practice of law. He works principally in criminal law, youth law and mental health law. David was appointed a district inspector of mental health in 1989. He is the author and co-author of several legal texts.

PRESENTERS



Professor Warren Brookbanks, Law School, Auckland University

Warren teaches in the areas of criminal law and mental health law, and has written extensively in both areas. He regularly consults with legal practitioners on matters of law and practice, and has been involved in consultation with a number of government departments and statutory bodies, including the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, the Mental Health Commission and the Law Commission. Warren is a member of the NZLS Health Law Committee, a past president of the Australian and NZ Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law and is chairman of the Oakley Mental Health Research Foundation.



Clinician - Dr Mark Earthrowl, Consultant in Forensic Psychiatry, Christchurch

Mark works for the Canterbury District Health Board. He is also the clinical head of the Canterbury Regional Forensic Service and holds positions as clinical senior lecturer in psychological medicine, University of Otago, and deputy psychiatrist member of New Zealand Mental Health Review Tribunal. He is a member of the New Zealand advanced training committee in forensic psychiatry. Mark has extensive experience in medico-legal report writing for the High Court, District Courts, Family Courts, as well as civil matters, the Parole Board and Mental Health Review Tribunal. His research interests include prison psychiatry, women and forensic psychiatry, risk assessment, and sexual offending.



Advocate - Paul Gruar, Barrister, Auckland

Paul has a particular interest in mental health, disability and disposition of criminal charges for the mentally or intellectually impaired offender. He has practised in mental health since the current legislation was introduced. Paul is a past and present convener of the Auckland District Law Society Mental Health & Disability Committee.

PRESENTERS



Clinician - Dr Nick Judson, Consultant in Forensic Psychiatry, Wellington

Nick works as a consultant psychiatrist in forensic psychiatry and intellectual disability for Capital & Coast DHB in Wellington. He is also a psychiatrist in private practice, and is currently the psychiatrist member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal. Trained in the UK, Nick has worked as a psychiatrist in New Zealand since 1986 as Medical Superintendent, Cherry Farm Hospital; Director of Area Mental Health Services, Otago; and Deputy Director of Mental Health at the Ministry of Health, before taking up his current post in 1998.



Clinician - Dr Rees Tapsell, Consultant in Forensic Psychiatry, Auckland

Rees works as a forensic psychiatrist in Tane Whakapiripiri, the Kaupapa Maori unit at the Auckland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service and he is a partner in Psylaw, a forensic psychiatric consultancy. He is a clinical lecturer with the department of psychological medicine at the Auckland School of Medicine and a psychiatrist deputy member on the Mental Health Review Tribunal. Rees is currently a general councillor of the Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. His particular professional and research interests are the epidemiology of mental disorders, Maori mental health service development, outcome measures in Maori mental health “mentally abnormal” offenders and undergraduate and postgraduate education and training.

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From the chair

Mental health advocacy is a unique aspect of legal practice. The type of advocacy required of lawyers with mental health clients is not the purely adversarial kind more typically found elsewhere in the legal system. Lawyers with mental health clients must know and think about their duties to their clients, as they do in the adversarial system, but also preserve the therapeutic relationship those clients have with their clinicians – and this makes the task different and more difficult.

This intensive will consider the legal and medical issues involved in advocacy in this area of law. It will also look at significant aspects of the developing law concerning the compulsory mental health assessment and treatment process: the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992 has been in operation for some 15 years, and court and Mental Health Review Tribunal decisions abound. All the session lead to the mock hearing at the end of the day. Although advocates in other courts can observe other counsel at work, advocates in Compulsory Treatment Order hearings can't. This is your opportunity to observe, hear what a judge has to say and why – and to ask questions.

Whilst the intensive is structured principally for legal practitioners who currently work in the mental health sector, or who intend to, we hope health professionals will also be interested in attending.