

**Monday, 23 January 2017**

## Law Council mourns passing of former Secretary-General Bill Grant

The Law Council of Australia is mourning the passing of its former Secretary-General, William (Bill) Grant OAM.

Mr Grant served as the Law Council's Secretary-General from 2007 to 2011.

Law Council President, Fiona McLeod SC, said the legal peak body had been deeply saddened by the news.

"Bill's natural warmth and impeccable work ethic meant he was loved and respected within the Law Council and across the legal profession," Ms McLeod said.

"He was a staunch defender of the rule of law and the principles and standing of the Law Council. Internally, he demonstrated an unwavering dedication to the personal wellbeing of those he led.

"His principled and pragmatic approach to issues of legislation and policy enabled the Law Council to engage constructively in much difficult, but necessary, work during his tenure. Perhaps most notable were his tireless efforts to build consensus around a common legal services market, operating under uniform legal profession law and uniform rules.

"As a long-standing CEO of Legal Aid NSW, Bill also understood the critical importance of access to justice, and the need for government to support it adequately. The Law Council's recent advocacy in this vital area has been built upon Bill's work.

"Bill was utterly devoted to his family and our thoughts of course are with them. The Law Council will always be indebted to them for the many hours Bill dedicated to his work with us.

"Just recently I was able to catch up with Bill as I was preparing to take on my new role as Law Council President. He was as warm and encouraging of me then as he was always, and I was greatly buoyed by our exchange.

"He was an excellent leader and a fine man. He will be missed immeasurably.

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