



INTERNATIONAL
COMMISSION
OF JURISTS

The Queensland branch of the ICJ
invites you to hear

Michael Walton

of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties
speak on the following:

Australia's International Obligations Regarding Capital Punishment and Transnational Policing

Australia has ratified several international human rights treaties that bring with them the obligation to ensure that no one is exposed to the real risk of the death penalty. However, cases like the Bali Nine have highlighted that Australia is not living up to that obligation. Australia has assisted in death penalty cases in Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Tonga and elsewhere. How did this come about? And how do we bring Australian police practice back in to line with international law?

Chair and Introductory Remarks: Russell Thirgood

Chair of the International Section of the Queensland Law Society

When: Monday, 28 July 2008, 5.30pm for a 6.00pm start

Where: Bar Common Room, Lvl 5 Inns of Court, North Quay

Cost: Nil for ICJ members; \$10 for non-members

Drinks and Nibbles will be provided

RSVP: to cklease@qldbar.asn.au

by Friday, 18 July 2008

About Michael Walton:

Michael Walton is a committee member of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties. He convenes CCL's subcommittee against the death penalty. The work of the subcommittee includes convening a national roundtable of anti-death penalty NGOs and lobbying for federal legislation to ensure that the Australian States cannot reintroduce the death penalty. Michael is also involved in CCL's civil rights and criminal justice subcommittees. He has written and lobbied governments on issues such as the use of drug detection dogs on the streets of NSW, counter-terrorism laws, Bills of Rights, citizenship laws and the need for greater oversight of the activities of Australian Federal Police when they work overseas with foreign police forces.

Michael studied law at the University of New South Wales. He is a solicitor at the Legal Aid Commission of NSW (civil law division). He has also practiced criminal law as a solicitor in the Office of the NSW DPP.

About Russell Thirgood:

Russell Thirgood is a partner at McCullough Robertson Lawyers. He is also a past National President of Amnesty International Australia, during which time he was involved in advocating on behalf of Van Nguyen. Russell is presently a member of Amnesty's International Trust which meets 4 times a year in London to administer the organisation's funds so as to strengthen a human rights constituency throughout the world and particularly in the global South and East. Russell is also the Chair of the International Law Section of the Queensland Law Society.

About the International Commission of Jurists:

The International Commission of Jurists is an international organisation of lawyers dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights through the rule of law and independence of the judiciary. <http://www.icj.org/> . To become a member of the Queensland branch of the ICJ, contact our Secretary, Carla Klease, at cklease@qldbar.asn.au.