



media, entertainment & arts alliance

the people who inform and entertain

Director
Legislation
Policy and Criminal Law Review
NSW Department of Justice and Attorney General
GPO Box 6
Sydney NSW 2001

4 February 2011

Dear Kathrina Lo

I am writing in relation to your letter of 1 December 2010 in which you refer to the review being conducted by the NSW Attorney General of the *Defamation Act 2005*.

I understand that Section 49 of the Act requires that a review be conducted within 5 years of the date of the assent of the Act to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing these objectives.

The introduction of national uniform defamation laws in 2006 was welcomed by the Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance. The (national) *Uniform Defamation Act* brings all of the States into line, and has helped provide more consistency and less complexity to the legal process. This new law was supported by an intergovernmental agreement between all states and territories to ensure the law remains uniform.

The Alliance is of the view that a State law on this issue has been superseded by the national uniform law.

Should you have any queries relating to this application, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Ryan on (02) 9333 0944.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Warren
Federal Secretary