

OUR PEOPLE'S PRESS

A Regular Publication by Wollerman Shacklock
Lawyers



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Davor is our newest lawyer. Davor has had a long career in the manufacturing industry, working as an R&D Chemist and Product Development Manager for 20 years. Davor comes to Wollerman Shacklock with BA, BSc with Honours, and Master of Legal Practice. He holds a particular interest in Wills and Estates, Commercial Law and Property.

Davor is passionate about helping clients achieve their aims. Having a family of his own, Davor does not shy away from complexity modern life brings to people's lives.



WE ARE STILL WORKING!

Due to current restrictions, we are currently working from home and not in the office.

If you require any documentation to be returned / provided to us, we request that you send the documents to our PO Box via Express Post. We can still be contacted by phone or email.

We apologise for any inconvenience this has caused and appreciate your co-operation.

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What is a Lawyer's Trust Account?

A law firms trust account is a bank account held for the purpose of receiving and distributing money on behalf of a client for purposes such as the sale or purchase of property or money received in advance of providing services. A trust account is required by law for any firm that handles money on behalf of a client, to ensure that a client's funds are held securely by a firm.

A trust account is a completely separate bank account to any other account a firm may have. All trust accounts are registered with the Victorian Legal Services Board and contain strict rules and regulations regarding the firm's responsibilities when handling client's money held in a trust account. There are also very strict recording and reporting requirements of a firm who hold a trust account. Additionally, firms are required to pay for yearly external audits of any trust accounts to ensure compliance with legislation for the protection of client's funds.

A common misconception is that law firms hold onto client's funds as long as they can to earn interest from client's money. Trust accounts are not interest-bearing accounts and banking institutions cannot pay interest on any balance held in a trust account. Due to the strict rules and regulations of a trust account, it is not in the interest of a law firm to hold onto client's funds longer than necessary.

If you are buying or selling a house or are needing assistance with probate matters, call Wollerman Shacklock Lawyers on 03 9707 1155, and be assured that your funds are safe and protected with us.

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Swimming Pool Registration

The Victorian Government has updated the legislation making it mandatory for all land owners to register their pools and/or spas with their local Council on or before 1 November 2020. It is the responsibility of any land owner to ensure registration is completed by this date.

Upon registration, the local Council will issue the land owner with a date by which they must organise an inspection by a registered building surveyor / inspector to obtain certification of safety barriers to their pool and/or spa. In addition, is the duty of owners to ensure continuing compliance of pool or spa safety barriers by obtaining the same certification every four (4) years thereafter.

Any land owner who fails to register their pool and/or spa with their local Council by the due date of 1 November 2020 may be issued with an on-the-spot fine of \$330.00, with penalties of up to \$1652 for non-compliance.

The registration fee is a one-off fee of up to \$79. A small price to pay to protect the ones we love, because it is an opportunity to make sure your pool is compliant.

Don't forget the onus is on you to register.



"KEEPING IT REAL"

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