



## **Notice to the Profession**

### **Adoption of Harmonised Expert Witness Code**

On 1 June 2016 the [\*Supreme Court \(Chapter I Expert Witness Code Amendment\) Rules 2016\*](#) substituted as Form 44A the “Expert witness code of conduct” (“the code”), being a national code for expert witnesses as recommended by the (Australasian) Rules Harmonisation Committee and approved by the Council of Chief Justices. The code is similar to the previous Form 44A code. The code applies to any expert witness engaged or appointed to provide an expert's report for use as evidence in a proceeding or to give opinion evidence in a proceeding. The code sets out the general duty of an expert witness to assist the Court impartially on matters relevant to the area of expertise of the witness. Practitioners are reminded of their obligation under r 44.03 of the *Supreme Court (General Civil Procedure Rules) 2015* to provide a copy of the code as soon as practicable after the engagement of an expert whose evidence is to be adduced at trial.

9 June 2016

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