



Agony Attorney

AGONY ATTORNEY IS HERE TO HELP WITH ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE REGARDING YOUR PRACTICE OF LAW. SO ASK AWAY.

■ **What is a young lawyer supposed to do when a more senior lawyer delegates work that is due “by the end of the day”, and then the more senior lawyer disappears for the rest of the day? Or when your boss asks you to work late but you have already committed to plans after work with friends?**

When you are lucky enough to land your first job in the legal profession, you realise that this is just the beginning of your education as a lawyer. Senior lawyers will often delegate tasks to junior lawyers, and it is quite common that the work will need to be completed immediately. This can naturally be difficult when you are required to put personal plans on hold, but there is also an opportunity. It is important to put the request in perspective, taking

into account the responsibilities of your position, the career path you want to take and your dedication to the job. It is important to realise that the senior lawyer thinks you are capable – why not use it to your advantage? It is important to be clear about what your priorities are for both your personal and professional life. Make sure your friends and family are aware of the importance of your professional development and be sure to surround yourself with supportive people. Make sure that you complete the tasks you are given to the highest standard, after all this is your time to shine.

The legal profession is busy, exacting and exciting – it is quite common for young lawyers to have difficulties maintaining a work/life balance at first. Make sure that you communicate with your supervisor if

you are having difficulties or need advice. In some cases it can be beneficial to reassess your priorities in order to determine exactly how much time and resources you are willing to apportion to each facet of your life, including work. Work-life balance is important so remember not to burn yourself out. It is also important to consider that your performance during these stressful times will always be noticed and can often lead to greater opportunities. Who knows, you may be the one delegating the work one day. ■

If you have any questions you want to ask Agony Attorney, send them to younglaw@liv.asn.au. Your identity may remain anonymous on request.

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5,391

Number of participants at CPD activities

15%

Growth in Accredited Specialists since 2010

2,746

Members attended ethics education



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Statistics as of 31 March 2015