

YOUTHLAW POLICIES AND PROCEDURESE - SECTION 2: Attachment C

MAKING A COMPLAINT

Youthlaw strives at all times to deliver a high standard of service. We encourage you to let us know if you feel we have not done so.

This could be because you:

- feel we have not properly communicated with you or kept you updated regarding your legal matter;
- feel your confidentiality and privacy has not been respected;
- feel that you have been treated unfairly or have been discriminated against;
- are not happy with the way that we have handled your matter;
- do not agree with a policy of Youthlaw.

All complaints are handled **seriously**, **quickly** and **confidentially**.

How to make a complaint

You, or someone acting on your behalf, can make a complaint, verbally or in writing, to:

- the lawyer you saw at Youthlaw;
- Youthlaw's Principal Lawyer. Anna Radonic; c/o PO Box 501, Carlton South VIC 3053 <u>anna@youthlaw.asn.au</u>
- Youthlaw's CEO, Ariel Couchman; c/o PO Box 501, Carlton South VIC 3053 <u>ariel@youthlaw.asn.au</u>
- the Youthlaw Board via Youthlaw's CEO; or
- The Legal Services Commissioner (body external and independent of Youthlaw).
 03 9679 8001 **OR** 1300 796 344 (local call Australia-wide) <u>admin@lsc.vic.gov.au</u> www.lsc.vic.gov.au

What happens after I've made a complaint?

All complaints to Youthlaw will be documented and we will contact you **within 7 days** of receiving your complaint.

You will be given an opportunity to explain your views and have your say. **If you are not happy** with how we have dealt with your complaint the complaint will be forwarded to the Chair of the Youthlaw Board.

Statement of your rights

You have the following rights:

- 1. To be treated with respect and dignity regardless of your gender, race, sexuality, ethnic origin, religion, political beliefs, personal beliefs, or attitudes.
- 2. To be provided with information in a way that is understandable to you.
- 3. To have your information treated confidentially we will not tell others what you tell us unless you want us to do so.
- 4. To have someone present or to speak on your behalf.
- 5. To be seen in a private and safe environment.
- 6. To make a complaint about the service.