

Media Alert 9 October 2006

Australian Lawyers Alliance Annual Civil Justice Award

Sanctuary Cove, Queensland will host this years prestigious Australian Lawyers Alliance Civil Justice Award on Friday 13 October 2006.

“Now in its 11th year, this annual award has recognised ten great Australians who have championed the rights of people across the country.

Over the past decade we have seen the erosion of civil liberties by big business, governments and international powers.

As we move forward, this next decade must be about making civil justice the corner stone of Australian life.” said Simon Morrison, National President Australian Lawyers Alliance.

The award, made at the Lawyers Alliance annual national conference, is recognition by the legal profession of unsung heroes who, despite personal risk or sacrifice have fought to preserve individual rights, human dignity or safety.

Recent past winners include asbestos campaigner Bernie Banton, Queensland children’s rights campaigner Hetty Johnston, former intelligence analyst Andrew Wilkie and lawyer Jennifer Beck who exposed unsafe practices at a WA hospital.

Criteria in judging the award include:

- Degree of personal commitment to civil justice
- Significance to the community of the outcome attained
- Enduring nature of the nominee’s contribution

The Award presentation will be followed by the conference keynote address by Victorian barrister Lex Lasry QC. Lasry has been involved in the high profile trial of former Defence Intelligence Organisations staffer Simon Lappas and is a regular commentator on the rights of David Hicks, the only Australian held at Guantanamo Bay.

ENDS

Notes for Editors:

What: Annual Australian Lawyers Alliance Civil Justice Award

When: 10:50 am, Friday 13 October 2006

Where: Hyatt Regency Sanctuary Cove, Queensland

Media Contact: Gemma Swart 0414 873 291

Conference programme available in the ‘Events’ section of our web site

www.lawyersalliance.com.au