

# Media Release

November 2003



## 'Pro Bono First'

Publication of the ***Australian Pro Bono Manual: A practice guide and resource kit for law firms*** is a first for Australia.

Compiled by the National Pro Bono Resource Centre and jointly published with the Victoria Law Foundation, the manual is a hands-on practical resource designed to assist law firms interested in establishing, developing or expanding their pro bono practices.

With figures from the 2001-02 Legal Services Survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics indicating that lawyers were doing over 1.5 million hours pro bono per year, it is appropriate and timely that a comprehensive resource about pro bono practice is being made available to the profession. Centre Policy and Research Manager Jill Anderson said:

*Pro bono services are an extremely important part of legal service delivery to disadvantaged people and what we really wanted to do was make it easier for firms to do pro bono. The manual provides ideas and resources especially relevant to firms interested in active, structured pro bono programs.*

The Manual is available online at: [www.nationalprobono.org.au](http://www.nationalprobono.org.au)  
or hard copies are available from the Victoria Law Foundation at:  
[www.victorialaw.org.au](http://www.victorialaw.org.au)

## Further information from



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