



YOUR LEGAL UNION

The ASU is the Legal industry union.

Lawyers, paralegals, clerks, legal secretaries and administrative workers in firms, chambers and community legal centres make up our membership.

Some of our longest serving, most active members come from the Legal industry. We have Workplace Representatives and active members in South Australia and Northern Territory's largest local firms.

We know it's not always an easy sector to work in, with long hours and high levels of stress the norm. For our members working in community legal centres, it's harder again because of limited funding and resources.

Today lawyers and other legal staff, particularly those just starting out in the profession, are extremely vulnerable to exploitation. That's due to a very competitive labour market but also because lawyers aren't protected by an Award and are therefore forced on individual contracts. Law graduates and administrative staff employed on the basic wages and conditions of the sub-standard Legal Services Award. It's only through collective action that we can address these issues in the sector.

Where there are large numbers of ASU members in a firm, we have been able to secure collective Agreements at both the national and state level. This stops unfair competition in pay and conditions between similarly qualified staff within firms and across the profession. Collective Agreements have also secured better wages and conditions for employees.

The ASU also hosts periodic CPD + networking events for our legal members.

- ASU LEGAL INDUSTRY TEAM -



Abbie Spencer
SECRETARY



Scott Cowen
AS. SECRETARY



Kristen Gilbertson
PRESIDENT



Emma Thornton
BRANCH COUNCILLOR



THE BENEFITS OF BEING AN **ASU MEMBER**

The ASU believes all legal workers in all positions deserve:

- Decent pay commiserate with qualifications and experience
- Working conditions and working hours that allow for family and community life
- Opportunities for career advancement and salary progression
- Fair treatment and a workplace free of harassment and bullying

As an ASU member you will have your union's support for your professional, collective and individual workplace matters.

CPD and networking opportunities

The ASU runs occasional CPD events for our legal members, allowing progressive lawyers the chance to catch up with other like-minded professionals. Previous presenters have included Deputy President Magistrate of the South Australian Employment Tribunal Stephen Lieshcke; Andrew Collett AM; Rachael Gray QC; and Claire O'Connor SC.

We also hold specific roundtables for legal members to discuss issues impacting your workplace - for example in May 2021 invited female and non-binary members to a dinner to share stories and ideas on how we can tackle sexual harassment in the sector.

You're part of a larger progressive movement

The ASU is a very politically active union. We proudly campaign on social justice issues that matter to our members and are often the only union speaking out in support of these causes.

Unlimited shopping discounts and savings

Through our partnership with Member Advantage, you can access great savings on your everyday expenses including groceries, online shopping and travel. Go to the website www.memberadvantage.com.au/asu and enter your membership number to start saving today!

ASU membership is tax deductible.

To join - go online to www.asusant.com or call us on (08) 8363 1322