



**National Office**  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor, 500 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
PO Box 218  
Collins Street West  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
Telephone: 03 8626 4923  
Fax: 03 8626 4949

15 March 2012

Mr Philip Selth OAM  
Executive Director  
NSW Bar Association  
Selborne Chambers  
174 Phillip Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email

Dear Mr Selth,

**Re closure of the Canberra registry of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal (SSAT)**

I am writing to let you know that the Canberra registry of the SSAT will close at the end of this month.

Arrangements have been made for the members of the SSAT located in Canberra (who will continue to be supplemented by members located in Sydney as necessary) to conduct hearings and any pre-hearing conferences at the premises of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal at 40 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra.

Although applications for review by the SSAT will have to be made by Canberra residents to the SSAT's Sydney registry (whose contact details are on the SSAT's website), inconvenience to applicants is not anticipated as almost all applications for review are received by the SSAT by mail or phone rather than over the counter.

It is not expected that there will be any diminution of the service provided to applicants who live in Canberra or the surrounding area. The SSAT's Sydney registry receives and manages applications for reviews by residents of Newcastle and Wollongong respectively and those reviews are then heard by members located in those two cities (at the premises of the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal).

I would be grateful if you would pass on the information in this letter about the new arrangements for reviews by the SSAT in the Australian Capital Territory to your members or

those of your members who may be asked about the location of the SSAT in Canberra or who have an interest in the operations of the SSAT.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Macdonnell', written in a cursive style.

Jane Macdonnell  
Principal Member