



BAR ASSOCIATION  
OF QUEENSLAND

**Media Release**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT BY THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND ON RECENT ARTICLE IN THE COURIER-MAIL**

President of the Bar Association of Queensland, Mr Peter Davis QC, said in relation to a recent article which appeared on the front page and page 4 of The Courier-Mail on Friday, 29 November 2013:

“The Bar Association of Queensland deplores the article ‘*Gangsta Rap*’ which appeared on the front page of this morning’s Courier -Mail and continued on page 4.

“The article, under the guise of recording the views of one person (described as the ‘Bad boy rapper’), irresponsibly seeks by innuendo to criticise a judicial officer as ‘soft’, ‘controversial’, or as having ‘attracted controversy’.

“There is no proper suggestion that the decision of the magistrate to dismiss the charge against the alleged offender was wrong in law, nor is there a proper suggestion that the sentence imposed upon the offender for drink driving last year was inappropriate.

“However, what is clearly inappropriate is the pursuit (and ridicule) by the Courier-Mail of a particular judicial officer. Such a campaign is irresponsible.

“The Queensland Bar Association restates its commitment to support of the independence of the judiciary and condemns this morning’s newspaper article.”

Friday, 29 November 2013

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For further information, please contact Peter Davis QC  
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