

Antippa Lawyers

since 1961



HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Foreword

These are some things you should do to avoid further evidence being gathered against you and to safe-guard your financial position.

CHANGE RECORDS AT AUTHORITIES

1. If you want your new address to be a secret, you should remove the names of your children from the MyHealth record.
2. Sever any joint bank savings and loan accounts. The other party may deplete all funds. Talk to your bank about access management.
3. Ask your bank to stop the ability of your partner from withdrawing from your loan facility without both signatures.
4. Change your beneficiary on your superannuation to 'as per Will'.
5. Make an appointment with us to change your Will or to make a new Will.

CHANGE HOW YOU USE FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN, WECHAT, SNAPCHAT, TWITTER & OTHER TYPES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Your opponent will try to use your social media pages against you. What you write to your friends, will be shown to the Court to embarrass you. You will be cross-examined about a meaning you had not intended. Even if you think it is okay, the opposition Barrister will use the information to discredit you.

1. **Set** your social media pages to private; do not post anything which you would not want your grandmother / employer / the judge to see.
2. **Assume** everything you post is public, including posts on other people's social media pages.
3. **Do not** post while angry, sad, intoxicated or in a highly emotional state.
4. **Monitor** the photos you put on Facebook.
5. **Vent** to your friends in person or on the phone, not your Facebook friends. You never know who you may have forgotten to delete.
6. **Regularly** go through your Facebook friends and delete those with whom you are no longer acquainted.
7. **Do not** post anything on social media regarding your court matter until after the matter has finished.
8. **Monitor** your privacy settings but do not rely on them always protecting you. It is better not to post anything inappropriate in the first place.
9. **Review** the privacy settings you have on each of your social networks. For example, your privacy settings on your Facebook account may be stricter than on your LinkedIn account. Please see fact sheet Privacy on Social Media for more information about managing privacy settings.

10. **Do not** store passwords for social media accounts on public computers or your personal devices as it makes your information easily obtainable to anyone who may use your technology. For security reasons, it is also best to ensure that each account has a different password. Also check that other people do not know your log-in details and if they do then they, along with their email password should be updated. For example in divorce proceedings, if the former spouse knows your client's account details, they may log in and either post unflattering content or search for private information to use against you.

11. **For example**, if you have not been to the beach for years and you decide to go for a 1 hour trip to alleviate stress and take a photograph of yourself at the beach and post the picture on Instagram, the opposing Barrister will make you look like a 'lay-about' bum who just wants to laze around at the beach all day long and who does not want to work or is incapable of taking responsibility.

FURTHER READING

Further information can be viewed at <http://www.antippa.com.au>

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