

FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT FOR LAWYERS ALLIANCE

Victorian solicitor, Clara Davies, has today become the first female and youngest president in the 14-year history of the Australian Lawyers Alliance.

Admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria in 1999, Ms Davies practises in the area of personal injury law and has specialised in transport accident compensation.

"A key part of my agenda will be to see the Lawyers Alliance continue to pressure the federal government to fulfil its pre-election pledge to hold an inquiry into a national Charter of Rights," Ms Davies said.

"The last decade has seen a dramatic decline in freedoms for all Australians and we need to see these restored at both a national and state level."

Ms Davies said it was also important to fight for the restoration of economic rights for all Australians, including those injured through no fault of their own, and other major groups with a need for compensation, including the stolen generations.

"Another priority of my presidency will be to continue the push for meaningful tort reform across Australia," Ms Davies said. "The rights of the injured continue to be eroded, as is seen by the recent changes to WorkCover in South Australia, and we need to see some balance restored.

"And following the federal government's apology, we need to continue along the path of reconciliation with our Indigenous communities and see that all the recommendations from the *Bringing Them Home* report, including compensation, are enacted," Ms Davies said.

Ms Davies has served as a Victorian Committee Member and a National Director of the Australian Lawyers Alliance. She is a partner at Burt and Davies in Melbourne.

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Further comment is available. Contact: Seth Tenkate on 0404 235 185 or Clara Davies on 0438549650.