



Delia Lawrie

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Tough New Organised Crime Laws Passed

Tough new laws that aim to stamp out the activities of organised crime syndicates and illegal bikie gangs have been passed by the Northern Territory Parliament today.

Minister for Justice and Attorney General, Delia Lawrie, said the new laws will enable the Police to disrupt the activities of organised criminals engaged in serious crime.

The new laws allow for:

- The making of declarations about criminal organisations
- Control orders
- Public safety orders, and
- Fortification removal orders

“The passing of these laws is part of a national approach to stamp out the criminal activities of organised crime syndicates and illegal bikie gangs,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The Henderson Government is tough on crime and criminal activity. These new laws will restrict and disrupt activities of people and organisations involved in serious criminal activity.

“They will also make the Northern Territory less attractive to people or organisations wanting to establish illegal enterprises in the Territory.

“However it needs to be stressed the new laws do not diminish the freedom of Territorians to take part in advocacy, protest or industrial action.

“The laws complement existing Northern Territory laws including the *Criminal Property Forfeiture Act* which has seen property acquired through criminal activity worth more than \$11 million seized since 2003.”

Ms Lawrie said similar legislation had been passed in South Australia and New South Wales.

“I have received advice from the Solicitor General the recent decision by the South Australian Full Court invalidating part of the South Australian legislation would not apply to our legislation”.

“The Territory’s laws include checks and balances to ensure new powers and responsibilities granted to police, the courts and judicial officers, are used appropriately and responsibly in targeting serious outlaw gangs and criminals.”

Media Contact: *Campbel Giles 0407 972 900*

