



THE MEDICO-LEGAL  
SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.  
(A0113962C)

## Experience in “The Whistle-blower Case”

will be presented by

**Mr Bernard Collaery**

The Annual Dinner of the Society will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Melbourne Club, 36 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Drinks served 6.30 pm, the Annual General Meeting will commence at 7.00 pm, followed by the  
Annual Dinner  
Dress: Black Tie

**Bernard Collaery** is a lawyer and former politician. He was a member of the Australian Capital Territory's first Legislative Assembly from 1989 to 1992 and he served as Deputy Chief Minister and Attorney-General from 1989 to 1991 in the Kaine Alliance Government.

In June 2018, the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions charged Mr Collaery under the National Security Information (NSI) Act with disclosing protected intelligence information. That case, the “Whistle Blower” or “Witness K” case, relates to the Australia-East Timor spying scandal, in which the Australian government bugged Timor-Leste offices in order to gain an advantage during commercial negotiations to carve up the resource-rich Timor Sea. However, in July 2022, the charges were waived by Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus. Mr Collaery's defence to the charges was never reached. More than four years were taken up on pre-trial challenges to secrecy.

Mr Collaery will present on his experiences and insights in that extraordinary case.

This presentation will explore a model of justice that can be applied to persons adversely affected by investigations without derogating from the regulator's overarching statutory duty to protect the public.

**Members may bring guests who need not be legal or medical practitioners.**

**Acceptances close Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**No acceptances or refunds will be available after this date.**

**Members and their guests are reminded of the dress requirements. Mobile telephones may not be used inside Melbourne Club. Urgent calls may be made to the Club (9650 4941) and a message will be conveyed by Club staff.**

**The Committee reminds Members that the premises are to be vacated by 11.30 pm.**

**Host Member: Dr Glenn Howlett**

**Mr Ian Rose, Hon. Legal Secretary**  
Tel: (03) 9645 1597 or 0419 551 362

**Dr Craig Barnett, Hon. Medical Secretary**  
Tel: (03) 9429 2724 or 0407 532 447