



Hon Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 13 May 2011

ATTORNEY GENERAL HANDS OUT PARDONS

The NSW Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Greg Smith SC, will hand out 'pardons' to 'inmates' who take part in the Whitelion bailout event at Yasmar Juvenile Detention Centre tomorrow.

Thirty CEOs, managers and business staff from around Sydney will pay \$1500 each to don prison overalls and be locked up overnight in Yasmar, a former juvenile detention facility in the inner-western suburb of Haberfield.

All the Friday-night 'inmates' were due to arrive at the facility at 5.30pm for processing. They include Sydney Opera House CEO Richard Evans, former rugby league international and CEO of Central Coast Bears, Greg Florimo, as well as senior managers from Nandos, Westpac and two directors from Whitelion's major partner Schweppes Australia.

Mr Smith said he was delighted to be able to pardon participants.

"The businesses who have already signed up with Whitelion are ensuring young offenders are given the opportunity to have a reliable job, make a decent wage, and stay on the right track in life," Mr Smith said.

"Whitelion has a deep commitment to making a real difference to the lives of young people. They work closely with Juvenile Justice staff to provide our young offenders in NSW with real jobs and real wages.

"Secure employment builds confidence in young offenders, and can help them realise their full potential and significantly reduce their risk of reoffending.

"We now call upon NSW businesses to get on board with the Whitelion employment program."

Whitelion is not-for-profit community organisation that works with young people in the juvenile justice system to provide job training, work experience, short-term placement and supported ongoing employment.

EVENT DETAILS: Whitelion inmate bail out
Saturday 14 May, 7.45 am, Yasmar Juvenile Justice Centre, 185 Parramatta Road,
Haberfield (access off Chandos street)