



MEDIA RELEASE

Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Citizenship
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Largest upgrade of Lismore Court in 20 years

NSW Attorney General, John Hatzistergos today announced that Lismore Courthouse is undergoing a \$1 million renovation – the largest upgrade to the building since it was expanded almost 20 years ago.

“Lismore has one of the state’s busiest regional courthouses and this major project will ensure it is also one of the most technologically advanced,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

Mr Hatzistergos said that one of the main focuses of the upgrade will be a new court registry that will make services simpler, faster and easier to access.

“Walking into a courthouse can be quite a daunting experience so it’s important that people can easily access legal information and obtain assistance.”

“The new registry will include a public computer terminal to enable court users to browse legal information on the internet, while display boards will contain details about legal resources and support services,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

“The registry will also have a large split-level counter, that will cater for people who need to use a wheelchair or who need to sit down during their inquiry.

“The renovations will also include the installation of a new lift and other accessibility improvements, ensuring people with a disability can move through the court with dignity and are able to sit on juries in District Court trials,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

Other features of the project will include:

- An air conditioning upgrade including major new components;
- Improving security by relocating the Sheriff’s Office to the registry; and
- Improvements to the fire and life safety systems.

The renovations are due to be completed early next year. Meanwhile, a \$171,500 upgrade of the Local and District Court’s audio-visual systems and remote witness room has been completed.

“Audio-visual technology is used to hear bail applications made from prison, testimony from witnesses unable to attend court and closed camera evidence from vulnerable witnesses, such as sexual assault victims,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

“The victim’s evidence can be digitally recorded and used in retrials to spare them the ordeal of testifying again.

“The systems can also playback video evidence recorded by police, such as a crime scene walk-through with a suspect,” he said.