

The Southern Cross Group

Promoting Mobility in the Global Community



The New York State Board of Law Examiners
1 Executive Centre Drive
Suite 202
Albany NY 12203-5195

March 9, 2001

Dear Sirs,

Statistics on Australian Candidates for the NY Bar Exam

The Southern Cross Group is a non-profit organization working to enhance mobility for individuals who live and work outside of their country of nationality. Our Group was founded primarily by professional Australians who are pursuing careers overseas.

We are currently researching the nature, geography and extent of the modern Australian diaspora, and we are seeking to collect data from a variety of sources as to the number of Australians working overseas in particular professions.

We are aware that individuals with Australian law degrees qualify to sit for the New York bar exam. We were wondering whether the State Board of Law Examiners would be able to provide us with any statistical data concerning Australians who have sat for the New York bar exam over the years, and those who have passed. We would also be glad if you could supply us with any information you might have as to how many Australian lawyers licensed in the State of New York are currently practicing in the State or elsewhere.

The data we are collecting will shortly be part of a section on our website presenting statistics about the Australian diaspora. Our research indicates that there is currently a significant brain drain out of Australia in the liberal professions, and that there are now as many as 800,000 Australians living abroad. Australia has a current population of 19 million. One of the aims of our organization is to encourage policy makers in Australia to understand and use the talent bank which Australians overseas represent and as such enhance Australia's role in the global community.

Many thanks for your help in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Anne MacGregor
North American Coordinator