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# Media Release

20 June 2012

## Barring notices produce results

The Australian Hotels Association (WA) (AHA) today expressed support for the State Government's approach of targeting individuals who engage in anti social behaviour at licensed venues with barring notices.

Mr Bradley Woods, AHA CEO, said the latest crime statistics for Northbridge released by the Minister for Racing and Gaming, the Hon. Terry Waldron MLA show barring notices and prohibition orders are reducing anti social behaviour in the popular entertainment precinct.

"We have always supported strategies which target the small minority of individuals who cause problems at pubs, bars and hotels," said Mr Woods.

"The reductions in assaults, threatening behaviour and disorderly conduct in Northbridge since the introduction of barring notices prove this strategy is working.

"The introduction of barring notices in January 2011 was done in consultation with the industry and licensees. These results demonstrate the best outcome for the community is achieved when State Government and the industry work collaboratively.

"The results in Northbridge show that a vibrant and safe entertainment and hospitality environment can be achieved without blanket restrictions which unfairly punish the majority of individuals who do the right thing when enjoying a night out."

Ends

For further information please contact Chuck Ellis, AHA (WA) Public Affairs Manager on (08) 9321 7701, [pubaff@ahawa.asn.au](mailto:pubaff@ahawa.asn.au) or 0410 503 301.



## Ministerial Media Statements

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**Terry Waldron**  
Minister for Sport and Recreation; Racing and Gaming

*Wed 20 June, 2012*

### **Barring notices prove their worth**

#### **Portfolio: Racing and Gaming**

- **270 barring notices issued by WA Police**
- **37 people charged for contravening barring notices**

Eighteen months after barring notices came into effect the latest figures for Northbridge are showing a drop in all key indicators of antisocial behaviour.

Racing and Gaming Minister Terry Waldron said the State Government had given considerable attention to the issue of alcohol-fuelled antisocial behaviour, particularly in our entertainment district.

“That led to the introduction of police barring notices in January 2011, enabling us to directly target troublemakers rather than penalise the vast majority who enjoy alcohol responsibly,” Mr Waldron said.

The Minister said the introduction of prohibition orders three years ago had served as a tool to remove the worst offenders from licensed premises with more than 130 prohibition orders issued to the worst offenders, including those involved in serious glassing assaults.

“Prohibition orders require show cause proceedings and therefore take time to put in place so in 2010, I introduced legislation to establish police barring notices as a less harsh and more efficient means of targeting the less serious incidents of antisocial behaviour,” he said.

As at the end of April this year, a total of 270 barring notices had been issued by WA Police.

A comparison of crime statistics in Northbridge for the 12 months prior to the introduction of barring notices, with the 12-month period after their introduction show there has been a considerable reduction in the number of offences for common assault, threatening behaviour, disorderly conduct and other liquor licensing offences.

“These are significant improvements. While it would be naive to solely credit barring notices for these outcomes, this evidence suggests they have had a very positive impact,” Mr Waldron said.

“Police have, to date, laid 37 charges for persons entering licensed premises in contravention of a barring notice. So this is a great result from a good policy and this Government will continue to explore effective policies that contribute to a healthier and safer community.”

#### **Fact File**

- **Comparing the 12 months prior to barring notice introduction with the 12 months since they were introduced**
  - **Common assault (non-domestic) down by 9%**
  - **Threatening behaviour down by 37%**
  - **Disorderly conduct down by 44%**
  - **Liquor licensing offences down by 82%**

Minister's office - 6552 6100

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