

Quiz

Professional Indemnity Insurance for In-House Lawyers

- 1. What are examples of claims that have been brought against in-house counsel?
 - a. Misleading and deceptive conduct
 - b. Falsifying evidence
 - c. Defamation
 - d. All of the above
- 2. In what circumstances might in-house counsel be considered an officer of the company within the meaning of the *Corporations Act*?
 - a. Where they are sufficiently involved in a decision of the company, particularly where they hold the dual role of company secretary
 - b. Where they have also been appointed as a director of the company
 - c. Where legal advice given was not prefaced by an indication that the communication was privileged
 - d. None of the above

- 3. Why might a litigant choose to include the in-house counsel as a defendant in an action brought against the company?
 - a. Because they are required to join as a defendant any party who was involved in giving the advice in question
 - b. In order to obtain access to privileged communications in the course of the litigation
 - c. In order to be able to access directors and officers insurance that covers the in-house counsel as a source of settlement funds
 - d. In order to be able to compel the attendance of the in-house counsel as a witness at the trial
- 4. What is the consequence for in-house counsel of the fact that professional indemnity insurance policies are often "claims-made" policies?
 - a. A claim will be covered so long as the lawyer was covered at the time that the action giving rise to the claim arose
 - b. A claim will be covered so long as the lawyer is still employed by the company at the time the claim arises
 - c. In-house lawyers need to ensure that they are covered by an insurance policy that will apply at any time that a potential claim can be made, potentially years after the event giving rise to the claim
 - d. It is irrelevant as in-house counsel will always be indemnified by their employer for any claim arising out of their employment
- 5. What issues arise in relation to legal professional privilege in claims against in-house counsel?
 - a. The court will need to be satisfied that the communication in question was made by the lawyer in the course of performing a legal, and not a management, role
 - The company may choose not to waive legal professional privilege, making it more difficult for a third party to access the communications in question
 - c. The same issues arise in determining whether privilege exists as occur in private practice
 - d. All of the above

Answers:

1. d 2. a 3. c 4. c 5. d