

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Group: Written**

**Program: Whole-of-Portfolio**

**Question: BE14/141**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 26-29 May 2014:**

1. Provide a list of all formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the Minister. Include:
  - a. The guest list of each function
  - b. The party or individual who initiated the request for the function
  - c. The menu, program or list of proceedings of the function
  - d. A list of drinks consumed at the function
  
2. Provide a list of the current wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages in stock or on order in the Minister's office

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

**Attorney-General's Department**

1.a-b. The Minister for Justice had one function which included official ministerial hospitality for the period 25 February to 29 May 2014.

Requesting Officer	Date of Event	Breakdown of Attendees
Receptionist, Minister for Justice's Office	15/04/2014	1. Minister for Justice 2. MFJ Chief of Staff 3. MFJ Adviser 4. Second Secretary, Australian Embassy, Hanoi 5. Vietnamese Minister of Justice 6. Vietnamese Ambassador to Australia 7-8. 2 x Vietnamese Government Officials 9. Interpreter/Translator 10-13. 4 x Attorney-General's Department Officials

The Attorney-General had four functions which included official ministerial hospitality for the period 25 February to 29 May 2014.

Requesting Officer	Date of Event	Breakdown of Attendees
N/A – Included on program of official overseas visit	04/04/2014	1. Attorney-General 2. AG Deputy Chief of Staff 3. Secretary, Attorney-General's Department 4. Manager, Public Affairs, Australian High Commission, London 5. Sir Jonathan Mills AO, Director, Edinburgh International Festival, and Creative Adviser for the ANZAC Centenary Arts & Culture Fund 6. Sir Peter Bazalgette, Chairman, Arts Council of England

Requesting Officer	Date of Event	Breakdown of Attendees
N/A – Included on program of official overseas visit	08/04/2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attorney-General</li> <li>2. Secretary, Attorney-General's Department</li> <li>3. Australian Ambassador to the USA</li> <li>4. Counsellor (Political), Australian Embassy, Washington DC</li> <li>5. The Hon John Bellinger, Partner at Arnold &amp; Porter</li> </ol>
N/A – Included on program of official overseas visit	08/04/2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attorney-General</li> <li>2. AG Deputy Chief of Staff</li> <li>3. Secretary, Attorney-General's Department</li> <li>4. Australian Ambassador to the USA</li> <li>5. First Secretary, Australian Embassy, Washington DC</li> <li>6-9. President and Members, Center for Strategic International Studies (CSIS)</li> </ol>
Officer Manager, Attorney-General's Office	16/04/2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attorney-General</li> <li>2. AG Chief of Staff</li> <li>3. AG Deputy Chief of Staff</li> <li>4. AG Adviser</li> <li>5. Vietnamese Minister for Justice</li> <li>6. Vietnamese Ambassador to Australia</li> <li>7-8. 2 x Vietnamese Government officials</li> <li>9-10. 2 x interpreters/translators</li> <li>11-14. 4 x Attorney-General's Department officials</li> </ol>

1c-d. The Department does not have this information.

2. The Department does not have this information.

### Portfolio Agencies

For questions 1 and 2, the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation is unable to respond for security reasons, as it would not be appropriate to comment publicly on this matter. For the remainder of the portfolio, there have been no formal functions or forms of hospitality conducted for the ministers, including purchasing of any beer, wine or other alcoholic beverages for their offices.