MEDIA RELEASE

SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE FUTURE

August 14th, 2012

The Country Liberals have released a suite of policies that target family safety, anti-social behaviour, criminal justice and corrections.

Country Liberals leader, Terry Mills, said the Safe Families, Safe Future initiative provides a blueprint for crime reduction through safer homes, a crack-down on anti-social behaviour, tougher sentences and a focus on rehabilitation and custodial work programs.

“Territorians want real action on law and order, not more of the same being offered up by the Labor Party,” Mr Mills said.

“Our Safe Families, Safe Future initiative offers a fresh approach to reducing crime – starting in the home.

“Under the Country Liberals Safe Homes initiative, families in private residences who have been the victims of violent break-ins can apply to have added security measures installed.

“Works can include strengthened doors, home alarms, security lights, deadlocks and repairs to broken windows and doorframes. Additional funding will be provided to Victims of Crime for this initiative.”
"As well as homes, the Country Liberals are committed to protecting family environments such as parks through the use of CCTV cameras to target trouble spots.

"We will also establish a $1 million Family Environment Fund to help councils clean up parks and make them safe as well as introduce two extra prison work crews at a cost of about $500,000.

"The Country Liberals are committed to introducing mandatory rehabilitation for problem drunks – a promise made by Labor before the 2005 and 2008 Territory elections but never fulfilled.

"The Country Liberals will introduce a Night Safe Strategy to target unsupervised youths on the street as well as amend the Sentencing Act to establish new and meaningful minimum sentencing guidelines for offences involving assault.

"People convicted of serious assault will not be eligible for a suspended sentence and genuine jail time will be imposed for repeat offenders.

"The Bail Act will be tightened to include any crime that puts the general public at risk including home invasions, house-breaks, motor-vehicle theft, fraud and arson.

"Under a Country Liberals Government, our Corrections system will be structured to match the expectations of the Northern Territory community.

"Juvenile offenders will face a period in Boot Camps aimed at early intervention where they are removed from their usual environment and put to work.

"The days of playing video games at Don Dale Correctional Centre will end under a Country Liberals Government.

"Rehabilitation facilities in the Top End and Central Australia will be built for problem drunks who breach a court direction to seek help.

"Our prisons will be used to educate and train people for a job.

"The Country Liberals are committed to shifting the focus away from the perpetrators of crime and onto the victims.

"We make no apologies for being tough on crime and, unlike Labor, will follow up our commitments with real action.

"We are also committed to honouring our pledge to reduce crime by 10% a year during our first term in Government and re-introducing the release of quarterly crime
Costs:
Rehabilitation centres – $60 million
Victims of Crime funding – $2 million
Boot Camp Support – $5 million
Prison Work Gangs – $500,000
Family Environment Fund – $1 million

(See Supporting Document)

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Supporting Documents
Safe Families, Safe Future