

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

Sub Program 1.1.1

Question No. 162

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2009

In relation to Susan Morgan's appointment as a panel member to make recommendations of highly suitable candidates for appointment to the Federal Magistrates Court, concluding 15/01/09, why did this go ahead if the FMC is to be abolished? What has occurred since her appointment?

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

The Hon Susan Morgan was a panel Member for the following appointments to the Federal Magistrates Court:

Melbourne	15/09/2008	Federal Magistrate Bender
	06/10/2008	Federal Magistrate McGuire
	03/11/2008	Federal Magistrate Monahan
Sydney	22/09/2008	Federal Magistrate Walker
	13/10/2008	Federal Magistrate Dunkley
Brisbane	22/09/2008	Federal Magistrate Demack
Hobart	27/10/2008	Federal Magistrate Baker
Adelaide	24/11/2008	Federal Magistrate Cole
Cairns	27/01/2009	Federal Magistrate Willis

There have been no further appointments to the FMC since 27 January 2009. The Government announced a restructure of the federal courts on 5 May 2009. As part of the restructure, all Federal Magistrates will be offered new commissions with either the Federal Court or the Family Court.