

Briefing Number: 1.2
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By: Family Court of Australia

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JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENTS

- The Honourable Diana Bryant was appointed Chief Justice on 05/07/04.
- The Honourable Justice Faulks was appointed Deputy Chief Justice on 25/06/04.
- As at 13 October 2008 there are a total of **36** Family Court of Australia Judges, including the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and FCoA Appeal Division Judges.
- As at 13 October there are a total of **28.5** First Instance Judges in the Family Court of Australia
- Vacancies at 13 October 2008:
 - Justice Mullane (Newcastle)
- There are currently **2** Judicial Registrars, both located in Sydney.
- The Family Court of WA has **5** Judges including the Chief Judge.
- There is **1** 'vacant' judge position (Newcastle) —

Appeal Division

- On appointment, the Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice were also assigned to the Appeal Division.
- Chief Judge Stephen Thackary (FCWA) was formally assigned to the Appeal Division on 16/11/06, replacing Chief Judge Michael Holden (WA).
- The Honourable Justice Stephen O'Ryan was assigned to the Appeal Division on 7 August 2008.
- There are **9** Judges assigned to the Appeal Division

Appointments

- ~~12~~ **(10)** Judges have been appointed since June 2000.
- ~~12~~ **(11)** Federal Magistrates have 'replaced' Judges.

Retirements

- Twenty-two (**22**) FCoA Judges have retired on or since June 2000.
- Justice Steele (Sydney) resigned on 15 January 2008
- Justice Kay (Melbourne) retired 25 February 2008
- Justice Guest (Melbourne) retired 05 May 2008

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- Justice Carmody (Brisbane) resigned 08 July 2008
- Justice Carter (Melbourne) retired 18 July 2008
- Justice Mullane (Newcastle) retired 30 September 2008

JR Retirements & Replacements

- Judicial Registrar Ramsden (Melbourne)/ Coates FM in Cairns
- Judicial Registrar Halligan (Parramatta)/ Halligan FM in Parramatta
- Judicial Registrar Smith (Brisbane)/ Cassidy FM in Brisbane
- Judicial Registrar Forbes (Adelaide)/ vacant – FM to be appointed to Brisbane

JUDICIAL RETIREMENTS & REPLACEMENTS

Summary: June 2000 to October 2008

SUMMARY:		
Number of Judges at 13 October 2008	36	Includes Chief Justice & Full Court
Vacancies at 13 October 2008	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Justice Mullane (Newcastle)
TOTAL	37	Judge Positions
Since June 2000		
Retirements	22	Refer Annexure A
Appointments	10	Refer Annexure A
Positions not filled	1	
FM's Appointed to replace FCoA Judges	11	Refer Annexure A

ANNEXURE:

Annexure A: Listing of Appointments & Retirements since 2000

JUDICIAL RETIREMENTS & REPLACEMENTS (Since June 2000)
June 2000 to October 2008

No	Date	Retirements		Replacements		Date
48	6 Jun 00	The Hon Justice HILTON	Brisbane	The Hon Justice MONTEITH	Townsville	28 Nov 00
48	2 Jul 00	The Hon Justice MOSS	Sydney	The Hon Justice LE POER TRENCH	Sydney	10 Oct 01
48	5 Feb 01	The Hon Justice ROURKE	Parramatta	The Hon Justice STEVENSON	Parramatta	18 May 01
48	15 Mar 02	The Hon Justice SMITHERS	Melbourne	The Hon Justice YOUNG	Melbourne	26 Aug 02
48	29 May 02	The Hon Justice JERRARD	Brisbane	The Hon Justice O'REILLY	Brisbane	10 Jan 03
47	19 Jun 02	The Hon Justice ROBINSON	Adelaide	Federal Magistrate	Adelaide	19 Jan 04
47	31 Dec 02	The Hon Justice LINDENMAYER	Brisbane	The Hon Justice CARMODY	Brisbane	7 Jul 03
46	24 Apr 03	The Hon Justice FREDERICO	Melbourne	Federal Magistrate	Melbourne	10 May 04
46	3 Jun 04	The Hon Justice CHISOLM	Sydney	The Hon Justice WATTS	Sydney	14 Apr 05
45	23 Aug 04	The Hon Justice ELLIS	Sydney	Federal Magistrate	Newcastle	29 Aug 05
44	11 Feb 05	The Hon Justice WILCZEK	Melbourne	Federal Magistrate	Melbourne	31 Jan 06
44	20 Sep 05	The Hon Justice HANNON	Tasmania	The Hon Justice BENJAMIN	Tasmania	19 Aug 05
43	23 Sep 05	The Hon Justice PURDY	Parramatta	Federal Magistrate	Brisbane	12 Sep 05
43	22 Nov 05	The Hon Justice JOSKE	Melbourne	The Hon Justice BENNETT	Melbourne	30 Nov 05
43	10 Jan 06	The Hon Justice ROWLANDS	Sydney	The Hon Justice RYAN	Newcastle	31 July 06
43	24 Feb 06	The Hon Justice MORGAN	Melbourne	The Hon Justice CRONIN	Melbourne	20-Dec-06
43	31-Aug-06	The Hon Justice BUCKLEY	Brisbane	The Hon Justice MURPHY	Brisbane	11-Oct-07
42	16-Dec-06	The Hon Justice MURRAY	Adelaide	Federal Magistrate	Adelaide	12-Mar-07
42	9-Mar-07	The Hon Justice LAWRIE	Sydney	The Hon Justice FOWLER AM	Sydney	16-Nov-07
41	15-Jan-08	The Hon Justice STEELE	Sydney	Federal Magistrate Judith Walker	Sydney	

40	25-Feb-08	The Hon Justice KAY	Melbourne	FM Dunkley via O’Ryan J	Sydney	
39	5-May-08	The Hon Justice GUEST	Melbourne	Federal Magistrate Monahan	Melbourne	
38	8-July-08	The Hon Justice CARMODY	Brisbane	Federal Magistrate Denmack	Brisbane	
37	18-July-08	The Hon Justice CARTER	Melbourne	Federal Magistrate Bender	Melbourne	
36	30 Sept 08	The Hon Justice MULLANE	Newcastle			