



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON PHILIP RUDDOCK MP**

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FOUR NEW FEDERAL MAGISTRATES APPOINTED

Four new Federal Magistrates have been appointed to the Federal Magistrates Court, Attorney-General Philip Ruddock announced today.

The new Federal Magistrates are Mr Paul Howard, Mr Dale Kemp, Dr Warwick Neville and Mr Denys Simpson.

“I welcome these appointments which further extend the service being provided to the community by the Federal Magistrates Court,” Mr Ruddock said.

“All four new Magistrates have considerable skill and expertise which has equipped them with the tools they need to meet their responsibilities.

“They all bring extensive experience in a range of areas, including administrative law, commercial law, family law and industrial and workplace relations.”

- Mr Howard was first admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1986. In 1987 Mr Howard commenced work as a solicitor with the Brisbane legal firm, Pattison & Barry Solicitors, where he focussed primarily on family and general common law. As a barrister, since 1990, Mr Howard has specialised in family law and general common law.

Mr Howard will take up his appointment on 9 July 2007 and will be based in Brisbane.

- Mr Kemp has been with Dibbs Abbott Stillman and its predecessors since 1981, becoming a partner in 1985. His principal area of practice includes general commercial litigation, family law, migration and administrative law, insurance, insolvency and banking law. Mr Kemp is also an Accredited Specialist in Commercial Litigation.

Mr Kemp will be based in Sydney and will take up his appointment on 4 July 2007.

- Dr Neville was admitted to the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1979, practising until 1986 with Norton Smith & Co. where he became a litigation partner. Between 1992 and 2004 he was Research Fellow and Head of the Research Department of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. During that period Dr Neville was involved in a diverse range of matters, including appearing in High Court litigation as well as proceedings before State and Federal anti-discrimination tribunals. Since 2005, he has been an Australian Research Council Doctoral Scholar at the Australian National University.

Dr Neville will take up his appointment on 2 July 2007 and will be based in Canberra.

- Mr Simpson was admitted to the Supreme Court of South Australia in 1975 and practises at the South Australian Bar. He brings to his new position more than 30 years of experience in law, which includes general commercial and civil litigation, trade practices, insolvency, industrial, unlawful discrimination, administrative law and intellectual property. In 1994, Mr Simpson became an accredited Mediator and a graded Arbitrator.

Mr Simpson will take up his appointment on 12 June 2007 and will be based in Adelaide.

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