



ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON PHILIP RUDDOCK MP

NEWS RELEASE

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APPOINTMENT OF THREE NEW FEDERAL MAGISTRATES

Attorney-General Philip Ruddock announced the appointment of Mr Giles Coakes, Mr Michael Jarett and Mr Stuart Lindsay as Federal Magistrates today.

“I am pleased that three legal practitioners of such high calibre have been appointed to the Federal Magistrates Court,” Mr Ruddock said.

“Their appointment will significantly enhance the Court’s capacity to deal with its increasing workload.”

Mr Coakes has practised as a barrister in Newcastle since 1989. He has practised principally in the area of family law.

Prior to his admission to the Bar, Mr Coakes was a partner at Turnbull Hill Partners engaged primarily in matrimonial and de facto disputes, testator family maintenance, bankruptcy and insurance litigation.

Mr Jarrett has practised at the Queensland Bar since 1991. He has a diverse practice which includes matrimonial disputes, care and protection litigation in respect of children, trade practices litigation, criminal work and prosecution work for statutory authorities in Queensland.

Mr Lindsay has practised as a barrister since 1995, predominantly in family law, but also in child welfare and general civil and criminal matters. In 1999 he was a founding member of Sir Mellis Napier Chambers in Adelaide. Mr Lindsay practised as a solicitor from 1981 to 1995.

Mr Coakes will take up his appointment in Newcastle in January 2004. Mr Jarrett will be based in Brisbane and will start work with the Court in February 2004, while Mr Lindsay will take up his appointment in Adelaide in January 2004.

“All the new appointees are experienced practitioners who bring with them a wealth of expertise that will be invaluable to the Court,” Mr Ruddock said.

Media Contact: Charlie McKillop (02) 9251 9305 0419 623 174