



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

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**APPOINTMENT OF THREE FEDERAL MAGISTRATES**

Attorney-General Philip Ruddock today announced the appointments of Louise Henderson, Judith Housego and Kate Hughes as Federal Magistrates.

**Louise Henderson** has practised as a barrister in New South Wales since 2003. She was previously a registrar with the Family Court and a solicitor in private practice specialising in family law. She represented Family Court registrars on the Family Law Committee of the NSW Law Society from 2000 until 2003.

Ms Henderson will take up her appointment on 28 November 2005 and will be based in Parramatta.

**Judith Housego** has practised at the New South Wales Bar since 1996, mainly in the areas of family law and de facto relationships. Prior to being called to the Bar, she was a consultant family law solicitor and a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the University of Technology in Sydney.

Ms Housego will take up her appointment on 16 January 2006 and will be based in Sydney.

**Kate Hughes** is currently the manager of the family and civil law practice of the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission. She was admitted to practice in 1990 and, prior to her current position, practised in the areas of criminal law, domestic violence and family law at the ACT Legal Aid Commission. She was head of the family law practice at the ACT Commission from 1996 to 2003.

Ms Hughes will take up her appointment on 30 January 2006 and will be based in Melbourne.

“Ms Henderson, Ms Housego and Ms Hughes bring to their new positions high level skills, experience and expertise,” Mr Ruddock said.

“They are to be congratulated on their appointment to the Federal Magistrates Court and I wish them every success in their new positions.”

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