

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Attorney-General

Minister for Racing



Wednesday, 8 November, 2017

NEW COUNTY COURT JUDGE APPOINTED

Attorney-General Martin Pakula today announced the appointment of Patricia Riddell as a judge of the County Court.

Ms Riddell brings more than 20 years of legal experience to her new role, specialising in criminal law, occupational health and safety, medical negligence and professional disciplinary matters.

Ms Riddell has also represented families, the former Department of Human Services, and a variety of disability support services at a range of coronial inquests.

She was admitted to legal practice in 1995, and joined the Victorian Bar in 1996.

In addition to representing many private clients in criminal, civil and other matters, Ms Riddell has also appeared in the County Court on behalf of the Secretary to the Department of Justice and Regulation in relation to Serious Sex Offender Supervision Orders.

She has also appeared on behalf of the Australian Government Solicitor in relation to Customs matters.

She was previously In-House Counsel for a Human Rights-based organisation for a twelve-month period, and has prosecuted on behalf of the RSPCA Victoria since 2008.

Ms Riddell has a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts from Monash University.

Ms Riddell's appointment fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Carolyn Douglas on 13 October after 20 years of service as a County Court Judge.

Quotes attributable to Attorney-General Martin Pakula

"Ms Riddell's wealth of knowledge and more than 20 years' of legal experience means she will make an excellent contribution to the County Court, and I congratulate her on her new appointment."

"Ms Riddell's experience in criminal law, occupational health and safety, professional negligence and disciplinary matters, and coronial inquests will make her a valuable addition to the County Court."

"I thank Judge Douglas for her two decades of outstanding service as a County Court Judge."