



'Acting' Solicitor-General becomes 19th NT Administrator

Former Solicitor-General, Tom Pauling QC, was sworn in as Administrator of the Northern Territory at Parliament House on 9 November 2007.

The swearing-in ceremony, by His Excellency Major-General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, took place in the presence of three former Administrators.

His Excellency explained the key functions of Administrator – the constitutional, ceremonial and community functions – at the Administrator's swearing-in ceremony.

The Governor-General said in his official speech at the ceremony, that he knows the Territory is going to be in good hands.

"Mr Thomas Pauling is very well qualified to carry out these important roles," he said.

Mr Pauling has worked in the Northern Territory since his NT admission in 1970, where he was in-house counsel and partner at Cridland & Bauer. He went on to co-found the NT Independent Bar in 1974, and practiced as a barrister between 1974 and 1977 and 1980 and 1988. Pauling was a stipendary magistrate and acting chief magistrate between 1977-1980.

Mr Pauling is a life-member of the Law Society Northern Territory, and has served as both treasurer and vice-president of the Society, and as Statutory Supervisor in his role as Solicitor-General, a position he had held since 1988. He is a life member of the Criminal Lawyers Association of the Northern Territory (CLANT).

Mr Pauling was first admitted in NSW and in the High Court in 1969 after studying at Sydney University. He was later admitted in the Territory (1970) and in WA (1972).

He was appointed as a QC in the Northern Territory in 1984.

Outside of the Law, Pauling has been heavily involved in the Arts, serving both as a patron and a performer for the Darwin Theatre Company. He was one of the stars of 'Lethal Cross Examinations', one of the most popular Law Week 2007 events.

Offices he has held include



His Honour, The Administrator, Mr Tom Pauling QC

Chairmanship of the Museum & Art Gallery Board of NT from 1994-1997, and also of Darwin Performing Arts Centre (now Darwin Entertainment Centre) from 1985-1994.

Pauling's wife Tessa joins him at Government House. They have two children.

The Law Society is fortunate to have secured His Honour, The Administrator, Mr Tom Pauling QC, as the guest speaker for the Opening of the Legal Year 2008 lunches, which will be held on Monday 4 February in Darwin, and Wednesday 6 February in Alice Springs. The Administrator will reflect on his time in the Territory legal profession, and speak of his first few months of his new role.

For your diary...

Opening of the Legal Year 2008:

Darwin

Monday 4 February

Alice Springs

Wednesday 6 February

Law Week 2008:

Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May

Trust Account Investigator



The Law Society is pleased to announce the appointment of Shamus Morton as Trust Account Investigator. Shamus, who has a background as a professional accountant, will be working Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He is happy to answer any queries about trust account matters.