

**SWEARING-IN OF THE HON JUSTICE JERRARD AS JUDGE OF APPEAL  
BANCO COURT  
Monday 3 June 2002, 9:00am**

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**Chief Justice's Observations**

In welcoming Justice Jerrard to the Supreme Court, I note His Honour's accomplished career at the criminal bar, in which he represented the defence in many substantial cases, not a few of them of some notoriety; and his recent four years or so as a Judge of the Family Court of Australia. Admitted to the Bar in 1971, His Honour rose to the rank of Queen's Counsel in 1992. He was a noted defence counsel: I will leave it to others to mention His Honour's forensic triumphs. Since appointment to the Family Court in 1998, he has no doubt been exposed to the variety of complications which confront that court, including the intricacy of the considerations which sometimes attend the distribution of matrimonial property.

The fare of the Court of Appeal division of this court includes a substantial amount of complex civil appeal work. His Honour's particular challenge will be to exhibit the skill necessary to deal with such cases at this highest State level, with confidence and authority. The mix of criminal and civil work which requires the attention of the Court of Appeal division necessitates the appointment of Judges capable of disposing of a variety of work, with expeditious efficiency and authority, and in a way which commands the confidence of litigants. While civil work has not I understand featured in His Honour's legal career to date, his intellectual challenge now will be to rise to meet those demands, a challenge I am confident he will discharge.

On behalf of the Judges, I wish Justice Jerrard well as he joins us in our discharge of these important public responsibilities.