



Swearing-in ceremony of
Mr Duncan V C McMeekin SC as a Judge of the Supreme Court,
to sit in the Trial Division
Banco Court
Tuesday, 16 October 2007, 9.15am

**The Hon Paul de Jersey AC
Chief Justice of Queensland**

We welcome Justice McMeekin to the ranks of the Supreme Court. His Honour is the 103rd appointee to the court in its 146 year history. While His Honour will sit in Brisbane for the rest of this year, he will from 17 January 2008 become the Central Judge, resident in Rockhampton, and Justice Dutney will from then sit in Brisbane. While in statistical mode, I note Justice McMeekin will be the 12th Central Judge, in the 112 year history of that Court District.

I welcome the Attorney-General this morning, and the Acting Director-General, together with Justice Kiefel of the High Court, the Chief Judge, Judges of the District, Federal and Family Courts, Magistrates and Tribunal members. The Chief Magistrate has asked me particularly to mention his regret at his inability to be present today. I note with pleasure that the Deputy Chief Magistrate is present.

Justice McMeekin is a graduate in economics and law from the University of Queensland. He has practised successfully at the Bar for the last 30 years, 25 of them in Central Queensland and the last five in Brisbane. He was appointed Senior Counsel in 1998. While he has practised in most areas of the law, there has been a focus on the civil side, especially personal injury, commercial and insurance cases. He brings substantial legal acumen and experience to the significant role he now assumes.

The Judge has over the years been substantially involved with the Central Queensland community, and that equips him particularly well for the Central Queensland appointment he will shortly assume. For example, he was for four years trustee of the Rockhampton Girls Grammar School, a trustee of the Rockhampton Art Gallery for five years, for eight years a member then Chairman of the Committee of the Central Queensland Branch of



Swearing-in ceremony of
Duncan Vincent Cook McMeekin SC as a Judge of the Supreme Court,
to sit in the Trial Division
Banco Court
Tuesday, 16 October 2007, 9.15am

Relationships Australia, and a member then Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of Rockhampton and Districts Rugby Union for almost 20 years. He is very well respected within the Capricornia region.

We warmly welcome Justice McMeekin to the court, and Mrs Elizabeth McMeekin to the court community.