New President appointed to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal

The Attorney-General George Brandis QC has announced the appointment of the next President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) - the Honourable Justice David Thomas.

Justice Thomas comes to AAT with a wealth of experience; his most recent positions include President of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) and judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland. Prior to these positions, he was a commercial litigation solicitor for more than 30 years, practising as a partner in the Brisbane firm, Morris, Fletcher and Cross, and as a partner in Minter Ellison.

Justice Thomas is also the President of the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland, Chair of the Queensland Maritime Museum, Deputy Chair of Queensland Ballet, a Director of The Society of The Sacred Advent Schools and an Adjunct Professor at Murdoch University.

"It is a privilege to be appointed President of the AAT," Justice Thomas said.

"I am looking forward to leading the AAT at this important time as it continues to integrate and improve its services following the amalgamation of the AAT in 2015."

"I'm committed to ensuring the AAT continues to provide an independent, accessible, fair, economical and quick way for Australians to appeal decisions made by the Australian Government."

"I'm also committed to further engagement with our stakeholders in order to promote transparency, public trust and confidence in our decision-making process," he said.

The Tribunal would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Honourable Justice John Logan RFD for his work as Acting President during the past few months.

The Attorney General has also announced 64 new appointments and re-appointments to the AAT.

All of the appointments are for seven years. A majority of the appointees are existing members of the Tribunal.

A full list of appointed members is available in the media release provided by the Attorney-General for Australia.

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