



**SUPREME COURT  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
Stirling Gardens  
Barrack Street  
Perth WA 6000

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## **MEDIA ALERT**

11 December 2003

### **Appointment of Senior Counsel**

#### **Announcement by The Hon David K Malcolm AC Chief Justice of Western Australia**

The Chief Justice today announced the appointment of two Barristers as Senior Counsel in Western Australia -- Mr Stephen David Hall and Mr Graeme Harold Murphy.

Applications for appointment closed on 31 August 2003. This year, there were 34 applications which is a new record. Following the closure of the applications, the Chief Justice has undertaken an intensive period of consultation, including consultations with the Judges and Masters of the Supreme Court, the Judges of the Federal Court in Western Australia, the Chief Judge of the Family Court of WA, the Chief Judge of the District Court, the President of the Industrial Relations Commission, the Chief Stipendiary Magistrate, the Solicitor-General, the President of the Law Society of WA, the President of the WA Bar Association, the President of the Women Lawyers' Association and nominated representatives of existing Queen's Counsel and Senior Counsel.

The appointment of Senior Counsel is made only on the basis that, in the opinion of a substantial majority of those consulted by the Chief Justice, the candidate meets the published criteria for appointment in *Practice Direction No 1 of 2001*, namely, eminence in the practice of the law, especially in advocacy; unquestioned integrity; availability; and independence. They rank in order of precedence in accordance with the respective dates upon which they were first admitted to practice.

#### **Stephen David Hall**

Mr Hall was born in Western Australia on 23 May 1962 and educated at Lockridge Senior High School. He obtained his degrees of Bachelor of Jurisprudence and Bachelor of Laws at the University of Western Australia in 1983 and 1984. He was admitted to practice in Western Australia in 1985 and in the Northern Territory in 2000. From 1985-1986 he was employed by Lohrmann, Tindal and Guthrie. In 1986 he joined the Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions in Perth. In 1988 he became a Senior Legal Officer in the General Prosecutions Branch, becoming Principal Legal Officer in 1990 and from 1991-1999, Senior Assistant Director in the Commercial Prosecutions Branch.

Mr Hall joined the Independent Bar in November 1999 as a member of Wickham Chambers, practising in criminal law both as prosecuting and defence counsel, administrative law,

