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3 December, 2008

## **MEDIA STATEMENT - APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR COUNSEL**

The Chief Justice of Western Australia, the Hon Wayne Martin, today announced the appointment of two barristers as Senior Counsel after 15 applications were received. The appointments are Mr Laurie Levy and Mr Simon Moncrieff.

Appointment as Senior Counsel is based on eminence in the practice of law, especially in advocacy, unquestioned integrity, availability and independence.

A Committee advises the Chief Justice on applications for appointment. The Committee, chaired by Chief Justice Martin, comprises the President of the Court of Appeal, the Senior Judge of the Supreme Court, the President of the State Administrative Tribunal, the Senior Judge of the Federal Court resident in Perth, the Chief Judge of the Family Court and the Chief Judge of the District Court.

### **Mr Laurie Levy**

Mr Levy was born in March 1965 and was awarded a Bachelor of Laws from Monash University in 1989. He was articled to Mr David Grace, at Grace & Macgregor, Barristers & Solicitors in Melbourne.

Mr Levy was admitted to practice in Victoria in 1990, and in Western Australia in 1997. Since 1989, he has practised exclusively in criminal law, appearing in criminal cases in Victoria, New South Wales and WA. Mr Levy was a barrister at the Victorian Bar from 1993 – 1997. Since 2000, he has been the principal of Laurie Levy and Associates.

Mr Levy has been a committee member of the Criminal Lawyers Association of Western Australia since 1999.

### **Mr Simon Moncrieff**

Mr Moncrieff was born in May 1953. He obtained a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Adelaide in 1974, and was admitted to practice in South Australia in 1975. He was an articled clerk with Wallman and Partners in Adelaide. From 1979 to December 1985, he practised on his own account as a barrister and solicitor in Adelaide, with an emphasis on family law and guardianship.

From 1985 to 1991, he was the principal and managing director of Lehmann-Moncrieff, a firm specialising in family law. He commenced at the Independent Bar in November 1991.

He moved permanently to Western Australia in 2000 where his practice is primarily in family law. Mr Moncrieff is currently President of the Family Law Practitioners' Association.

Media contact: Val Buchanan, Media & Public Liaison for the Courts  
Ph: (08) 9421 5303; Pager: (08) 9324 4319