

THE SUPREME COURT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WELCOME TO THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE STEPHEN DAVID HALL

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT PERTH ON FRIDAY, 24 JULY 2009, AT 9.33 AM

24/7/09
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MURRAY ACJ: Well, that's the difficult part of the morning done. I am pleased to say that his Honour the Chief Justice is temporarily absent from the jurisdiction. Did that come out right? He apologises for his absence, but it certainly has given me the pleasure of being able to preside at this sitting.

The purpose of our gathering here today, of course, is to welcome his Honour Justice Stephen Hall to the Bench. His Honour joins us at the ripe old age of 47. Marginally he is the youngest member of the Court. He looks forward to a mere 23 years of active judicial service dedicated to the people of this State. It is with the greatest of pleasure that I record the presence on the Bench this morning of his Honour Justice French, the Chief Justice of Australia. I ask you all to note where his Honour sits.

You will see also - it should not pass unremarked - that not only in my person but in the person immediately flanking his Honour Justice French and his Honour Justice Hall are Justices Miller and Hasluck, members of the class of 63. I see we will be later addressed by the Solicitor-General, another member of the class of 63. It has been rather disgracefully described to me that this is an example of a resurgence of the elderly, but I (indistinct).

I am delighted to see present here this morning members of his Honour's family: Dr Jeni Hood, who is a veterinarian, his wife; and his three children, Xavier, Freya and Dominic. His Honour's curriculum vitae says that his family also consists of dependent animals: canine, feline and rodent. I record the Court's immense gratitude that his Honour saw fit to leave them home today but rather invited his mother, Mrs Marjorie Hall; his mother-in-law, Mrs Jessie Hood; various sisters-in-laws and nieces. It is wonderful to see them all here.

I also have great pleasure in acknowledging the presence at the bar table of the Solicitor-General, Mr Meadows QC, a distinguished member of the class of 63 - perhaps I will stop saying that; Mr Stow, the President of the Law Society; and Mr Stephen Davies for the WA Bar Association, each of whom you will have the pleasure of hearing from shortly.

There are other distinguished guests whose presence I should record. The Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Craigie, Senior Counsel, and Mrs Craigie are present; the Chief Judge of the District Court - I see her Honour Judge Kennedy; I think perhaps not yet present, the Honourable Professor Malcolm was to come this morning; and his Honour Chief Magistrate Heath is present, together with a goodly round-up so that the record would show of counsel robed at the bar tables.

On 3 July I was privileged to attend Government House to hear his Honour take the oath of office, not only to

faithfully serve the people of this State as a member of the Supreme Court but also, in the classical words which date from feudal times in England, "to do right to all manner of people according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill will".

It was a solemn occasion, those words encompassing, as they do, the supreme importance of judicial independence and judicial impartiality; matters which are firmly maintained so that we continue to perform the functions of our office unaffected by the popularity of the cause, by public views, expressions of opinion in the media, but guided solely by the notion of justice under the law. I have no doubt that his Honour will do well in the difficult task of judging which lies ahead.

I am familiar with some of his Honour's history. He was, as a number of Judges of this Court were, educated in state schools. He graduated LLb at the University of Western Australia in 1984. In practice, after a short period in a law firm, he joined the office of the Commonwealth DPP where he has remained for other 13 years, leaving to join the private Bar in 1999. His Honour was appointed Senior Counsel in 2003.

Apart from mentioning those matters I will say nothing more about his Honour's time in practice, not because it's all too appalling to mention but because I do not want to intrude upon what will be said from the bar table in respect of those matters. I should, however, say something about his Honour's personal attributes.

Apart of course from his unhappy association with rodents, his Honour is disgracefully healthy. He enjoys bushwalking and other physical activities. However he is - they're quick. Aren't they quick? He is what he describes as an enthusiastic, if temperamental, cook, and reading that I was left in some doubt. In the end I have come down to the view that we might refrain for a while from asking his Honour to put on a spread for the monthly Judges' lunch.

At a more intellectual level, his Honour is a published poet. We look forward to Denningesque judgments provided his Honour avoids judgment writing school, which I think would be devoted to suppressing that sort of individuality. His Honour is noted for his capacity to carry a substantial workload. However, that may have been thrown into some doubt by the fact that having been sworn in on July 3, that's a Friday, his Honour presented himself at the Court ready to assume his duties on Monday, 6 July.

Now, it won't escape the notice of some assembled that that was the first day of the Court's winter recess, but we were waiting for him. He managed to fill his week with a series of matters of a kind which his Honour will need to become used to: urgent matters, ill-prepared, and plenty of them. It was reported to me that his Honour bore

up well.

Your Honour, we expect great things from you. You join the general division or trial division of this Court and you will have the pleasure of a wide variety of work, intellectually challenging, with much of interest leavening the daily tedium of the judicial grind. Now, see, I wrote that. Perhaps I shouldn't have said that, but never mind. It sounds awful and so I should focus finally upon what lies ahead of you.

You will be exposed to the fascination of people as litigants and in their involvement with the Court's processes. You will learn much about humanity and its worth. There will be humour to lighten the days, but much that will require compassion and sympathy. I have no doubt that you have the wisdom to make a significant contribution to the life of this Court and the welfare of the community you serve.

What can we do? We can provide you with unsatisfactory accommodation. I am not dubbed the Judge in charge of the lack of accommodation for nothing, you know. If you serve your allotted span, you may look forward to graduating, as I have done, to a set of Chambers with an outside loo - freezing in winter and boiling hot in summer. But inadequate facilities are mere trivialities. You join a strong Bench, people with judicial offices of great ability. They will support you but you are a man from whom we will also learn. We wish you well in the years ahead. Mr Solicitor?

MEADOWS, MR: May it please the Court. It gives me great pleasure to appear here today on behalf of the Government and the people of the State at this special sitting to welcome your Honour Justice Stephen Hall as a Judge of the Supreme Court. May I, at the outset, extend to the Court the Attorney's apologies for his absence today on this important occasion. Unfortunately, ministerial commitments have precluded his attendance. Nevertheless, he has asked me to extend to your Honour his personal congratulations and best wishes on your appointment.

As we have heard, your Honour was sworn in as a Judge of the Court on 3 July and, as his Honour Justice Murray has said, you commenced in office on Monday, 6 July and you have already been blooded, so this welcome is a little belated as by now I suppose you could regard yourself as something of an old hand.

Your Honour, as Justice Murray mentioned, completed your secondary education at a state high school, namely the Lockridge Senior High School, and thereafter commenced your law studies at the University of Western Australia. You completed a Bachelor of Jurisprudence degree in 1983 and a Bachelor of Laws in 1984. You undertook articles at Lawman Tindle and Guthrie and were admitted to practice in 1985. Subsequently you completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at

UWA.

In 1986, you commenced employment with the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions in the major fraud branch and became involved in several large-scale bottom of the harbour tax fraud cases. You then joined the general prosecutions branch where you were responsible for a wide range of prosecutions. In 1991, you became Senior Assistant Director of the commercial prosecutions branch and you conducted a number of complex fraud trials on behalf of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, including those of the notorious Alan Bond and Robin Greenburg of Western Women fame, or notoriety perhaps.

Then in 1999, after 14 years as a Commonwealth Crown Prosecutor, you joined the independent Bar as a member of Francis Burt Chambers. You have a diverse practice consisting principally of complex crime, insolvency, revenue, disciplinary tribunal, administrative law and coronial and other inquiry matters. You were regularly briefed by both the State and Commonwealth Directors of Public Prosecutions, and in the latter capacity you have appeared for the Commonwealth in courts in every Australian jurisdiction, with the possible exception of Tasmania. You also have appeared on special leave applications in the High Court of Australia.

From June to December 2001, you were retained as counsel assisting the Royal Commission into the finance broking industry; the Temby Royal Commission. In 2002 to 2003, you were retained as counsel assisting the Royal Commission into whether there had been corrupt or criminal conduct by any Western Australian police officer, otherwise known as the Kennedy Royal Commission.

In 2003, you were appointed as Senior Counsel in recognition of the eminence you had achieved as counsel. Since then you have appeared as counsel assisting in the Corruption and Crime Commission in a number of inquiries, including the inquiry into the Smiths Beach development and the inquiry into lobbying. I venture to say that there are some parties who have appeared before those inquiries who will be relieved to know that your Honour can no longer subject them to probing and insightful cross-examination.

Since 2005, you have been on a non-exclusive retainer with the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions and this has exposed you to forensic work in other jurisdictions, and I have mentioned them all. In addition to that, I'm sure we will all be pleased to learn that your Honour has a top-secret security clearance.

More seriously though, I would suggest that your Honour's exposure to this high level of forensic experience has provided you with an excellent grounding for judicial office and will undoubtedly enhance the Court's capability in the criminal law area.

In this regard, in 2006 your Honour spoke at the Australian Future Directions Forum. This is a national forum that invited emerging leaders in various fields of endeavour to participate in social policy development, and you had this to say:

My aspiration for Australia is that it not be a country whose people live in fear or act out of fear. This can be achieved in two ways. Firstly, by identifying and countering real risks. Laws must be passed that balance effectiveness with fairness, and by ensuring those who enforce those laws are people of ability and good conscience. Secondly, by countering action that is the product of baseless fear. Fear that is uncontrolled and not balanced with reasons spawns race riots, hate crimes and bigotry. It may also lead us to take an ever-narrower view of who we are. Australia would be poorer for this.

You went on to say:

As we address the threats, we must not forget to maintain and enhance the things that have made us what we are: an immigration policy that allows for cultural diversity, a strong representative democracy, an independent judiciary, equal opportunity, and protections from exploitation and discrimination. These rights and liberties may make us vulnerable but they are the source of our strength and our identity as Australians.

This impressive manifesto could almost be described, I believe, as a job application to join the independent judiciary of which your Honour spoke, as one who meets the description of a person of ability and good conscience and who is well equipped to enforce the nation's laws in a way that balances effectiveness with fairness. At all events, I believe we can be confident that in your Honour we have a Judge who can deliver on those worthy aspirations.

His Honour Justice Murray has referred to your Honour's writing. As he said, you're a writer of poetry, and poetry which focuses on justice and morality issues. As he said, you have been published in literary magazines and in particular in the anthology of Western Australian Poets, Wordhord, published by the Fremantle Arts Centre Press. You are also a passionate reader, saying that you read everything from atlases to crime novels. He has also mentioned your penchant for food, and also you enjoy cinema and theatre.

In reflecting on the exhausting array of outside interests, I was reminded of the words of that great American Judge, Felix Frankfurter, who, when responding to a letter from a young boy who had asked how best to prepare for a career in the law, replied:

My dear Paul, no-one can be a truly competent lawyer unless he is a cultivated man. The best way to prepare for the law is to come to the study of the law as a well-read person. No less important for a lawyer is the cultivation of the imaginative faculties by reading poetry, seeing great paintings, listening to great music. Stock your mind with the deposit of much good reading and widen and deepen your feelings by experiences vicariously as much as possible the wonderful mysteries of the universe and forget all about your future career. With good wishes, Felix Frankfurter.

It seems as if your Honour has followed this advice in your preparation for judicial office. That said, I think, as his Honour Justice Murray suggested, we can proceed in the expectation that your Honour's judgments will not only reflect good judgment and sound knowledge of the law, but a good read as well, perhaps with the occasional iambic pentameter and alliteration thrown in.

Citations of poetry are not uncommon in legal circles and in that context may I quote from the poem *Law, Like Love* by the celebrated poet W.H. Auden, which your Honour might find salutary:

Law, says the judge as he looks down his nose,
 Speaking clearly and most severely,
 Law is what I've told you before,
 Law is as you know I suppose,
 Law is but let me explain once more,
 Law is The Law.

It reminds me of your Honour the Chief Justice, Justice French, in speaking of one Sylvester Stallone where he said, "I am the law." On that note, may I conclude by congratulating your Honour on your appointment to the Supreme Court and thank you for making this significant commitment to the service of the State and its people, on whose behalf I now extend to you our best wishes for a lengthy and fulfilling career on the Bench. May it please the Court.

MURRAY J: Thank you, Mr Solicitor. Yes, Mr Stow, Mr President?

STOW, MR: May it please the Court. On behalf of the Law Society of Western Australia, I congratulate your Honour Stephen Hall on your appointment to this Court. You have a well-deserved reputation, being a person of undoubted integrity with an excellent insightful mind, knowledge of the law and considered logic, and some of those attributes in detail have been mentioned by the Solicitor-General. Your Honour's presence on the Bench will only add to the standing of this Court.

Your Honour's contribution to the law and justice has

been over an extended period, both as a prosecutor and also as defence counsel. Indeed, you have been in demand both in WA and also in the Eastern States. That is a rare feat for WA counsel. Your extensive and varied experience from prosecuting wildlife smugglers - and I wonder whether rodents come into this; I'm not sure - to appearing as counsel in the recent Corruption and Crime Commission hearings in WA, as well as of course a prosecutor in the Bond Corporation cases, is well known.

Despite a very busy practice, your Honour has made a significant contribution to the Law Society and provided the Society with a wealth of service over the past decade. You have maintained active positions in both the administrative law and criminal law committees for a number of years, although it is your Honour's contribution to your longest-serving committee, and dare I say, knowing some of the members of that committee, I suspect the most enjoyable committee, that you are most remembered for. The committee, of course, is the Brief editorial committee which has the enviable task of driving the editorial content of the Society's flagship legal journal, Brief. Speaking to some of your fellow long-timers on the Brief editorial committee, they describe you as, and I quote:

A very industrious and productive member of the committee; one of those Senior Counsel who not only successfully performed a great deal of legal work in his busy practice, but also found time to be a regular attendee of the Brief editorial committee meetings, always coming along with carefully thought out comments on items on the committee agenda.

Brief editor, Ron Bower, said as well as researching and writing material for the publication, your Honour - and again I quote:

Made wise and insightful contributions to the committee's discussion of issues being considered in articles for publication, and in so doing usually steered the committee towards clarity and accuracy in the identification of issues.

Those attributes I am sure will serve you well in this in this Court. The Society and the committees you have been involved in have been generously well served by your lengthy period of service and I thank you for your contributions to the work of the Society, and in particular shaping both editorial and policy alike for Brief. The Society will of course be worse off for your appointment. However, with the pleasantness, insightful mind, attention to detail, good humour and legal knowledge you bring to this Court, the community of Western Australia will be benefitting from your appointment to this Court.

I hope at an appropriate time we can persuade you to come back to the offices of the Society and further contribute to our work. I wish your Honour well on the

next stage of your career in the law. May it please the Court.

MURRAY J: Thank you, Mr Stow. Mr Davies?

DAVIES, MR: Your Honours, on behalf of members of the West Australian Bar Association, may I present our compliments and congratulations to your Honour on the occasion of your Honour's appointment as a Judge of this Court. It's a great honour to speak on behalf of the Bar Association at your Honour's welcome and I am grateful to the President of the Bar Association, Mr Craig Colvin SC, for affording me the opportunity of doing so.

As has been observed, your Honour has been in practice in this State for a little under 24 years and what your Honour has achieved in that period is quite remarkable. By the time your Honour joined the independent Bar in 1999, already your Honour had been involved in most of the major white collar criminal matters in this State. That included the prosecution of Robin Greenburg, in which your Honour appeared without a leader; the La Promenade trial, in which your Honour appeared as junior counsel; the prosecution of Kevin Parry; and of course the Bell cash strip prosecutions, in which your Honour was extensively involved in the prosecution of Alan Bond.

At the Bar, your Honour's practice continued in a similar vein. Your Honour continued to be involved in the cash strip prosecutions as lead counsel in the prosecution of Tony Oates, and on the sentencing when ultimately a guilty plea was entered. Your Honour also appeared as lead counsel in a number of very complex commercial matters involving share market manipulation and share warehousing. That was in addition to your Honour's role in the two Royal Commissions that have already been mentioned.

Your Honour's practice has by no means been confined to white collar crime and nor has it been confined to Western Australia. Recently in Queensland your Honour conducted the prosecution of five persons at the Australian end of what is known as the Bali Nine case; in Victoria your Honour recently appeared on the appeal involving Tony Mokbel in relation to his conviction in absentia for drug importation; and in South Australia your Honour recently conducted the prosecution of a former South Australian Attorney-General on fraud charges.

Your Honour is held in the highest regard by the profession. The regard with which you are held is evidenced, among other things, by the fact that you are regularly retained by lawyers who have run into difficulties of their own. As difficult as such cases can be, your Honour never shirked from agreeing to assist a colleague in need, sometimes in complex and lengthy matters and, typically of your Honour, without any fee.

Your Honour brings to the Bench every quality that

could be hoped for in a Judge of this Court. As the outline of your career demonstrates, your Honour has a prodigious capacity for work and, moreover, a prodigious capacity for work of the most complex and difficult type.

Another undoubted quality of your Honour is courage. In the finest traditions of the Bar, your Honour has never shied away from the most difficult cases or from taking on matters where the cause has been unpopular or controversial. There can be no doubt that your Honour has amply the strength of character to discharge this most important of roles in our community according to law. Your Honour is also possessed of a disposition that is measured and careful and modest. Your Honour's personal modesty, for which you are widely known, is all the more remarkable for your Honour's accomplishments and abilities.

At the Bar, your Honour will be very much missed. Your Honour was a regular instructor in the Bar readers' course in which your Honour lectured in ethics, evidence and advocacy. Although your Honour has been out of Chambers for the last few years, your Honour had been expected to return to Chambers this year and your return was very much looked forward to. Your Honour was at the peak of your career at the time of your appointment and you would undoubtedly have remained a leader of the Bar in the areas in which you practice for a great many years to come.

These events are sometimes marked by the bringing out of little-known facts about the Judge who has been appointed. Something has been made today of your Honour's interest in poetry. In my own friendship with your Honour, your Honour's interest in poetry is something I have been able to overlook.

Your Honour may recall that in the television series *West Wing*, circumstances arose in which the fictional Chief Justice of the United States became unwilling to deliver judgments other than in verse. I should remind your Honour that this was regarded by the President and his advisers as an indication that it was time for the Chief Justice to resign.

In fact, your Honour's interest in poetry is but the tip of the iceberg of your Honour's other, lesser-known accomplishments, of which there are many and too many to mention. On behalf of the Bar Association, may I welcome your Honour to appointment to this Court. We have no doubt that your Honour will be a member of the Bench respected not only for your office but for your ability and capacity. May it please the Court.

MURRAY J: Thank you, Mr Davies. Your Honour?

HALL J: Thank you, Justice Murray, Judges of this Court, Chief Justice French, distinguished guests, friends and family. May I commence by thanking each of you, Mr Solicitor, Mr Stow and Mr Davies, for your generous and

kind remarks. Though you have each been too polite to mention my shortcomings, I am all too keenly aware that I still possess them.

Like so many others in this wonderful country, I am a product of the migrant experience. My family migrated here from England when I was five. My parents, with characteristic, selflessness, hoped for better opportunities for their children. In that they have, I think, been amply rewarded.

I recall very little of the voyage to Australia but one incident remains quite vivid and perhaps contains the seeds of an interest in justice. I had been given a toy in the form of a very large flattened spring. It was called a slinky. Placed at the top of a staircase and stretched to the next step, it would walk down the stairs. Being too young to understand the effects of momentum and gravity, this seemed utterly magical to me.

The ship we travelled on had an Italian crew, so the food was good but effective communication was impossible. One day when I was playing alone, a member of the crew, using what sounded to me to be extremely rude Italian words, took my slinky. My parents attended upon the purser, who said in very broken English that the spring was clearly an important part of the ship's engines and would remain confiscated.

Now, my father was a mechanic and knew a thing or two about engines. He pointed out that the circumstantial evidence was overwhelmingly against the purser. For one thing, it was extremely unlikely that a five-year-old boy could access the engine room and remove a vital piece of the machinery, and secondly, the ship was sailing blithely on without apparently missing its essential spring.

The point of this story is that whilst my toy was later returned to me, I recall feeling the most intense sense of injustice; the sense of injustice that children often feel when faced with the summary and arbitrary power of adults. It's not for nothing that procedural fairness was once called natural justice.

Without having the words to express it, I knew that it was wrong that I had not been told what the charge was against not, not being told what the evidence was, had never had the opportunity to provide an explanation, and had been denied any sort of fair hearing. Whilst the law dresses up many of its concepts in jargon that excludes ordinary people, reduced to its essentials much of it is simply about the same things that concerned me then: producing fair results by fair means.

Notwithstanding that early experience of injustice, I fell into the law somewhat accidentally. I was the first in my family to go to university and the worlds of possibility that that offered were bewildering. I cannot

pretend that I very much enjoyed law at university, or even initially in practice. That was until I found my way into litigation, particularly crime. The sheer drama and intellectual rigor of it was exhilarating.

One of the great privileges of my career has been the opportunity to talk to juries as an advocate. Whilst as conversations go it's fairly one-sided, I have received some fairly positive feedback, even if it was only one or two words. I expect the present jury will be more forthcoming on my performance today.

The involvement of juries in the criminal justice system is, in my view, one of the great foundations of the legal system. Lawyers are accomplished complicators of things. Juries require and ensure that the law is understandable and meaningful to ordinary people. They ensure that the law remains grounded and reflects the broader values of society.

A substantial part of my career has been spent with the office of the Commonwealth DPP and I am honoured that the current Commonwealth Director, Chris Craigie SC, has been able to attend this ceremony today. My experience with the Commonwealth has given me the opportunity to appear in most of the superior Courts in Australia. Federal criminal law is both complex and fascinating, not infrequently raising difficult jurisdictional and constitutional questions. It has to be said, however, that Commonwealth statutory draftspersons have acquired a reputation for labyrinthine style.

Of course this complexity is not always welcome by Judges and I have to say I have borne the brunt of judicial frustration from Darwin to Melbourne and from Brisbane to Perth. I hope I always dealt with that with good humour and will resist the temptation to revenge myself on advocates who appear for the Commonwealth in future.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the opportunities that were afforded to me of working as counsel assisting at two Royal Commissions and in the Corruption and Crime Commission. I am grateful for the encouragement, support and confidence shown in me in that regard by Ian Temby QC, Peter Hastings QC, former Commissioner and Chief Judge of the District Court Kevin Hammond, and the current Commissioner of the CCC, Len Roberts-Smith QC.

I have always found analogies a useful way of understanding things. My son Dominic has also used them in coming to terms with my career. He has an interest in war games and in such games a character for whom you acquire additional powers, abilities or weapons is upgraded. When I became a barrister I overheard him telling a school mate, who had boastfully declared that his father was a solicitor, that his own dad was an upgrade on a solicitor. Now, I have to confide in you that this is a view widely

held at the Bar but rarely shared with instructors.

When I became a Senior Counsel, I went along with the analogy and agreed that, yes, it probably could be seen as an upgrade. Unfortunately for Dominic, this analogy probably no longer works. Whilst technically a Judge has many fearsome powers to smite and to cast down into deep dungeons, they can't be used at will and certainly not on people you don't like.

I have had to explain that I no longer fight for anything, just decide who wins. Yet in doing so I hope to uphold the essential principles of fairness and equity before the law. I'm afraid I have lost all credibility as a warrior, but not I hope as a father.

A dear friend of mine told me that the nuns at her school had said that there were two calls from God that could not be refused: to be a Priest and to be a Judge. My call came from the Solicitor-General, who, with all due respect, I didn't reasonably mistake for the deity. Nevertheless, if this was a calling, I am thankful it was for the latter rather than the former vocation, if only because I think I'm slightly better equipped and certainly more naturally inclined to be a Judge.

A few days ago I had cause to refer to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders, known to many lawyers and doctors as DSM-IV. Amongst other symptoms, it describes an irrational fear that every word spoken is being secretly recorded and that somewhere else it will be read out in varying tones of sarcasm and disbelief. The sufferer fears that people they thought were friends and colleagues will dissect their words in their absence and twist them to produce meanings that were never intended. This is apparently a delusional disorder with a differential diagnosis of psychosis.

I have to confess to having these fears, though I think that in the case of Judges they're entirely rational. I doubt that there are any people who perform their work so openly and are subject to such scrutiny as are Judges, but this is generally only an incentive to make the greatest efforts to get things right.

I would like to acknowledge the great love and happiness my family has given me. My wife, Jeni, has been an unfaltering source of support and encouragement throughout my career. She is a veterinarian, as you have heard, and has, however, a sometimes disconcerting habit of applying the experience of her profession to the solution of life's general problems. She has had occasion to remind me and our two sons that offensive male behaviour can be remedied by a very simple and quick operation. I expect that sentencing will not afford such straightforward solutions.

It's a very great honour to serve as a Judge of this

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Welcome

court. It's a role that I intend to perform with humility and fully conscious of the great responsibility that it carries. Friends, colleagues and members of the profession, I am honoured by your attendance this morning and I sincerely thank you for it.

MURRAY J: Thank you, your Honour. The Court will now adjourn.

AT 10.11 AM THE MATTER WAS ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY