



**Christian Porter**

**Attorney General; Minister for Corrective Services**

*Thu 26 February, 2009*

### **New Judge appointed to the Supreme Court**

#### **Portfolio: Attorney General**

Attorney General Christian Porter today announced the appointment of Kenneth James Martin QC as a Judge in the General Division of the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

Mr Martin will commence his new role from March 23, 2009, replacing Justice David Newnes, who has taken a post as a Judge of the Court of Appeal of Western Australia.

“With a career spanning more than 30 years and having worked as a Queen’s Counsel for 12 years, Mr Martin brings an impressive degree of experience and professional knowledge to his new role,” Mr Porter said.

Mr Martin graduated from The University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Jurisprudence degree and a Bachelor of Laws degree, both with Honours, in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

He also completed a Master of Laws degree at the University of London.

In 1978, Mr Martin was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court and in 1980 became the Associate to Sir Ronald Wilson, a Justice of the High Court.

In 1982, Mr Martin returned to Parker & Parker, where he had earlier completed his articles, and in 1984 was made a Partner of the firm, practising in commercial litigation. He later took the role of in-house counsel at the firm.

Since joining the Independent Bar in 1992, Mr Martin had specialised in commercial litigation, including in the areas of trade practices, equity, maritime, insurance, defamation and corporate law.

Mr Martin had previously served as a Commissioner of the Supreme Court on two occasions and once as a Commissioner of the District Court.

He had been the Acting Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission until the time of his appointment.

“Mr Martin has made significant contributions to the affairs of the legal profession, not only through his professional career, but also as an active member of many organisations and committees,” the Minister said.

“He was president of the Law Society of WA in 2001 and president of the WA Bar Association from 2005 to 2007. He is currently a director and treasurer of the Law Council of Australia.”

Minister's office - 9220 5050