



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

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28 November, 2012

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **SENIOR COUNSEL APPOINTMENTS 2012**

The Chief Justice of Western Australia, the Hon Wayne Martin AC, today announced the appointment of two Senior Counsel for 2012, after 14 applications were received. The appointments are Mr Rod Hooper and Mr Joshua Thomson.

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 Rod Hooper**

Mr Hooper was born in June 1956. He was awarded a Bachelor of Jurisprudence in 1982 and a Bachelor of Laws in 1983 from the University of Western Australia.

He established a suburban law practice in 1986 and became an accredited Specialist Family Lawyer in 1992. He joined the Independent Bar in 1999, and was a foundation member of John Toohey Chambers in 2003.

Mr Hooper has been President of the Family Law Practitioners' Association for the last three years, having practised in the field of family law for more than 26 years.

#### **Mr Joshua Thomson**

Mr Thomson was born in July 1972. He was awarded a Bachelor of Laws (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours) in 1994 from the University of Western Australia, winning the Hackett Scholarship, and a Bachelor of Civil Law (1996) from Oxford University.

He was admitted to practice in Western Australia in 1995. He joined the Crown Solicitor's Office in 1994, where he was later appointed Assistant Crown Counsel. He has practised at the Independent Bar since March 2001. His practice mainly involves commercial cases, particularly contractual, insolvency and building disputes.

Mr Thomson was Editor of the Western Australian Reports from 2002 – 2010, and remains Consulting Editor.

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