

Media Release



26 November 2014

Victorian Bar welcomes 18 new silks

The Victorian Bar today welcomed the appointment of 18 new Senior Counsel by the Chief Justice Marilyn Warren.

“We warmly congratulate Victoria’s newest silks,” said Jim Peters QC, Chairman of the Victorian Bar. “It is an honour for every barrister who reaches this significant benchmark as it recognises the achievement of professional excellence and leadership at the Bar.”

He noted that today’s appointments were of the highest calibre, from a diverse range of backgrounds and experience. There were 93 candidates for silk.

“All of the successful candidates have exhibited excellence in their respective fields. It is particularly pleasing to see 4 of the 6 women who applied were successful. This brings the total number of women silk from 26 to 30. The Victorian Bar leads the Australian Bars in actively encouraging women to aspire to – and achieve - the highest position in our ranks and we will continue to do so,” Mr Peters said.

“The Victorian Bar is committed to encouraging those who wish to practice at the independent Bar and to encouraging equality of opportunity and diversity.

“We welcome Victoria’s newest silks to this proud tradition and thank the Chief Justice for her thorough consultation with the profession and the judiciary during this year’s process, and for her continuing commitment to the appointment of silks in this State,” he said.

Victoria’s newest silks are:

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| 1. Peter Fox | 10. Ian William Doggett Upjohn |
| 2. Paul Bernard Jens | 11. Christopher Boyce |
| 3. Brendan Francis Kissane | 12. Helen Mary Joan Rofe |
| 4. David George Robertson | 13. Kristen Louise Walker |
| 5. Robert Snowdon Hay | 14. Steven James Moore |
| 6. Jeremy Arthur Frederick Twigg | 15. Trevor Edwin Wraight |
| 7. Timothy John Paul Walker | 16. Lachlan Wishart Leaf Armstrong |
| 8. Michael John Galvin | 17. Pasquale Zappia |
| 9. Jacinta Mary Forbes | 18. Rowena Jane Orr |

The Chief Justice has been the appointor of Senior Counsel in Victoria since 2004. Successive Bar Councils have strongly favoured retaining an appointment process that centrally involves the Chief Justice, including through the introduction of the new model (which includes a Preliminary Evaluation Committee and new application process), in 2012.

Information about each of the new silks can be found in the member profiles on the Victorian Bar website (www.vicbar.com.au).

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