

Brad Hazzard MP Attorney General Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW JUDGE FOR DUST DISEASES TRIBUNAL

NSW Attorney General Brad Hazzard today announced barrister Andrew Scotting will move from the bar table to the bench of the Dust Diseases Tribunal and the District Court of NSW.

"Mr Scotting's appointment as a judge is well deserved and I'm sure the judiciary will benefit from his sharp legal mind and the considerable breadth of his legal experience," Mr Hazzard said.

Mr Scotting began practising as a solicitor in 1992 and was called to the Bar in 1996.

"He is no stranger to the Dust Diseases Tribunal, having developed a specialist practice in the medical and complex issues that arise in the Tribunal.

"Mr Scotting is also an accomplished criminal lawyer having conducted trials, sentences and appeals in the Local Court, the District Court, the Land and Environment Court, the Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeal.

"In addition to this, he has conducted an equity and commercial practice in the Supreme Court of NSW.

"At the Dust Diseases Tribunal, Mr Scotting will be assessing the claims of people who have contracted mesothelioma and other deadly dust-related conditions."

Mr Scotting will be sworn in as a Dust Diseases Tribunal and District Court judge on Tuesday, 17 February.

He will replace Judge Michael Finnane as one of three judges at the Dust Diseases Tribunal.

Mr Hazzard thanked Judge Finnane for his contribution to the NSW justice system.

"Judge Finnane is retiring after an impressive legal career that spans more than 40 years and goes well beyond his recent stint at the Dust Diseases Tribunal," Mr Hazzard said.

"As a barrister, he appeared in many significant inquiries including the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the Wood Royal Commission into the Police Service, while as a District Court judge he sentenced paedophile Robert "Dolly" Dunn, the Skaf gang rapists and a raft of other notorious criminals."

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