

SUPREME COURT OF THE

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE:

The ACT Supreme Court seeks expressions of interest for inclusion on the panel of criminal case conference convenors

Following multiple requests from practitioners wishing to undertake accreditation as a mediator the ACT Supreme Court has decided to extend the closing date for expressions of interest to be placed on the ACT Supreme Court Criminal Case Conference Convenor Panel for 2025.

Expressions of interest now close on 21 March 2025.

The ACT Supreme Court has a scheme of criminal case conferencing in matters which have been committed for trial.

The objectives of conferencing are to:

- Require the early consideration by both parties of the charges and the available evidence with a view to identifying strengths and weaknesses in their cases;
- Make better use of Court resources while acknowledging the public and private interests in the administration of the criminal law;
- Encourage earlier, structured and more meaningful negotiations;
- Reduce the issues in dispute at trial;
- Identify any offences to which the accused is willing to plead guilty in satisfaction of other offences; and
- Record the outcome of the Conference so that it is available to the sentencing Court.

The ACT Supreme Court is seeking expressions of interest from legal practitioner who are:

- Registered as nationally accredited mediators; and
- Admitted as a practitioner of the High Court or the Supreme Court of an Australian State or Territory with at least 5 years post admission experience; and
- Have extensive experience in criminal practice.

Successful applicants are to be placed on a panel of convenors and must agree to the following terms:

- To be available to conduct criminal case conferences in person at the ACT Supreme
 Court every day in one week blocks.
- To conduct conferences as allocated by the Registrar of the ACT Supreme Court to a maximum of 6 conferences per day between the hours of 10am – 5pm.
- To use the hour between 9am 10am for preparation.
- To be paid a daily fee as follows:
 - \$1250 (inclusive of GST) for days where the court has listed 3 or less
 - \$2,500 (inclusive of GST) for days where the court has listed 4 or more conferences.
- to submit an invoice to the Registrar of the ACT Supreme Court within 7 days after the block concludes.
- The cost of any travel, accommodation and incidentals related to engagement as a convenor will not be reimbursed.
- That there is no guarantee of any particular quantity or type of work.
- That inclusion on the panel is for an initial period of 12 months for the calendar year 2025.

<u>Please</u> send your expression of interest to: <u>EA.Registrars@courts.act.gov.au</u> and mark it to the attention of Jayne Reece, Registrar ACT Supreme Court.

Expressions of interest should be limited to one page and be accompanied by a CV and evidence of current registration as an accredited mediator. Applications which do not include all of these documents will not be considered.

Persons who have previously been included on the panel of criminal case convenors will need to reapply to be included on the panel for calendar year 2025.

For further information about the role please email: Jayne.Reece@courts.act.gov.au