

APPOINTMENTS

Her Honour Judge Nicole Noman SC

Judge Nicole Noman SC was sworn in as a judge of the District Court of New South Wales on 8 August 2016. Arthur Moses SC spoke on behalf of the bar.

Mr Moses stated that her Honour comes to court with a deserved reputation as a learned and highly respected advocate.

Her Honour studied at Sydney Girls High and then Sydney University, graduating from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Laws (and later a Masters of Law) and was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales. Her Honour is the first person in her family to practise law.

Her Honour joined the New South Wales Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) in 1988 and remained there, first as a solicitor, then as a barrister, until her Honour's appointment to the bench.

As a solicitor, her Honour, initially served in what was then known in the DPP as 'the special crime unit', which was then managed by Justice RA Hulme. Her Honour served as a solicitor advocate in Local Court prosecutions and in progressing to a solicitor advocate in District Court trials, both in Sydney West Region and the Sydney Region.

Her Honour was called to the bar in November 1999 and thereafter became a Crown prosecutor. Her Honour took silk in 2012. As Crown prosecutor, her Honour prosecuted more than 200 trials and appeared in 200 appeal cases.

Among her Honour's important cases are two recent prominent and successful Crown appeals against the leniency of a sentence *Nguyen v The Queen* (2016) 90 ALJR 595 and *R v Loveridge* (2014) 243 A Crim R 31.

Mr Moses observed that those who briefed her Honour, as well as those who appear against her, credit her Honour with having a concise delivery and commanding presence in the courtroom. Mr Moses noted that there was widespread confidence that her Honour's decisions would be delivered in a timely manner.

Her Honour noted that the day of her swearing in would have been the 28th anniversary of her time at the DPP. Her Honour observed that she knew immediately upon commencing employment at the DPP that it suited her well. Her Honour noted that it was, for the most part, a wonderfully supportive and stimulating job surrounded by professional and inspiring



colleagues, and provided her with an opportunity to be involved in some interesting and challenging cases.

Her Honour noted the many mentors and advisers who had assisted her in her career, and acknowledged, in particular, the role of now Judge Frearson in her Honour's career as an advocate in the Court of Criminal Appeal, whose encouragement was very important to her Honour's confidence and preparedness to undertake that work. Her Honour also acknowledged and thanked her family and friends for their support and friendship.

Her Honour will sit predominantly in the District Court's busy criminal jurisdiction, which deal with the majority of serious criminal offences in NSW.