



MEDIA RELEASE

Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Industrial Relations

Thursday, July 2, 2009

IR Judge appointed to NSW Supreme Court

Industrial relations judge Monika Schmidt has been appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of NSW.

During a 30-year legal career, Justice Schmidt has been a partner at two Sydney law firms, practising primarily in industrial and employment law. She has also lectured in industrial law at Sydney University.

Justice Schmidt was appointed a judge of the Industrial Court of NSW and a deputy president of the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW in 1993. She was also appointed as a deputy president of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission in 1998.

Justice Schmidt has been a member of the Judicial Commission's Standing Advisory Committee on Judicial Education since 1996. Mr Hatzistergos said she has also facilitated sessions for judicial officers on communication skills in the courtroom.

"Concise communication in court is crucial to ensuring cases are dealt with efficiently. Justice Schmidt's skills in this area will be valuable in the Supreme Court, which deals with some of the State's most complex cases," Mr Hatzistergos said.

Justice Schmidt has experience on the bench of the Supreme Court, where she worked as an Acting Judge for almost four months earlier this year.

"I congratulate Justice Schmidt on securing a permanent position at the Supreme Court and wish her every success in her new role," Mr Hatzistergos said.

Justice Schmidt will be sworn in as a Supreme Court judge in a private ceremony on July 27.

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