



MEDIA RELEASE

Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Citizenship
Minister for Regulatory Reform

Wednesday December 15, 2010

TWO NEW MAGISTRATES FOR THE LOCAL COURT OF NSW

NSW Attorney General John Hatzistergos today announced the appointments of Michael Antrum and Theo Tsavdaridis as magistrates of the Local Court of NSW.

“Mr Antrum and Mr Tsavdaridis are experienced and highly regarded solicitors who are accustomed to managing substantial workloads,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

After beginning his career as a journalist, Mr Antrum has spent the past 16 years practising law in Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Dubbo and Narrabri.

Holding a special interest in children’s law, Mr Antrum served as the Director and Principal Solicitor of the National Children’s and Youth Law Centre from 1997 until 1999.

During that period he established the Lawstuff website (www.lawstuff.org.au) which provides young people with information about their legal rights and obligations in every Australian state and territory.

Over the past four years, Mr Antrum served as the General Counsel of the NSW Police Force. He has also worked as Counsel for the University of Western Sydney and as an arbitrator at the Workers Compensation Commission.

Mr Tsavdaridis is the principal of a law firm in suburban Sydney, which has carriage of approximately 350 matters.

During his 13-year legal career, Mr Tsavdaridis has practised primarily in criminal, business and property law as well as commercial and corporate litigation.

Mr Tsavdaridis is a member of the Professional Conduct Committee and the Fidelity Fund Management Committee and was elected to the Council of the Law Society of NSW earlier this year.

In 2008, he participated in a pro-bono duty solicitor scheme, representing disadvantaged defendants at Newtown Local Court.

Mr Antrum and Mr Tsavdaridis will be sworn in as magistrates on January 17, 2011.

“I congratulate Mr Antrum and Mr Tsavdaridis on their elevation to the bench of the Local Court and look forward to their further contributions to the NSW justice system,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

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