



MEDIA RELEASE

**Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Justice**

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NEW MAGISTRATES APPOINTED TO LOCAL COURT

NSW Attorney General John Hatzistergos today announced the appointments of Geoff Dunlevy and Sharon Holdsworth to the bench of the NSW Local Court.

Mr Dunlevy is the President of the Law Society of NSW and has 10 years experience as a solicitor in Moree and Narrabri in western NSW. At 34, Mr Dunlevy will become the state's youngest magistrate.

Ms Holdsworth is the Managing Lawyer of the Director of Public Prosecutions' (DPP) Campbelltown Office. Before joining the DPP in 1992, Ms Holdsworth worked in NSW Local Courts for almost a decade where she acted as a Registrar and Chamber Magistrate.

Mr Hatzistergos said both had extensive experience in Local Courts and were highly regarded by their peers.

"Mr Dunlevy has a very strong knowledge of the obligations of regional courts and as well as his tenure as Law Society President has shown an outstanding commitment to community service.

"Ms Holdsworth brings a wealth of experience in criminal law and is sensitive to the issues dealt with by the local jurisdiction.

"I am proud to announce these appointments and both will be a valuable addition to the bench."

Mr Dunlevy and Ms Holdsworth will resign from their current positions before being sworn in as magistrates on Monday, September 17, 2007.

Media Contact: Samantha Wills 0409 833 640