

May it please the Court

It gives me great pleasure to speak on behalf of the barristers of Queensland at this welcome ceremony to celebrate the appointment of your honour Justice Mullins as the President of the Court of Appeal, your honour Justice Dalton's appointment as a Judge of the Court of Appeal and your honour Justice Hindman's appointment as a Justice of the trial division of this Court.

Justice Mullins

Your appointment as only the fourth president of our court of appeal is an appropriate recognition of your honour's long and distinguished service as a judge of the Trial Division of this Court and of the Court of Appeal.

While your Honour had a busy and successful practice at the Queensland Bar before, and after, taking silk, those achievements dwarf in comparison to your Honour's service to this Court. Appointed in 2000, your Honour worked tirelessly on the trial division for 20 years before being elevated to the Court of Appeal in 2020 where you have served for the last two years.

During your time on both the trial division and the Court of Appeal, your Honour has built up a strong and deserved reputation for your work ethic, your efficiency in quickly identifying the real issues in the case, your fair treatment of all before you - be they Queen's Counsel or a self-represented litigant, your prompt delivery of judgments and your clear and concise exposition for why you have reached the conclusion you have in the cases that you have heard.

Your Honour's involvement in supporting the legal and other parts of the Queensland community are well known and has been touched on already. But can I take the opportunity to particularly thank your honour for your unwavering support of the Bar, particularly the junior bar.

Your honour has been an outstanding supporter of the Queensland Bar and played an important role as a mentor and supporter of so many junior barristers, particularly young female barristers.

Your Honour has always been a keen supporter of, and participant in, all aspects of education for barristers - the Bar Practice Course, CPD seminars and advocacy courses just to name a few. On a more informal level I know you have encouraged and guided both young men and women coming to the bar - from former associates to young lawyers who have no connections in the law.

For your Honour's contribution both in and outside of the Court room, the barristers of Queensland express their gratitude and appreciation.

We wish you all the best on this well-deserved appointment as President.

Justice Dalton

It came as no surprise to the members of the Queensland Bar that your Honour has been appointed as a judge of the Court of Appeal.

Your honour had a busy and diverse commercial practice at the Bar before and after taking silk. That experience served you well when appointed to this court in 2011 but particularly in the last two years during your time as one of the two commercial list judges.

Your time as a judge on the Commercial List is of particular note - your period on that court saw matters being dealt with efficiently and promptly - fulfilling one of the core purposes of the Commercial List. The successful functioning of the Commercial List is critical to ensuring that commercial work involving Queensland or Queensland based entities is litigated in this court. Your honour has made an important contribution to the ongoing success of that list.

Of course your Honour has made other significant contributions to this Court in your 11 years in the trial division. Your Honour's 6 years on the Mental Health Court, including three years as its President, must be mentioned. That court does important and difficult work.

Your Honour, like Justice Mullins, has also been a keen supporter of the Bar in the last 11 years assisting in educating young barristers and as a role model and mentor of young barristers coming to the bar.

We congratulate your honour on this well-deserved appointment which is vital to maintain our Court of Appeal's reputation as a strong commercial appellate court.

Justice Hindman

There is always a tinge of regret when we lose one of our own. But of course our loss is this Honourable Court's gain.

From the moment your honour arrived at the Queensland bar, the briefs started arriving. Your honour quickly built up a busy and diverse commercial practice, but with a particular emphasis in construction and administrative law.

Your Honour became an in demand junior and unsurprisingly took silk in 2017. Your practice blossomed as a silk - quickly becoming one of the silks of choice in any difficult matter for the State of Queensland as well as national regulators such as ASIC.

Your juniors universally speak of your insightfulness and calmness when working on complex briefs. Young female barristers have particularly commented on the manner in which you have gone out of your way to support them as they find their feet at the Bar.

Outside of practice, your Honour has been an active member and keen contributor to the Bar Association, the Building Disputes Practitioners' Society, the Society of Construction Lawyers Australia and Women Lawyers Association of Queensland. On behalf of the Association, I thank you for your contribution as a regular presenter of the Bar Practice Course, as Chair of the Building and Construction, and as a member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Professional Conduct Committees.

Your Honour's pro-bono work with organisations such as the Caxton Legal Centre and Lawright should also be mentioned. Without your generosity, those people would have been unable to obtain legal representation.

Justice Mullins, Justice Dalton and Justice Hindman, to serve as a judge of the Supreme Court is a call to public service - it involves significant responsibility and substantial sacrifice. The barristers of Queensland thank your honours for answering that call and for the service you have provided and will provide in the future to the Queensland community. The Queensland bar wishes you all the best.

May it please the court