



**ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT, MS REBECCA TRESTON QC, ON THE OCCASION  
OF A SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR MAGISTRATE TRINITY McGARVIE  
ON FRIDAY 5 JULY 2019  
AT THE BRISBANE MAGISTRATES COURT**

May it please the Court.

Your Honour Magistrate McGarvie joins the Magistrates Court following a long and successful career in private practice. You graduated from Bond University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Laws, Honours. During your degree you also served as a Research Assistant in Equitable Remedies and Corporate Law for a Professor at the University. You were admitted as a Solicitor in 2001.

You began your legal career as an Articled Clerk and Solicitor at Milburn Guttridge Lawyers working predominantly in the area of criminal law. In 2002, you became a Solicitor at Legal Aid Queensland and worked on a variety of criminal and family law matters. You became a Solicitor at Suthers Lawyers and Senior Associate at Gerard Sherrington Lawyers. In 2016, you founded your own firm, McGarvie Family Law Practice.

Over the last 15 years your Honour has developed a reputation as advocate in your practice as a criminal defence lawyer. As the Attorney has said, those who are to appear before you have been warned that your Honour has been known for your particular talent of exposing technicalities in cases.

For almost 10 years, you have been an Independent Childrens Lawyer appointed by the Court to represent children in various parenting disputes. You have also been appointed by the Court as a Separate Representative. In this role, your Honour has assisted children for whom the Department of Communities (Child Safety and Disability Services) have brought litigation. Your Honour has significant experience acting for children in various situations such as parenting issues, child neglect, child trauma and social development. Your passion for representing children, some of the most vulnerable members of our society, and ensuring that their needs are put first, warrants praise and recognition. Your Honour will, unfortunately, expect to see a different but related side of child neglect and trauma in this difficult jurisdiction. Your legal experience, your skills and your empathy will be valuable tools.

Beyond your practice, your Honour is an active member of the community. You have generously given your time by providing pro bono legal services at the Taylor Street Community Legal Service in Hervey Bay. Your Honour was also previously a management committee member of that Service and Yoorana Domestic Violence Service, as well as past secretary for the Fraser Coast District Law Association.

Your Honour is off to Mt Isa, a sometimes challenging location, both legally and geographically. I asked Magistrate Courtney for an anecdote about life as a Mt Isa Magistrate. He assured me he could recall one occasion when he got out of court at five-thirty in the afternoon and it was below 45 degrees. That's it.

The Bar Association and its members extend to your Honour, and your Honour's family, your father Greg, sister Jasmine and brother Sam, congratulations and best wishes on this well-deserved appointment.

Before I conclude, can I take the opportunity to mention two obvious and important matters of interest to this Court and the broader legal community.

Your Honour the Chief Magistrate. This is your final day as Chief Magistrate. Today, the Bar association recognizes and thanks you for the significant contributions your Honour has made to this Court, the law and the community.

This is not a valedictory, of course, as your Honour has many exciting years left ahead on the District Court.

However your Honour leaves this court having served as Acting State Coroner from 2006 to 2012, Acting Deputy Chief Magistrate from 2012 to 2013, Deputy Chief Magistrate from 2013 to 2014 and Chief Magistrate from 2014 until today.

It is unsurprising that your Honour excelled in your service of this Court. You have had a long CV of professional and statutory appointments before you came to this Court. Your Honour possesses not only extensive knowledge of the law and its processes, but also the ability to determine disputes with fairness, the one quality in a judicial officer that cannot be overstated.

Your Honour has, at all times, discharged the duties of your office with integrity, respect, humility and above all, with an attitude of service.

We have no doubt that your Honour's knowledge and experience will continue to benefit and add significant value to the District Court, the profession and the people of Queensland.

The Bar Association thanks you for the years of service you have given, and those that remain to be given.

The members of the Bar extend their good wishes to you for your journey across the quadrangle to the District Court. We assure your Honour of the ongoing support and confidence of the Bar.

And finally, your Honour Magistrate Gardiner, the soon to be the new Chief Magistrate.

Quite simply, the Bar could not be happier with the selection of your Honour as the new Chief Magistrate.

This is not your Honour's welcome ceremony; that is for another day, but it is worth observing that your Honour brings to this role extensive legal knowledge and experience, which has been gathered over 33 years in the law, including for the last seven as a member of this Court and five as one of the Deputy Chief Magistrates.

This is not an easy role to fill, as it requires a balance of legal acumen and management skills. It is a role that is so much more than the sum of its parts. It requires intellect, nuance and calm, each of which your Honour possesses in admirable measure. It is made easier, I am reliably told, with the support of a loving family. Your Honour is doubly blessed in that regard, having come from a large family, and enjoying the pleasures of a large family of your own. In particular, this Court will benefit from the shared responsibilities that we know will be embraced by your wife Dominique.

In all respects, your Honour is unquestionably well qualified for, and suited to, the role.

The Bar Association looks forward to welcoming your Honour to the role in a more formal way, but may we take the opportunity today to record our delight at the Attorney's announcement yesterday.

May it please the Court.