



**ADDRESS OF MS REBECCA TRESTON QC, ON THE OCCASION OF A
WELCOME CEREMONY FOR HIS HONOUR JUDGE TERENCE GARDINER
ON THURSDAY 18 JULY 2019**

May it please the Court.

On behalf of the Bar Association of Queensland, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate you, Judge Gardiner on your Honour's appointment as Chief Magistrate of the Magistrates Court of Queensland. I extend particular welcome to your wife Dominique, your sons Jack and Tom, both solicitors, your mother Paula, and other members of your family who have been able to join us. Your son Joseph is sadly not here, being in China competing as a champion horse rider.

As previously expressed, the Bar could not be happier with your recent appointment. Your Honour is unquestionably well suited in all respects to the role.

Your Honour's appointment follows a long and successful career at the Bar and the bench. After completing your secondary education at Marist College Ashgrove, you obtained a Bachelor of Laws from the Queensland Institute of Technology, now known as the Queensland University of Technology. You commenced your legal career at the Public Defender's Office as a clerk, and later, Counsel.

In April 1987, you were called to the Bar and were a member of Level 12 MLC Chambers before joining More Chambers in Brisbane. As a barrister, you worked on a wide variety of matters including criminal law, personal injury and administrative law matters. Your Honour regularly appeared in the District and Supreme Court of Queensland, and the Court of Appeal. Your Honour's skills and expertise was held in high regard by your fellow practitioners in the field, as well as many other notable bodies. Throughout your career, you were briefed by the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Queensland Police Union, the Crime and Conduct Commission and the Police Commissioner.

You practised at the private Bar for 25 years until your appointment to the Southport Magistrates Court in 2012 and the Charleville Magistrates Court in 2013. Your leadership in these roles was recognised in December 2014 when you were elevated to the role of Deputy Chief Magistrate.

As Deputy Chief Magistrate, your Honour fulfilled a number of key responsibilities and contributed significantly to the development and advancement of this Court and its judicial officers. You were a member of several committees and served as Chair of the Indigenous Issues Committee, Criminal Law Committee and Ethics Committee, to name just a few. Your Honour is known for your particular interest in Indigenous issues affecting the court and have presided in various Indigenous communities including Badu Island, Cook Town and the Brisbane Murri Court. In addition to that, your Honour was also responsible for the development of jurisprudence for the magistracy, updating of the Court intranet and the publishing of new online court resources for Magistrates.

Throughout your career, your Honour has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to training and ongoing education. As Deputy Chief Magistrate, your Honour conducted training for new Magistrates and delivered presentations at various events held by other organisations such as Legal Aid and the Queensland Police Service. Your Honour has also made significant contributions to the Bar Association, having conducted training for the Bar Practice Course and working as an advocacy coach. For this, the Bar sincerely thanks you.

Outside the legal sphere, your Honour has also made significant contributions to the community. Between 1998 and 2002, your Honour was a volunteer at the St Vincent De Paul Community Hostel. You were also a former Director of Cystic Fibrosis Queensland and Cystic Fibrosis Australia and have given generously of your time as an old boy to your high school where you have been a most active member of the community.

You are often described as a quiet and humble man of great wisdom and gentle humour. You are widely known for your strong sense of social justice, a trait which is shared by your wife Dominique. You and Dominique have lived your social justice commitment by opening up your home and family to care for foster children, and although Antwon cannot be here today, we are honoured by the presence of his Grandfather, Arnold Murray. Outside of work, your Honour is a person of sensible and healthy pursuits, dedicating a lot of your time to running, tennis and, of course, your family. I was informed that one would need to strain to find an imperfection in you, but I did find one. Marist College Ashgrove would be sad to learn that your Honour is an avid follower of rugby league rather than rugby union.

As we reflect on your history and experience, it is clear that your Honour possesses many admirable qualities, skills and abilities. Your tireless leadership, commitment to ongoing education and training, and generosity of time and knowledge, will no doubt continue to benefit this Court, the profession and the community.

As the Bar Association remarked on the occasion of the announcement of your appointment, the role of Chief Magistrate 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.

The Bar and its members extend to you, your wife Dominique, your children Jack, Joseph and Tom, and other members of your family who are here today, their best wishes on this well-deserved appointment. The court is fortunate to be enriched by your, and their, contributions. We are confident that your Honour will fulfil this new challenge with the same commitment and leadership as you have demonstrated in your role as Deputy Chief Magistrate, and we assure your Honour of the ongoing support of the Bar.

May it please the Court.