IN THE DISTRICT COURT

OF NEW SOUTH WALES

THE CHIEF JUDGE

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE D PRICE AM

AND THE JUDGES OF THE COURT

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023

**SWEARING IN OF HIS HONOUR JUDGE ANDERSON SC AS A JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

Mr M Michael Daley MP on behalf of the New South Wales Bar Association

Mr A Tiedt, Law Society of New South Wales, on behalf of solicitors

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(Commission read)

(Oaths of office taken)

PRICE CJ: Judge Anderson it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this Court. You have come to the Court with an enviable reputation in the law, particularly the criminal law. I am very confident that you will make a substantial contribution to the administration of justice in this State.

On behalf of all the judges of this Court I congratulate you and wish you every success in your judicial career.

ANDERSON J: Thank you Chief Judge.

PRICE CJ: Mr Attorney.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: Thank you your Honour. Can I begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land, the Gadigal of the Eora Nation and I pay my respects to elders past and present. I acknowledge our Aboriginal friends and colleagues here this morning.

Your Honour thank you of your invitation to speak and to your Honour Judge Anderson on behalf of the Bar and the people of New South Wales I congratulate you on this appointment and welcome you here on this special day. I thank you for maintaining my short but unblemished record of people accepting my invitation to become a judicial officer.

I also welcome your Honour’s wife Kate and your children Claudia , Xavier and Juliette. Many others are supporting you today in person or watching online but special mention must go to your parents, Kitty and Bob. This is a joyful and proud moment for them as it should be.

Your friends and family have freely contributed to this modest address. They have been honest and openhearted with their thoughts to help create a picture of your life leading up to this day. Your Honour you were born in 1971 to Bob and Kitty Anderson. Your father was an electrician before becoming the Human Resources Manager at the Electricity Commission of New South Wales. Your mother was a wonderfully dedicated nurse.

Growing up in Pennant Hills, where you the youngest of four children, significantly younger than Stuart, Heather and Helen whom affectionately dubbed you “the afterthought”. Your sister Heather also remembers you more than holding your own at the dinner table amongst a gaggle of confident and opinionated teens. Your favour subject was Star Wars and you would regularly annoy your other siblings with intricacies of the galaxy far far away. Not all of them shared your appreciation for the force but all of you shared a love for ABBA. You all sang every song and knew every dance move. I hope you have got some videos still.

Around the family dinner table is where your love of debating commenced and I am sure there are many people here today that have seen how those skills have evolved spectacularly in the courtroom. The view amongst your teachers at school were slightly different. They complained that you were often argumentative. In fact, your talkative nature saw you in trouble one too many times at primary school and you were enrolled at St Andrews Cathedral School for year 7 . We will hear more about that over a cup of tea.

You had, in fact, been selected to go to North Sydney Boys, but your mother decided you should go to St Andrews mainly because she had already bought the uniform. It was a wonderful choice. You thrived and made many friends. They loved what you loved, politics, movies and history. You and your group were proud self-opinionated nerds. Your skills in argument were harnessed in the school debating team. You were made captain of that team for every year of high school and ended up being a prefect.

Cricket was a huge passion growing up and I am told that you have only recently given up your dream of becoming captain of the Australian Cricket Team. If your eyes are as red as mine from sitting up watching last night I understand. You also loved creative writing and Heather remembers you always being full of ideas.

On graduating from high school you were full of great ideas. The first idea was to become a psychologist. You attended the University of Sydney to study psychology and government graduating with a Bachelor or Arts in 1992. This first idea was abandoned when you realised you did not have the patience to be a psychologist. You commenced studying law in 1994 through the Legal Practitioners Admission Board and gained a Diploma of Law in 1997, the same year I gained mine. You follow this up in 1998 with a Graduate Diploma of Law from the University of Wollongong and in 2002 you would graduate with a Master of International Law from the University of Sydney.

Your Honour you were admitted as a solicitor in 1998 and practised at Windeyer Dibbs. Your work mostly consisted of acting for insurance companies in the area of professional negligence and public liability. You moved from Windeyer Dibbs to DLA Piper Australia in 1999 to become their senior associate and Sydney Practice Group Leader. You specialised in commercial litigation within transport. Your practice consisted of representing road carriers, commodity traders, vessel owners and operators. Matters involved criminal prosecutions, contractual issues, occupation health, insurance, negligence and statutory obligations.

Called to the Bar in 2007 you initially continued practising in commercial litigation before pivoting to criminal law in 2009. You appeared for the Commonwealth DPP in trial and appellate work as well as appearing for accused persons at all levels of New South Wales Courts. During this time you also appeared for the Commonwealth Director in matters in the Norther Territory and South Australia and this work continued until 2017 when you joined the Public Defenders’ Chambers in Sydney. This role involved appearing for accused in trials for, well a range of matters including serious indictable offences such as murder, terrorism, fraud, sexual assault and kidnapping. In this role you were also Chair of the organising committee for the Public Defenders’ Legal Conference.

You were appointed Senior Counsel in 2021 and promoted to Deputy Senior Public Defender in 2022. This involved assisting in the management of the Public Defender Chambers and mentoring colleagues, something you were very good at and which your colleagues are very thankful for. Those colleagues found your knowledge and skills to be essential in the smooth operation for the Chambers. You improved them as legal professionals. They loved your patience and your passion. Your door was always open to chat and collaborate. You brought warmth and humour. They are already missing you.

Your contribution to the legal profession goes beyond the Chambers and the courtroom. You have been an active member of many organisations and groups including the New South Wales Bar Association and Law Society of New South Wales. You have contributed to the New South Wales Law Society Journal and volunteered at the Arts/Law Centre. You were the chairperson of the Maritime Law Association of Australia and New Zealand. You are also a member of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and the Law and have been the New South Wales Secretary since 2021.

In addition to these contributions is your writing. You edited the LexisNexis Service, the ABC of Evidence, a publication that comprises more than 60 chapters of commentary dealing with discrete topics relevant to evidence law in New South Wales. You are also a published author. Your book, Commonwealth Criminal Law, was first published in 2014 and is now into its third edition. The book seeks to provide both the student and the practitioner with a rundown of how Commonwealth Criminal Law intersects with State and Territory Criminal Law. This supreme knowledge in Commonwealth Criminal Law has also seen you act as seasonal lecturer on the subject at the University of New England. Your Honour what a wonderful career you have had so far. Your love of the law and all that it involves is quite clear.

Your love of the legal profession complements your love of the most important things in your life, your family, your friends and the wonderful life you have built with your family. Your partner in all of this is Kate. The relationship you have built together is as strong as it is beautiful. The wonderful people Claudia, Xavier and Juliette have become is the ultimate reflection of this. You love entertaining friends and family with special mention given to your fabulously themed parties I am told.

Your friends love your passion and the strength of your opinions. You are a funny story teller. I am told they think you are supersmart and just a little bit dorky. They conclude that while you have mellowed with the passage of time you can still be enticed into an enthusiastic debate, but this usually comes when your favourite tipple, a very occasional small whisky. Your house is described as busy and chaotic. You have lots of rescue pets including a three-legged greyhound, a one-eyed cat and a King Charles spaniel - I will not elaborate on the spaniel. You also enjoy beekeeping.

Going sailing with your brother Stuart is a favourite weekend activity, as is reading. You are widely read and like nothing more than devouring book with some wine and cheese. Community is very important to you. You have volunteered at many activities involving the kids. The only perhaps negative quality that rated a mention was your sense of balance. I am told it is terrible and your attempts at standing up paddle boarding always end up with you in the drink. I join you in that lack of talent.

The Boatshed members, your other group of friends, know however that your balance on the bench will far exceed your balance on a board but apart from that your Honour your family and friends conclude that you are a thoroughly decent and talented bloke. They also know, as do we, that you are going to make a wonderful judge.

Your Honour my warmest congratulations to your forthcoming career on the bench and again on behalf of the Bar and the people of New South Wales our wholehearted congratulations. May it please the Court.

PRICE CJ: Thank you Mr Attorney. Mr Andrew Tiedt on behalf of the Law Society of New South Wales.

TIEDT: May it please the Court. I acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, the traditional owners of this land on which this Court stands and pay my respect to their elders, past, present and emerging. I acknowledge and extend my respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are with us today.

Your Honour on behalf of the solicitors of New South Wales it is privilege to be here this morning to address the Court and congratulate you on your outstanding achievements.

Joining you here are your wife Kate, your children Claudia, Juliette and Xavier, your parents Kitty and Bob as well as your siblings, parents-in-law, friends and colleagues, all who are delighted to be here today to celebrate your achievement.

Your Honour’s experience as a solicitor and barrister in both civil and crime matters accompanied by your clear sense of fairness and justice will be of great assistance to the New South Wales District Courts and all who appear before it.

Your Honour graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts and Masters in International Law and was subsequently admitted by the Legal Practitioners Admission Board. Your career as a solicitor began in 1998. For the next nine years your Honour practised in civil litigation, largely in the area of international maritime and aviation law. This chapter in the law included five years as a senior associate at Phillips Fox, now DLA Piper and a stint as a solicitor at Michelle Sillar. In that time your Honour developed a speciality for trade, transportation, shipping and other civil matters.

Prior to studying for and successfully undertaking the Bar exam you did a case that had a profound impact on your future career bringing together your expertise for matters involving the high seas with a growing interest in criminal law. It was a shipping matter with accompanying criminal allegations requiring you to travel to South America to collect witness statements. Those who knew you at that time recall that this case appeared to cement your aspiration to practise and appear in criminal cases.

Your Honour was admitted to the Bar in October 2007. In 2017 your Honour was appointed to the New South Wales Public Defenders’ Chambers. In 2021 you became a Senior Counsel and in 2022 a Deputy Senior Public Defender. Upon commencement at the Bar your Honour developed a large criminal practice, for both defendants and the Commonwealth Director both at first instance and on appeal in the New South Wales and interstate matters.

Your Honour’s friends and colleagues at the Public Defenders’ Chambers noted that much may be made today of your developing interest in criminal justice and how it culminated in your application to join their ranks. However, during research for the speech we were given one explanation for that blossoming interest. That was, in fact, your involvement in your last civil case in this very Court complex which involved, I am told, as the main point of contention a failure of a landlord to clear pigeon droppings in a small commercial development in Moree. The debate about liability for said pigeon droppings lasted an entire day and you were heard to say as the matter finally settled, “Stuff this I’m going to PDs”.

On a more serious note, your wife Kate says your time as a public defender has cemented your social justice bent, that you hold dear the tenant of appearing for someone who would be unable to finance that representation themselves. Your Honour has prosecuted and defended a wide range of Commonwealth and New South Wales defences including murder, terrorism and foreign fighters, drug importation, fraud and sexual assault.

Your long-time friend and colleague Tony Di Francesco recalled a moment that he believed encapsulated your commitment to the rule of law and upholding its principles. The two of you were having lunch around the time you were embarking on prosecuting a terrorism matter. Your Honour had worked these matters from both sides through Commonwealth DPP briefs and as defence counsel. Your friend expressed some concern for your safety and security in taking on a case of this nature especially because at the time you had a young family. Your response to this well-intentioned caution was thoughtful but simple. “Society needs terror trials to be dealt with”, you said “If every lawyer is too scared these cases will not get done”.

Your Honour’s commitment to taking the hard cases was recently seen in your defence of a young women on serious fraud allegations, the hearing of which ran for almost 12 months. Despite your Honour’s best efforts at concentrating the trial to the central issues in disputes the trial length kept extending beyond the estimate perily(as said) close to and then beyond the Christmas break interrupting time with family and an overseas trip. Whilst other counsel in the matter took their leave and made submissions from the ski fields of Japan, your Honour stayed on committed to the defence of your client till the very end. Justice Paine, Appeal Justice on the Supreme Court emphasised the Court’s thanks for your Honour’s advocacy and efficiency in the running of a very complex trial.

That is not to say that family and love for your family is not at the heart of everything you do. Your wife Kate says that no matter how much work you have on you always make sure to spend a great deal of time with her and your children. The two of you often remark that despite not having a sporty bone between you, bizarrely your children are keen athletes. Weekends are spent ferrying them to an array of sporting activities including soccer, cricket and acrobatics. In fact, your Honour’s ascension to the bench will not mark your first foray into adjudication as you have doubled with umpiring your son’s cricket matches.

You have a soft heart for all animals as we have heard and it seems rescue is your favourite breed. Mr Di Francesco also describes your previous pet chickens who are treasured members of the family remaining part of the home even once they stop laying eggs.

Helping to nurture the legal minds of tomorrow is also important to your Honour. Since 2015 you were a lecturer at the University of New England where you wrote the course on Commonwealth Criminal Law right down to the textbook. You are the author of Commonwealth Criminal Law, now in its Third Edition, an esteemed text even though you did joke to a friend that you only write the university course to make students buy the book. No doubt to the delight of your publisher at Federation Press you also mandated that each public defender keep a copy on their shelves. Your Honour is someone who loves reading in their spare time and you devoted yourself to writing too, spending an hour or two every evening to ensure the book was to the higher standard. Such diligence, particularly when factoring in a busy job and a full home life is to be admired.

Between 2014 and 2022 your Honour was also the editor of the LexisNexus looseleaf service, the ABC of Evidence.

As a Deputy Senior Public Defender your Honour’s leadership skills have continued to expand and the public defenders and the solicitors with whom you worked and your clients are grateful for it. There were several prominent parts to this, firstly, a developed sense of justice, your Honour has worked as a solicitor, a barrister in civil law, in criminal law, for the Commonwealth DPP and for the Public Defenders in a management role. Your Honour’s experiences have crystalised into a well-rounded sense of justice that takes account not just of an accused persons’ interest to be tried fairly but those of the complainants to be heard.

Secondly, your Honour has always displayed the highest standards of ethical practice. Whilst this is to be expected of all practitioners you are the living embodiment of it. No doubt you will demand the same level of ethical practice from all who appear before you.

Thirdly, mentorship, the way you work with solicitors in a collegiate and cooperative way is the epitome of politeness and professional respect. The same too with the barristers you work with. Every staff member and student who has come under or within your orbit as a pubic defender has been grateful for the experience. These skills have been able to mix a strong sense of justice with internal fortitude and persistence will serve the State of New South Wales well.

Those who know you well describe you as someone who inspires trust, the person who was always calm, university liked and a very safe pair or hands, some who can relate to people incredibly well, and a person who believes in the very best of society and community.

Though the intention of a swearing‑in speech is never to reveal dirt on the newest member of the judiciary, those closest to you all said such a digging exercise would not be possible, especially for a person known for being so fastidiously neat and tidy.

Your wife Kate also applauded you for your creative attempts at cooking, even when such ambitious dishes do not always pan out the way you might like.

Enlisting all the attributes which will make you an outstanding judge, one friend in singing your praises noted ‘you won’t hear any of this from Troy’ so your Honour, you can hear this from me, your appointment to this Court is the culmination of your hard work, your diligence and your consistency and it is a pleasure to see you appointed today.

On behalf of all the solicitors of New South Wales we congratulate your Honour and wish you the very best.

As the Court pleases.

PRICE CJ: Thank you, Mr Tiedt. Judge Anderson.

ANDERSON J: Thank you, Chief Judge. Chief Justice Bell, President of the Court of Appeal Justice Ward, justices, judges, former colleagues, family and friends, thank you very much for your attendance here today, and for those of you watching online, hopefully the video working because it is certainly too late for a s 77 order for you to be brought to court.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which sit, the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, and I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Thank you, Mr Attorney for your words, and Mr Tiedt, for your words as well.

Before I go on, I just want to acknowledge the passing this week of a good friend and colleague of ours, Dr Robert Webb. I had two matters against Bob about ten years ago in this court complex and found him not only to be a very worthy and fair opponent, but a bloke with a great sense of humour who I use to love seeing around the courts, and I know he will be missed by all of us.

Yesterday was my last day as a barrister and hearing those speeches does make me reflect on my legal career over the past 25 years and there is an interesting coincidence about my career, beginning and end, at the bar.

My first criminal brief in 2007 was for the Aboriginal Legal Service, where I was briefed to appear in a Children’s Court matter for a young male who was prosecuted for graffitiing a train. You will be pleased to know it was a great victory for me with the police withdrawing the charge.

Now as much as I would like to say this was due to my brilliance, it was in fact because the witness, the sole witness, went to the wrong Court. But as I learned, a win is a win.

The coincidence though is this, my last trial brief at the Bar, almost 16 years to the day later, was also for the Aboriginal Legal Service, also for a young male, but this time for a young person charged with a crime at the very other end of the criminal spectrum.

This time my client was 13 years and three months old when he was, along with a number of others, charged with murder, murdering a 15 year old boy. To describe it as a tragedy all around is an understatement. I found this case particularly difficult, partly because of the horrific circumstances of the case itself, some of which was filmed, but largely because of the awful background that led my client to be involved in that matter in the first place.

I will not go into detail beyond simply saying it was the worst case of a dysfunctional family and failed State intervention that I have ever read.

It was a case that reminded me of how privileged my background was and how lucky I am. And I use that word ‘luck’ quite deliberately.

I was lucky enough to have been born into a family that was stable, free of violence, free of drug and alcohol abuse and one that recognised the value of working had and a getting good education. My mother would often say “effort in = results out”.

I am lucky to have the parents I have, Kitty and Bob, now 89, sitting over there. Both of them left school at 15, my father to become an electrician and my mother to study nursing. Both of them benefited from the free education offered by the Whitlam Government in the 1970s and attended university.

My parents encouraged, dare I say it, expected, my siblings and I to pursue higher education ourselves.

My sister Helen went on to become a highly trained specialist nurse who now flies around New South Wales jumping in and out of helicopters working for the Newborn and Paediatric Emergency Transport Service (known as NETS). Helen is an adrenaline junky, as I say, jumping in and out of helicopters and planes, riding in ambulances, all in a days work. Something like this is pretty boring for Helen, I would imagine.

My sister Heather who is watching online became a science teacher and is now a farmer.

My brother Stuart, a civil engineer and a highly successful businessman.

I was the youngest child by ten years, and when you are surrounded by people who are setting an example for you in terms of study and working hard, it certainly pays off.

It is no coincidence that I married into a family which has similar values and I want to acknowledge my parents-in-law Kevin and Geraldine Ford who are here today, and their children, John, Eloise and Jacqueline and their spouses for coming along, I am very appreciative.

I am also I am also very lucky to be married to Kate, the best science teacher in Australia and who will one day be the best high school principal in Australia.

I am very lucky to have three wonderful children, Claudia, Xavier and Juliette, but I have no idea what they will do and I am not allowed to ask either.

I am also grateful for all the support and encouragement I have received over the years from my many good friends who are here today. Most of my friends have this as a very novel experience, in part because it is the first time they have been in a room full of lawyers and will not be getting a bill.

There are a few people I would like to thank individually though for helping me get to where I am and I want to start with Frazer Hunt, who is now Mills Oakley. Frazer was one of my supervising partners in the area of maritime and transport law. I learnt an enormous amount from him, including terms like “the Hague-Visby Rules”, “FOB and CIF” and “package limitation” terms that I no longer understand.. But I do remember Frazer saying that if you could understand maritime law you could understand anything, but of course that is a civil lawyer who has never dealt with the Commonwealth Criminal Code.

I also remember from my time as a very junior solicitor briefing the now Chief Justice in a matter in the Federal Court involving the application of an international arbitration clause and using the then unheard of practice of calling a witness from overseas by telephone, very radical.

I want to thank Alexandra Sarmed from Kingston Fox. Alex and I met when Alex was working at the Commonwealth DPP and I was working at Phillips Fox. The Commonwealth was prosecuting some of our shipowner clients and their crews for illegally fishing in Australian waters.

I went on to run a few defence cases for fisherman illegally fishing in Australian waters and this really opened my eyes up to criminal law, and frankly, it was a bit of a revelation, it was very interesting and much more interesting than reading about FOB and CIF contracts.

To me this exposure to criminal law really opened my eyes. This was something that really mattered, it was more than just simply one corporate entity passing money from one bank account to another, it was about people, it was about their stories and it was a large part of why I decided to go to the Bar. Alex was the first person to brief me at the Commonwealth DPP, although I did remind her at the time that I had more experience arresting ships than I did with arrested humans. Alex demonstrated though that in fact it was a pretty low bar to get work from the Commonwealth DPP, she simply said “ I know you haven’t done crime but you will read the brief, and that’s more than most people.” I continued to follow that practice throughout my career.

Over the course of 18 months at the Bar my practice very quickly changed from a commercial and insurance based practice to one that was largely criminal acting for both the Commonwealth and accused, and my colleagues at Queens Square Chambers (some of whom are here today, thank you very much) most of whom were frequent flyers in the Equity and Corporations List of the Supreme Court were all a little perplexed as to why I would start pursuing an area of work that simply did not pay very well. It did not matter. It was what I was enjoying what I was doing and it really was just the most exciting area.

By 2017 my shift to criminal law was complete when another person took a chance on me, this time, the Honourable Justice Mark Ierace, who I am pleased to see here today, back when he was the Senior Public Defender.

I was appointed a PD in circumstances where I did not fit the mould of the dozens of excellent barristers who had come before me. I had never worked as a solicitor at Legal Aid or the Western Aboriginal Legal Service. I could not tell war stories of low wages, tough conditions and battling prosecutors in the bad lands of Walgett, Dubbo or Broken Hill. Thankfully his Honour was prepared to overcome these shortcomings and I am very glad that you did. Thank you.

My six and a half years as a public defender have been the best of my professional life. Everyone talks (I think a little jealously) about the great work that the PDs get to work on.

The Public Defenders Chambers is filled with barristers from whom I learned an enormous amount. It has a collegiate culture which is second to none, we do not fight over clients, or sit in our chambers wondering why our neighbours are getting brief in matters that we should be briefed in, we do not worry about hwo is making more money. There is none of that. We just get on with.

When one of us had a success in a difficult appeal or trial, Mark or now Belinda Rigg SC, the current Senior Public Defender would send an email around congratulating that person for their work and their success, and for many of us it is the only vicarious success we have had, it is a touch job. But surrounded by the excellent people I was surrounded by I loved it.

I want to mention one public defender by name, that is Angus Webb. I met Angus in 2012 and he has been a great mentor to me. I remember when I first met Angus. He told me he mainly did murder trials and I commented on how stressful that must be, only for him to respond “Not really, mate, it’s just an assault with one less witness.” I did come to learn that was something of an understatement.

Statistically Angus is probably the most successful barrister at the PDs, continually winning cases that appear hopeless and one of the things I love about Angus is that he is never too busy to talk and he is never too busy to run another case, whether it is in the Supreme Court or the District Court. He has an enviable work record and works tirelessly.

I would also like to thank Geoff Bellew, a former Justice of the Supreme Court, now presiding over the Parole Authority where he is this morning in Parramatta and unavailable to be here. I met Geoff in 2007 during the Bar readers course when he was one of the tutors, along with my now colleague Judge Graham Turnbull SC.

Geoff and I hit it off, notwithstanding the fact that I know nothing about rugby league and could not talk to him about that, but he was good enough to give me advice, help me with my Commonwealth work and ultimately write the forward to the three editions of my book. When he was a judge, I appeared before him many times in both the Supreme Court in trials and in the CCA and he was the first person to encourage me to apply for silk in 2021, followed by Belinda Rigg and Janet Manual, for which I am grateful.

I also want to say thank you to all the people, including my new colleagues on the District Court who have sent me messages of congratulations over the last week.

I have to be honest though, my appointment to the Bench has not received universal approval.

When the appointment of my colleague Christine Mendez and I was announced by the District Court social media team on Thursday night an apparently avid District Court follower, and I say that because this person posted a response to the media within three minutes, posted their thoughts on Twitter.

Going by the excellent name Mysterious Dingo, our correspondent said this, “I’m sure they’ll be as worthless as every other pencil pushing waste of taxpayer money this degenerate country employs. Judges and lawyers are the filth of our society.”

Now no one could accuse Mysterious Dingo of hedging his bets on that submission. Hopefully though Ms Mendez, soon to be Judge Mendez, and I will prove him or her wrong.

I know I will miss being at the Bar. For me, the thing that I loved about practicing in criminal law and which you don’t get, I think, in any other area of law to anywhere near the same degree is the human story. How did this Happen? What is this person’s background. What brought them here to this Court?

As a barrister I loved developing the narrative, telling the story, it is why I always loved trials over appellate work. Perhaps I am biased but to me what could be a better test of your skills as an advocate than persuading 12 randoms off the street that your client’s case should succeed.

I know I will miss that, but I am very excited about this new role.

Mr Attorney, Chief Judge, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve the people of this State in this role. Thank you.

PRICE CJ: Thank you, judge. I warmly invite you all to join us for morning tea.