



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP**

MEDIA RELEASE

1 April 2009

**JUSTICE ROBERT BUCHANAN APPOINTED ACTING PRESIDENT
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL**

Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, today announced the appointment of Justice Robert Buchanan as a Presidential Member and Acting President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Justice Buchanan has been a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia since 2006.

“Justice Buchanan’s appointment as a Presidential Member will bring considerable legal expertise and experience to the Tribunal,” Mr McClelland said.

Justice Buchanan’s appointment as Acting President of the Tribunal follows the retirement of Justice Brian Tamberlin from that position and from the Federal Court of Australia.

The Administrative Appeals Tribunal provides independent review of a wide range of administrative decisions made by the Australian Government.

Justice Buchanan will take up these appointments on 30 March 2009.

A short biography of Justice Buchanan is attached.

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JUSTICE ROBERT BUCHANAN

Justice Buchanan has a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from Sydney University.

While studying law he worked in industrial relations and legal positions in the New South Wales Public Service including the Department of Education and the New South Wales Public Service Board.

In May 1974 he was admitted to practice at the New South Wales Bar and was subsequently admitted to practice in each other State and Territory in Australia.

He was appointed Queens Counsel in November 1988.

He appeared in a variety of state and federal courts and tribunals including the High Court, both as junior and senior counsel.

He was appointed as a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia on 8 September 2006.

Justice Buchanan has since been appointed as an additional Judge of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory.