

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC Attorney General Minister for Justice Minister for Industrial Relations

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

## SYDNEY SC APPOINTED AS DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

NSW Attorney General John Hatzistergos today announced the appointment of Sydney barrister Andrew Colefax, SC, as a judge of the District Court of NSW.

Mr Colefax has 30 years experience in law and has worked as a barrister in NSW since 1988, appearing in almost all NSW courts and tribunals. He was appointed as a Senior Counsel in 2004.

Mr Colefax recently served as Counsel Assisting the Commission of Inquiry into the conviction of Phuong Ngo, who is serving a life sentence for the 1994 murder of Cabramatta MP, John Newman.

During his career, Mr Colefax has been a member of the NSW Bar Council and has sat on its committees for professional conduct and mediation. He has also worked as a solicitor in private practice and as a senior legal officer for the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department.

Mr Colefax will be sworn in as a District Court judge on 14 April 2009.

"I congratulate Mr Colefax on his appointment and wish him every success in his new role," Mr Hatzistergos said.

Media Contact: Simon Crittle 0400 477 924