



Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

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SOUTH COAST SOLICITOR APPOINTED AS A MAGISTRATE

Attorney General Greg Smith SC today announced the appointment of South Coast solicitor Mark Douglass as a magistrate of the Local Court of NSW.

Mr Douglass has been a solicitor for almost 15 years, working primarily in Nowra. He was the principal solicitor at Douglass and Ford Criminal Law and the President of the Shoalhaven Regional Law Society prior to his appointment as a magistrate.

“As is often the case with solicitors in regional areas, Mr Douglass has wide ranging legal experience, representing parties in a large number of matters involving criminal, civil, family and care law,” Mr Smith said.

Mr Douglass has frequently appeared in the Local, Children’s and District Courts and instructed counsel in matters before the Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeal. He has conducted prosecutions for government bodies in matters relating to education, fisheries and human resources. He has also lectured in law at Wollongong University.

Prior to establishing his own practice in 2003, Mr Douglass worked as a criminal lawyer at the Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS). While at the ALS, he established a legal component for the Serious Traffic Offender’s Program in Nowra.

Mr Douglass has performed extensive community work in the Shoalhaven area. As a coach of rugby league and rugby union teams, he has worked with disadvantaged Aboriginal young people and encouraged them to participate in sport and gain an education.

Mr Douglass has assisted the Schizophrenia Fellowship with fundraising and has appeared as a guest speaker at a number of its events.

Mr Douglass will be sworn in as a magistrate on 25 February 2013.

Media Contact: Geesche Jacobsen 0467 737 920