

**FEDERAL ATTORNEY-GENERAL
ROBERT McCLELLAND MP**

AND

**VICTORIAN ATTORNEY-GENERAL
ROB HULLS MP**

23 October 2009

SHARING EXPERTISE IN THE AUSTRALIAN JUDICIARY

Federal Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, and Victorian Attorney-General, Rob Hulls, today announced their intention to make Australia's first judicial dual Federal-State appointment.

Mr Hulls said such an arrangement would allow both the Commonwealth and Victoria to jointly utilise the experience and expertise of appointees across jurisdictions.

The Victorian Government will move to amend relevant State legislation to seek the reappointment of Justice Dodds-Streeon to the Victorian Supreme Court to enable her to hold a dual commission with the Federal Court, Mr Hulls said.

Justice Dodds-Streeon has been a Judge of the Court of Appeal in Victoria since August 2007 and was a judge of the trial division of that Court from 2002 until her appointment to the Court of Appeal. Justice Dodds-Streeon will take up her appointment at the Melbourne registry of the Federal Court in February 2010.

New South Wales Attorney General, John Hatzistergos has today also indicated his intention to amend relevant State legislation to facilitate dual Federal-State judicial appointments in New South Wales.

The Federal Attorney-General will now seek similar amendments across all Australian jurisdictions to achieve consistent arrangements with respect to dual Federal-State appointments.

Today's announcement underlines the commitment of both the Commonwealth and State Governments to work together to enhance the functioning and effectiveness of our courts.

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