

Media release
Attorney-General – Hon. Robert McClelland, MP
17 December 2008

NEW DEFENCE FORCE DISCIPLINE APPEAL TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT APPOINTED

Attorney-General Robert McClelland today announced the appointment of Justice Richard Tracey RFD as President of the Defence Force Discipline Appeal Tribunal.

“It is with great pleasure that I announce Justice Tracey’s appointment,” Mr McClelland said.

“Justice Tracey has a strong military background, as well as considerable judicial experience including on the Federal Court of Australia.”

“I am confident that Justice Tracey will serve as President of the Tribunal with distinction.”

The Defence Force Discipline Appeal Tribunal hears and determines appeals from courts martial and Defence Force magistrates relating to service offences by Australian Defence Force personnel.

Justice Tracey will take up appointment for a five year term in February 2009, following the retirement of the Tribunal’s current President, the Hon Justice Peter Heerey.

A short biography of Justice Tracey is attached.

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Hon Justice Richard Tracey

Justice Tracey has been a judge of the Federal Court since 2006.

He has over 30 years military experience, beginning with his involvement in the Australian Army Legal Corps, holding the ranks of Captain Major, Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel and Brigadier.

In 1985, Justice Tracey was appointed as a Judge Advocate and Defence Force Magistrate and he became a Reviewing Judge Advocate in 1990.

In 1997, Justice Tracey was awarded the Reserve Force Decoration (RFD) medal in recognition of his years of diligent service in the Defence Force.

He was Deputy Judge Advocate General (Army), in 2006 and 2007, and has been Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force since 2007.