

Family Law

Thursday 17 August 2023

Session 1 – 9.45am – 10.30am

The development of a solutions focus in the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

The session will firstly focus on developments in the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia in the last 12 months. Secondly, it will provide an overview as to how the overarching purpose adumbrated in sections 67 and 190 of the *Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Act 2021* (Cth) has been applied. Thirdly, the session will provide suggestions that may assist legal practitioners in preparing for and conducting settlement conferences.

Meet the speaker

The Honourable Deputy Chief Justice Robert McClelland AO, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

The Honourable Justice Robert McClelland AO was appointed as Deputy Chief Justice in December 2018 and appointed as a judge of the Family Court of Australia in June 2015. He was admitted to the Supreme Court of New South Wales as a solicitor in 1982, elected to Federal Parliament in 1996 as the Member for Barton and served as Commonwealth Attorney-General between 2007 and 2011. During that time, he introduced amendments to the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth) in respect to family violence and to de facto couples. His Honour was appointed as Chair of the Family Law Council in December 2021. In 2022, His Honour was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours for "distinguished service to the people and Parliament of Australia, to the law, social justice and law reform".