



Hon Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

7 March 2012

NEW DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FOR NEWCASTLE

The Attorney General, Greg Smith SC, today announced the appointment of Peter Maiden SC as a judge of the District Court of NSW.

“Mr Maiden will be initially based in Parramatta before being transferred to Newcastle to occupy the position previously held by the late District Court judge Ralph Coolahan,” Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith said Mr Maiden has a comprehensive knowledge of the law having practised in a wide range of areas over the past 38 years.

In criminal law, he has acted for the prosecution and defence in jury trials, sentence hearings and appeals. In the civil jurisdiction, he has appeared in matters involving personal injury, family law, wills and property relationships.

While his practice is based in Sydney, Mr Maiden has also worked extensively in northern NSW. In addition, he has practised as a solicitor in Penrith and England and as a barrister in trials and appeals in Fiji.

Mr Maiden defended Fiji’s former prime minister Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka and politician Ratu Inoke Taviekata against charges of inciting mutiny.

He has also served as a councillor of the NSW Bar Association, working on education, finance and disciplinary matters.

Mr Maiden was admitted as a solicitor in 1974 and became a barrister in 1981. He was appointed as a Senior Counsel in 2006.

He will be sworn in as a judge of the District Court on 12 March 2012.