

Justice RRS Tracey

On 24 July 2006 Richard Ross Sinclair Tracey RFD QC was sworn in as a judge of the Federal Court of Australia.

Born on 18 August 1948 in Melbourne, his Honour was educated at Melbourne High School, the University of Melbourne (from which he graduated LLB (Hons) in 1969 and LLM in 1975) and the University of Illinois, from which he graduated LLM in 1979.

Between 1970-1972 his Honour was Associate to Sir Richard Eggeston, a judge of the Commonwealth Industrial Court. Between 1972-1987 he held various academic positions within the Faculty of Law in the University of Melbourne. He was Sub-Dean of the Faculty between 1977-1980.

On 20 January 1975 his Honour was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory. He was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria on 1 May 1975 and as a Barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales on 3 June 1975. He signed the roll of counsel in Victoria on 1 February 1982. In his first year at the Victorian Bar he read with Mr A G Uren QC. He practised mainly in the areas of constitutional law, administrative law and industrial law. He took Silk in Victoria in 1991 and, in 1993, became one of the first Senior Counsel appointed in New South Wales.

During his time at the Victorian Bar he was actively involved in its affairs. He chaired his List Committee for over 10 years and was also chair of the public law section of the Commercial Bar Association. He represented the Bar on various external bodies.

After he moved to the Bar full time in 1987 his Honour maintained his interest in legal education. He continued to teach on a part-time basis and was a visiting fellow in the Faculty of Law between 1995-1998. Between 1997-2003 he was a member of the Legal Profession Tribunal in Victoria. He was a Hearing Commissioner of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Committee between 1997-2000. Between 2001-2003 he was Senior Counsel assisting the Royal Commission into the Building and Construction Industry. He has published a large number of books and articles on administrative law and industrial law.

Since 1975 he has been a member of the Australian Army Legal Corps. He is presently appointed as Judge Advocate General of the Australian Defence Force and holds the rank of Major General.

On 16 May 1975 his Honour married Hilary Frances Cain. They have four children: Jack, Philip, Fiona and Rosemary.

His Honour's recreational interests include bushwalking, reading and supporting the Collingwood Football Club.