



FROM  
THE HON. ASSOCIATE JUSTICE MAHONY

JUDGES' CHAMBERS  
SUPREME COURT  
210 WILLIAM STREET  
MELBOURNE, 3000

4 September 2012

Dear Beneficiaries/Family/Carers/Friends,

I am writing to you all at this time to inform you that, after more than 29 years, I am retiring as Senior Master, with effect from the end of Friday, 7 September 2012.

I appreciate that I am giving you very little notice of an event that I put in train as long ago as 17 July. I have waited before writing, however, so that I could also pass on to you the news about my immediate successor. (In my opinion the cost of two letters to more than 5000 people could not be justified. Thus, I hope you will forgive my apparent delay in informing you of my intentions.)

The new Senior Master will be my very good friend and colleague for the last seven years, Associate Justice John Efthim, whose appointment was confirmed this morning. I am very pleased by his appointment and I wish him every success.

Senior Master Efthim will receive, as I have up to now, the benefit of the dedicated and very skilful staff which has been built up over the years. I believe the Office is stronger now than ever before. All its members will give him their full support and this will speed his transition into the position and provide him with great confidence.

Associate Justice Efthim has had a long and varied legal career, and was with the Federal Court for 13 years before being appointed as a Master of the Supreme Court in 2005 and becoming, with the rest of us, an Associate Judge in 2008. He is familiar with Funds in Court, having had many discussions with me on our walks over the years, and having approved many of the compromises leading to payments into Court.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the staff of the Office who have served you – and me – so faithfully and well over the years. There is very little staff turnover and the culture of service in the Office is firmly entrenched. Therefore, while I must now depart, I assure you it will be “business as usual” in the future.

With every best wish,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Mahony".

SENIOR MASTER