

**Subject:** Staff announcement: Executive Directors Corporate Services – New Appointments  
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## OFFICIAL

Dear Judges and colleagues

I previously advised of a recruitment exercise for the appointment of two key leadership roles in Corporate Services as part of the realignment of the Corporate Services leadership structure. I am now writing to inform you of the outcome of the recruitment exercise for those two roles, being:

- **Executive Director Corporate Strategy & Programs (SES2)** responsible for strategic planning, governance, financial management, digital transformation and organisational change, the delivery of the Corporate Services' strategic priorities and the new Strategic Programs Office; and
- **Executive Director Corporate Operations (SES2)** responsible for the delivery of corporate operational services to the Courts and Tribunal including People and Culture and Communications, Library Services, Property & Procurement and Security and leading service improvement.

An extensive recruitment exercise was undertaken with a high level of interest having received over 400 applications including a number of very impressive applicants with extensive experience leading the provision of corporate services to courts and tribunals. The selection panel comprised:

- David McKay, Deputy Secretary Sport, Territories and Regions, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (SES3), who was the Australian Public Service Commissioner's (APSC) independent representative on the panel. The APSC representative is appointed to ensure that the recruitment process was consistent with merit, took into account the knowledge, skills and capabilities expected of SES employees across the whole of the APS, and to certify that the recruitment process was consistent with the requirements of the *Public Service Act 1999* (Cth);
- Sia Lagos, CEO & Principal Registrar, FCA;
- David Pringle, CEO & Principal Registrar, FCFCOA (Division 1 & Division 2); and
- Paul Farrell, Senior National Judicial Registrar & District Registrar NSW/ACT.

I am pleased to announce the following appointments selected by the panel as having the requisite skills, knowledge and experience to meet the significant demands of these roles:

- **Jimmy Mastorakos, Executive Director Corporate Strategy & Programs.** Jimmy has over 20 years of senior leadership experience across federal government, including key leadership roles with the Department of Defence leading the strategic reform of financial and asset management functions and the modernisation of systems, and leading multi-disciplinary teams at the Department of Home Affairs that delivered people operations and systems transformation. Since joining Corporate Services, Jimmy has been instrumental in the uplift of People & Culture functions as well as significantly strengthening the alignment of strategic planning and financial management, and more recently leading finance and digital transformation to consolidate and modernise IT systems and provide opportunities for integration with emerging technologies. Jimmy commenced in the role on 26 August 2025 and is based in Melbourne; and

- **Cara Lawson, Executive Director Corporate Operations.** Cara is currently working in the NSW Department of Communities and Justice where she has held senior leadership roles within the Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery Division. She has worked extensively with NSW Courts and Tribunals, most recently providing strategic reform and support services across these jurisdictions. Cara brings an in depth understanding of judicial operations and broad experience across corporate services, including human resources and workforce strategy, finance, digital transformation, procurement, and operational support. Cara also has significant experience working with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. Cara holds a Bachelor of Laws, is an admitted legal practitioner in NSW and is a Fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia. Cara will commence on 15 September 2025 and will be based in Sydney.

I would like to express my appreciation to Paul Kennedy who acted in the Executive Director Corporate Operations role providing vital operational leadership and stability during the transition to a new structure. Paul's commitment and leadership during this period has been significant and provided much needed continuity during this period. I am pleased to advise that Paul will transition into the newly created Strategic Program Office as the Executive Director from September. In this role Paul will draw on his extensive knowledge and operational experience within Corporate Services to establish and lead the Strategic Programs Office to enable it to support the Courts and Tribunal, including through the delivery of the Corporate Services' strategic priorities.

We all look forward to working with Jimmy, Cara and Paul in these important roles that are essential to ensuring that critical services and support are provided to the Courts and Tribunal.

Kind regards

Sia

**Sia Lagos | Chief Executive Officer and Principal Registrar**  
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