

# National Judicial Orientation Program

**Sun 12 - Fri 17 Nov 2023**  
**Sydney**



## The National Judicial

**Orientation Program (NJOP)** is a joint presentation of the National Judicial College of Australia, the Judicial Commission of New South Wales and the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration. The primary goal of the program is to assist newly appointed judicial officers with their transition to judicial office by facilitating the development and refinement of the skills, knowledge, and attributes necessary for effective judging.

Successive steering committees of experienced judges and judicial education professionals have contributed to the program since the program's inception in 1994. Participants benefit from the knowledge and experience of senior judges who attend the program as speakers, and the exchange of ideas and experiences with other participants.

This is a five-and-a-half-day residential program commencing Sunday evening. Many sessions are interactive and encourage robust discussion. Participants will discuss a range of practical scenarios. A summary of the session topics is provided on the next page.

## Who should attend

This program is open to newly appointed judges.

## Cost

The Program fee is \$5,875 incl GST and includes accommodation for 5 nights and catering during the program. Dinner is provided on Sunday and Thursday, and drinks/canapés on Monday evening.

## Registration

Register and pay online at: [www.njca.com.au](http://www.njca.com.au).

### Registration opens:

Sun 12 November at 4.30pm

### Official Welcome:

Sun 12 November at 5.00pm

### Program Close:

Fri 17 November at 1.00pm

### Program Manager:

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**Judicial conduct and ethics in and out of court** identifies issues relating to ethical decision-making, conflicts of interest, and disqualifications; provides guidance towards developing a reasoned approach and identifies key judicial values.

**Managing time with available resources** raises awareness of the challenges of judicial life; provides practical ideas and information to assist judges to manage conflicting and competing priorities.

**Lifestyle choices** strengthens participants understanding of nutrition and provides information and practical tips to help judicial officers make healthy choices.

**Confronting challenges in the exercise of discretions** addresses the general principles of exercising judicial discretion in both civil proceedings and in sentencing in criminal matters.

**Unconscious judicial prejudice** explores the effect of unconscious prejudice upon judicial decision-making in law and fact.

**Court Craft** provides participants an opportunity to consider and discuss responses to issues that can arise in the conduct of a trial.

**Maintaining psychological & physical health** provides guidance on how to maintain physical and psychological well-being in a busy schedule.

**Power imbalances: avoiding the pitfalls** asks participants to consider their place within the court workplace environment and their influence on workplace culture.

**Self-represented litigants** distinguishes between a querulous litigant and other litigants in person. Techniques for dealing with both types of litigant are discussed during this session.

**The Benefits of an ex Temp** considers the benefits of an ex temp; provides guidance on when an ex temp is / is not appropriate, and how to prepare to give an ex temp.

**Cultural barriers in the court room/interpreters** many litigants confront cultural difficulties in accessing the justice system. An experienced facilitator leads a discussion of cultural, racial and gender differences in the community.

**Assessing the credibility and reliability of witnesses** assists participants to understand memory and its impact on oral evidence, and provides assistance in relation to forming judgements on the credibility and reliability of witnesses.

**Courtroom control including contempt in the face of the court** provides judges with the skills required to understand how demeanour and behaviour may influence the conduct of a proceeding.

**Resilience, wellbeing & mindfulness practice** focuses on evidence-based practices to improve psychological health & functioning. A series of attention training exercises & cognitive strategies help you unhook from unproductive thought patterns & behaviours.

**Introduction to judgment writing** introduces judges to the skill of good judgment writing and enhances participants' judgment writing skills through analysis and group discussion.

## Steering Committee

Justice Ann Ainslie-Wallace (Chair), *Family Court of Australia*  
Justice Glenn Martin AM, *Supreme Court of Queensland*  
Justice Bridget Markovic, *Federal Court of Australia*  
Justice Julie Ward, *Supreme Court of New South Wales*  
Judge Peter Cole, *Federal Circuit Court of Australia*  
Judge Sarah Huggett, *District Court of New South Wales*

Judge Samantha Marks, *County Court of Victoria*  
Judge Julie McIntyre, *District Court of South Australia*  
Judge John Staude, *District Court of Western Australia*  
Una Doyle, *Judicial Commission of New South Wales*  
Kate Latimer, *National Judicial College of Australia*  
Breanna Minisini, *National Judicial College of Australia*