

Media Release

Friday 16 May 2014

2014 Legal Services Board election results

The outcome of the 2014 Legal Services Board election has been officially announced by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

The election was held between April and May 2014 and was managed by the VEC. Three Board positions were available: one position to represent advocates (barristers) and two positions to represent non-advocates (solicitors).

The VEC yesterday published the election result in the [Victorian Government Gazette](#), announcing the successful candidates were:

- Mr Peter Jopling AM QC as the advocate representative
- Ms Cate Dealehr as a non-advocate representative
- Mr Steven Stevens as a non-advocate representative.

Board Chairperson, Ms Fiona Bennett, said there was an extremely strong level of interest in the election, with three barristers and 12 solicitors nominating for the three positions.

'It is encouraging to see the legal profession being so interested and engaged in the important role played by the Board. The skills and knowledge which these elected representatives will bring to the Board will help maintain the Board's reputation for strong governance and the efficient and effective regulation of the legal profession in Victoria.'

Ms Bennett thanked outgoing Board member, Richard Fleming, for his excellent contribution to the Board.

'Richard has provided invaluable support to the work of the Board over the last four years, including through the chairmanship of the Audit Committee and membership of both the Fidelity Fund committee and the Finance & Investment Committee.'

Ms Bennett also congratulated the existing members, Mr Jopling and Mr Stevens on their re-election, and Ms Dealehr on her election.

The new Board composition will take effect as of 1 July. Members serve a four-year term.

The Board is the peak regulator for the legal profession in Victoria. It is responsible for a broad range of functions including lawyer registration, approving the rules that govern the profession, monitoring trust accounts, and making grants to enhance legal services and community legal education.

Ends