

**13 March 2017**

## **Alice Springs Local Court Judge a win for diversity and access to justice**

**Law Society Northern Territory (“Society”) welcomes the Attorney-General’s announcement today that the Supreme and Local Court Registrar, Sarah McNamara, has been appointed a Local Court judge in Alice Springs.**

Society President Mr Tass Liveris said, “The Society has long supported judicial appointments from within the local profession to the greatest extent possible, diversity in the legal profession and the judiciary and access to justice in the regions. Registrar McNamara’s appointment progresses each of these causes.”.

Registrar McNamara has a long-standing commitment to Alice Springs and the administration of justice and her experience in the town and the courts equip her well to perform the functions of a Local Court judge.

Mr Liveris said, “This is an extremely important appointment for the central Australian community, because it restores the number of permanent judges in Alice Springs to 4, following Judge Trigg’s retirement. Registrar McNamara is also the first female Local Court judge to be based in Alice Springs in 10 years and her appointment increases the number of female Local Court judges in the Northern Territory to 5. These are all very important factors that go a long way to ensuring that the judiciary is able to serve the entire community and that it is increasingly of and reflective of that community.”.

On behalf of the legal profession of the Northern Territory, the Society congratulates Registrar McNamara on her appointment.

### **END OF RELEASE**

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