

Selected Media
(by email)
Wednesday 10 February 2016

Centre Celebrates WAIRC Appointments

The Principal Solicitor of the Employment Law Centre of Western Australia (ELC), Ms Toni Emmanuel, has been appointed as a Commissioner of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission. This follows 9 ½ years as the supervising solicitor of a team which has grown to 40 lawyers, secondees and volunteers.

“While Toni will be greatly missed by all of us at the Employment Law Centre, we feel enormous pride in the recognition that this appointment embodies for both Toni and for the Centre”, ELC Manager Sara Kane said today.

“Toni has contributed enormously to the community through her work with our Centre. Her skill, innovation and passion for social justice and human rights have found expression through her work with us. Toni has earned her outstanding reputation for compassion and professionalism which she will carry into her new life at the Commission. We express our deepest thanks and sincerest best wishes to our remarkable colleague.”

In addition, the ELC is pleased to congratulate one of its experienced and popular pro bono lawyers, Damien Matthews, now also appointed as a Commissioner of the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission.

The ELC is proud of its longstanding assistance to the State’s most vulnerable workers and its national recognition as a leading specialist employment law service. Its operation relies in very large part on government funding. These excellent appointments come at a challenging time for the ELC with the expectation that the WA State Government will cease funding the service from July 2016 and its Commonwealth funding is under review.

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About the ELC

The Employment Law Centre of WA is a leading specialist community legal centre that assists thousands of vulnerable non-union employees in Western Australia each year. Each year the telephone advice line undertakes 3000 to 4000 telephone consultations. In cases of special need or significance the Centre also offers between 300 and 500 clients additional assistance through in-house legal services and experienced lawyers offering their expertise on a pro bono basis. The Centre also benefits from secondments from leading law firms and the generous efforts of numerous volunteers.

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