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Thursday, 25 October 2007

### **NEW DISTRICT COURT JUDGE APPOINTED**

Attorney-General Michael Atkinson says the Governor in Executive Council has today appointed senior Adelaide lawyer Julie McIntyre as a District Court Judge.

Mr Atkinson says Ms McIntyre, who most recently has been a partner at law firm Sparke Helmore, replaces Judge Patricia Kelly who was elevated to the Supreme Court earlier this year.

“Ms McIntyre brings to the bench much commercial experience from a career that began in 1983 when she was admitted as a barrister and solicitor. I congratulate her on her appointment,” Mr Atkinson says.

“She has conducted matters in a diverse range of areas including federal administrative law, State and Commonwealth compensation, professional indemnity insurance and crash-and-bash claims.”

The Attorney-General says those skills will prove valuable to the bench as it strikes a balance between criminal-law and commercial-law experience.

Mr Atkinson says he’s also pleased to be able to appoint another woman to the bench.

“This Government is pledged to increase the number of women in the judiciary and I am pleased to be announce Julie McIntyre’s appointment as a further contribution to that,” Mr Atkinson says.

“She has earned her place on the bench. She is one of many talented women lawyers in South Australia and I look forward to appointing more to our courts in the future.”

Other women appointed by the Rann Government to the courts during 2007 are:

- District Court Judge Patricia Kelly, promoted to the Supreme Court;
- Elizabeth Bolton as Chief Magistrate, the first woman to head a jurisdiction in South Australia’s history;
- Lydia Makiv and Koula Kossiavelos as Magistrates; and
- Mary-Louise Hribal as a part-time Magistrate.