

NOTICE OF FILING

Details of Filing

Document Lodged: Affidavit - Form 59 - Rule 29.02(1)
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File Title: LESLEY TURNER v JACINTA NAMPIJINPA PRICE
Registry: NORTHERN TERRITORY REGISTRY - FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Registrar

Important Information

This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

The date of the filing of the document is determined pursuant to the Court's Rules.

Form 59
Rule 29.02(1)

Affidavit

No. NTD17 of 2024

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: Northern Territory
Division: General

LESLEY TURNER

Applicant

JACINTA NAMPIJINPA PRICE

Respondent

Affidavit of: **David Parsons SC**

Address: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Retired judge of the County Court of Victoria

Date: 19 February 2025

I, David Parsons, of [REDACTED] say on oath/affirm:

1. I am a retired judge of the Criminal Division of the County Court of Victoria. I was appointed to the Court in August 2006 and I retired in August 2017.
2. Between 2017 and 2021 I was an Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University. I am about to be appointed as an Adjunct Professor at the Australian Catholic University.
3. I was called to the Victorian Bar in 1982 and practiced until my appointment to the Court in 2006. I took Silk in 2001. At the Bar I practised both criminal and civil law, and also appeared in native title and land rights cases.
4. During my time on the Court, I assisted in the establishment and expansion of the County Koori Court. The County Koori Court was the first sentencing court

Filed on behalf of	Lesley Turner, applicant
Prepared by	Victoria-Jane Otavski
Law firm	BlackBay Lawyers
Tel	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Address for service	Level 30, 133 Castlereagh St, Sydney NSW 2000

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for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders in the higher jurisdiction in Australia, following the successful establishment of Koori Courts in the Victorian Magistrates and Children's Courts. It provides a forum for Aboriginal Elders or Respected Persons to advise the sentencing Judge on cultural issues affecting the offender and his or her offending behaviour, and provide advice on cultural practices and perspectives relevant to sentencing.

5. I have also been involved in organisations including the Law Council of Australia's Indigenous Affairs Committee, the Koori Heritage Trust and Stolen Generations Victoria.
6. I first met Les Turner in 1974 in Alice Springs, when I was working as a solicitor for the Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Service. I did not have any direct dealings with Les again until just after the COVID-19 pandemic when I flew to Alice Springs to talk to him and his predecessor at the Central Land Council about accessing CLC materials for a project I am working on about the history of the passing of the *Land Rights Act 1976*.
7. Many of my professional acquaintances and friends are familiar with Les. A significant part of my practice at the Bar involved working with Aboriginal people and organisations, including in the Northern Territory. Although I was based in Victoria, I used to travel to the Northern Territory for several months each year for native title claims representing various First Nations groups. I continued to be involved with various Aboriginal organisations after I became a Judge.
8. Among the people I know, Les had an exemplary reputation as an administrator prior to July 2024. Aboriginal land rights is a difficult area, and it is especially difficult for an Aboriginal person to work as the head of an Aboriginal organisation because of the internal tensions. Les was widely respected for being able to work in that maelstrom and emerge unscathed.
9. When I was a barrister, there were only about twenty or thirty counsel practising in the area of land rights, and gossip at the Bar was prodigious. I never heard a bad word about Les from anyone.




Clifton Hill Pharmacy
ABN: 48 134 067 557
340 Queens Parade
Clifton Hill Vic 3068
Ph: 9489 8731 Fax: 9482 5066

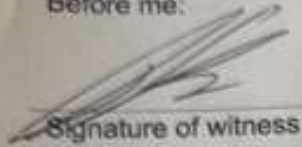
Paul Volpe B.Pharm (HONS)
Pharmacist

P.V.

Sworn/affirmed by the deponent
at Melbourne
in the state of Victoria
on 19 February 2025
Before me:



Signature of deponent



Signature of witness

Paul Volpe B.Pharm (HONS)
Pharmacist

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