

Part 1: Overview of the Court



Objectives

The objectives of the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) are to:

- decide disputes according to law – promptly, courteously and effectively and, in so doing, to interpret the statutory law and develop the general law of the Commonwealth, so as to fulfil the role of a court exercising the judicial power of the Commonwealth under the Constitution
- provide an effective registry service to the community, and
- manage the resources allotted by Parliament efficiently.

Establishment

The Federal Court was created by the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* (Cth) and began to exercise its jurisdiction on 1 February 1977. It assumed jurisdiction formerly exercised in part by the High Court of Australia and the whole jurisdiction of the Australian Industrial Court and the Federal Court of Bankruptcy. The Court is a superior court of record and a court of law and equity. It sits in all capital cities and elsewhere in Australia from time to time.

Purpose

As outlined in the Court's Corporate Plan, the purpose of the Federal Court as an independent court of law is to decide disputes according to the law as quickly, inexpensively and efficiently as possible.

The purpose of the Federal Court entity is to provide corporate services in support of the operations of the Federal Court, the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia and the National Native Title Tribunal.

Functions and powers

The Court's jurisdiction is broad, covering almost all civil matters arising under Australian federal law and some summary and indictable criminal matters. Central to the Court's civil jurisdiction is section 39B(1A) of the *Judiciary Act 1903* (Cth). This jurisdiction includes cases created by a federal statute, and extends to matters in which a federal issue is properly raised as part of a claim or of a defence and to matters where the subject matter in dispute owes its existence to a federal state.

The Court has a substantial and diverse appellate jurisdiction. It hears appeals from decisions of single judges of the Court and from the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2) in non-family law matters. The Court also exercises general appellate jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters on appeal from the Supreme Court of Norfolk Island. The Court's jurisdiction is described more fully in Part 3 (*Report on Court performance*).

The Court's Outcome and Program Structure

TABLE 1.1: OUTCOME 1: FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

| FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA | BUDGET 21-22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21-22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| OUTCOME 1: Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through the resolution of matters according to law and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court and Tribunal. | | | |
| Program 1.1 – Federal Court of Australia | | | |
| Administered Expenses | | | |
| Special appropriations | 600 | 691 | -91 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 66,498 | 60,421 | 6,077 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 17,763 | 20,681 | -2,918 |
| Total for Program 1.1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Total expenses for outcome 1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 279 | 256 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

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The Federal Court was created by the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* (Cth) and began to exercise its jurisdiction on 1 February 1977. It assumed jurisdiction formerly exercised in part by the High Court of Australia and the whole jurisdiction of the Australian Industrial Court and the Federal Court of Bankruptcy. The Court is a superior court of record and a court of law and equity. It sits in all capital cities and elsewhere in Australia from time to time.

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Functions and powers

The Court's jurisdiction is broad, covering almost all civil matters arising under Australian federal law and some summary and indictable criminal matters. Central to the Court's civil jurisdiction is section 39B(1A) of the *Judiciary Act 1903* (Cth). This jurisdiction includes cases created by a federal statute, and extends to matters in which a federal issue is properly raised as part of a claim or of a defence and to matters where the subject matter in dispute owes its existence to a federal state.

The Court has a substantial and diverse appellate jurisdiction. It hears appeals from decisions of single judges of the Court and from the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2) in non-family law matters. The Court also exercises general appellate jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters on appeal from the Supreme Court of Norfolk Island. The Court's jurisdiction is described more fully in Part 3 (*Report on Court performance*).

The Court's Outcome and Program Structure

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| FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA | BUDGET 21-22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21-22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| OUTCOME 1: Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through the resolution of matters according to law and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court and Tribunal. | | | |
| Program 1.1 – Federal Court of Australia | | | |
| Administered Expenses | | | |
| Special appropriations | 600 | 691 | -91 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 66,498 | 60,421 | 6,077 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 17,763 | 20,681 | -2,918 |
| Total for Program 1.1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Total expenses for outcome 1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 279 | 256 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

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- provide an effective registry service to the community, and
- manage the resources allotted by Parliament efficiently.

Establishment

The Federal Court was created by the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* (Cth) and began to exercise its jurisdiction on 1 February 1977. It assumed jurisdiction formerly exercised in part by the High Court of Australia and the whole jurisdiction of the Australian Industrial Court and the Federal Court of Bankruptcy. The Court is a superior court of record and a court of law and equity. It sits in all capital cities and elsewhere in Australia from time to time.

Purpose

As outlined in the Court's Corporate Plan, the purpose of the Federal Court as an independent court of law is to decide disputes according to the law as quickly, inexpensively and efficiently as possible.

The purpose of the Federal Court entity is to provide corporate services in support of the operations of the Federal Court, the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia and the National Native Title Tribunal.

Functions and powers

The Court's jurisdiction is broad, covering almost all civil matters arising under Australian federal law and some summary and indictable criminal matters. Central to the Court's civil jurisdiction is section 39B(1A) of the *Judiciary Act 1903* (Cth). This jurisdiction includes cases created by a federal statute, and extends to matters in which a federal issue is properly raised as part of a claim or of a defence and to matters where the subject matter in dispute owes its existence to a federal state.

The Court has a substantial and diverse appellate jurisdiction. It hears appeals from decisions of single judges of the Court and from the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2) in non-family law matters. The Court also exercises general appellate jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters on appeal from the Supreme Court of Norfolk Island. The Court's jurisdiction is described more fully in Part 3 (*Report on Court performance*).

The Court's Outcome and Program Structure

TABLE 1.1: OUTCOME 1: FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

| FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA | BUDGET 21-22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21-22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| OUTCOME 1: Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through the resolution of matters according to law and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court and Tribunal. | | | |
| Program 1.1 – Federal Court of Australia | | | |
| Administered Expenses | | | |
| Special appropriations | 600 | 691 | -91 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 66,498 | 60,421 | 6,077 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 17,763 | 20,681 | -2,918 |
| Total for Program 1.1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Total expenses for outcome 1 | 84,861 | 81,793 | 3,068 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 279 | 256 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

TABLE 1.2: OUTCOME 2: FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

| FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA | BUDGET 21-22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21-22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| OUTCOME 2: Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Family Court of Australia through the resolution of family law matters according to law, particularly more complex family law matters and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court. | | | |
| Program 2.1 – Family Court of Australia | | | |
| Administered Expenses | | | |
| Special appropriations | 100 | 36 | 64 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 40,527 | 35,346 | 5,181 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 11,906 | 14,751 | -2,845 |
| Total for Program 2.1 | 52,533 | 50,133 | 2,400 |
| Total expenses for outcome 2 | 52,533 | 50,133 | 2,400 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 135 | 132 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

TABLE 1.3: OUTCOME 3: FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT OF AUSTRALIA

| FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT OF AUSTRALIA | BUDGET 21–22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21–22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| OUTCOME 3: Apply and uphold the rule of law for litigants in the Federal Circuit Court of Australia through more informal and streamlined resolution of family law and general federal law matters according to law, through the encouragement of appropriate dispute resolution processes and through the effective management of the administrative affairs of the Court. | | | |
| Program 3.1 – Federal Circuit Court of Australia | | | |
| Administered Expenses | | | |
| Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act No.1) | 925 | 373 | 552 |
| Special appropriations | 200 | 112 | 88 |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 89,070 | 82,758 | 6,312 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 2,367 | 2,157 | 210 |
| Total for Program 3.1 | 92,562 | 85,400 | 7,162 |
| Total expenses for outcome 3 | 92,562 | 85,400 | 7,162 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 360 | 336 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

TABLE 1.4: OUTCOME 4: COMMONWEALTH COURTS CORPORATE SERVICES

| COMMONWEALTH COURTS CORPORATE SERVICES | BUDGET 21–22 (\$'000) | ACTUAL 21–22 (\$'000) | VARIATION (\$'000) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| OUTCOME 4: Improved administration and support for the resolution of matters according to law for litigants in the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia and parties in the National Native Title Tribunal through efficient and effective provision of shared corporate and registry services. | | | |
| Program 4.1 – Commonwealth Courts Corporate Services | | | |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation ¹ | 76,665 | 74,306 | 2,359 |
| Expenses not requiring appropriation in the budget year | 59,275 | 59,446 | -171 |
| Total for Program 4.1 | 135,940 | 133,752 | 2,188 |
| Program 4.2 – Commonwealth Courts Registry Services | | | |
| Departmental Expenses | | | |
| Departmental appropriation | 32,569 | 29,599 | 2,970 |
| Total for Program 4.2 | 32,569 | 29,599 | 2,970 |
| Total expenses for outcome 4 | 168,509 | 163,351 | 5,158 |
| Average staffing level (number) | 484 | 447 | |

¹ Departmental appropriation combines ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act Nos 1 and 3) and retained revenue receipts under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The titles and outcome statements for the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia were officially changed by the Department of Finance effective from 1 July 2022. These tables therefore reflect old titles as at 30 June 2022.

About the Federal Court

Judges of the Court

At 30 June 2022, there were 54 judges of the Court. They are listed below in order of seniority with details about any other commissions or appointments held on courts or tribunals. Of the 54 judges, there were three whose work as members of other courts or tribunals occupied all, or most, of their time.

TABLE 1.5: JUDGES OF THE FEDERAL COURT (AS AT 30 JUNE 2022)

| JUDGE | LOCATION | OTHER COMMISSIONS/APPOINTMENTS |
|---|-----------|---|
| Chief Justice The Hon James Leslie Bain ALLSOP AO | Sydney | |
| The Hon Susan Coralie KENNY AM | Melbourne | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Australian Electoral Commission – Chairperson |
| The Hon Andrew Peter GREENWOOD | Brisbane | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Copyright Tribunal – President |
| The Hon Steven David RARES | Sydney | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Supreme Court of Norfolk Island – Judge |
| The Hon Berna Joan COLLIER | Brisbane | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea – Judge ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Anthony James BESANKO | Adelaide | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supreme Court of Norfolk Island – Chief Justice ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon John Eric MIDDLETON AM | Melbourne | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Australian Competition Tribunal – President ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Australian Law Reform Commission – Part-time Commissioner |
| The Hon John Alexander LOGAN RFD | Brisbane | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Defence Force Discipline Appeal Tribunal – President ■ National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea – Judge |
| The Hon Nye PERRAM | Sydney | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Copyright Tribunal – Deputy President |
| The Hon Jayne Margaret JAGOT | Sydney | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Copyright Tribunal – Deputy President |

| JUDGE | LOCATION | OTHER COMMISSIONS/APPOINTMENTS |
|--|-----------|---|
| The Hon John Victor NICHOLAS | Sydney | |
| The Hon David Markey YATES | Sydney | |
| The Hon Mordecai BROMBERG | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Anna Judith KATZMANN | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Bernard Michael MURPHY | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Iain James Kerr ROSS AO | Melbourne | ■ Fair Work Australia – President ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Kathleen FARRELL | Sydney | ■ Australian Competition Tribunal – Deputy President |
| The Hon Debra Sue MORTIMER | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Darryl Cameron RANGIAH | Brisbane | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Michael Andrew WIGNEY | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Supreme Court of Norfolk Island – Judge |
| The Hon Melissa Anne PERRY | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Defence Force Discipline Appeal Tribunal – Member ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President |
| The Hon Jonathan Barry Rashleigh BEACH | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Brigitte Sandra MARKOVIC | Sydney | |
| The Hon Mark Kranz MOSHINSKY | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Robert James BROMWICH | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Supreme Court of Norfolk Island – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Natalie CHARLESWORTH | Adelaide | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |

| JUDGE | LOCATION | OTHER COMMISSIONS/APPOINTMENTS |
|--|-----------|--|
| The Hon Stephen Carey George BURLEY | Sydney | |
| The Hon David John O'CALLAGHAN | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Michael Bryan Joshua LEE | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Roger Marc DERRINGTON | Brisbane | |
| The Hon David Graham THOMAS | Brisbane | |
| The Hon Sarah Catherine DERRINGTON AM | Brisbane | ■ Australian Law Reform Commission – President |
| The Hon Katrina Frances BANKS-SMITH | Perth | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Craig Grierson COLVIN | Perth | ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Australian Law Reform Commission – Part-time Commissioner |
| The Hon Thomas Michael THAWLEY | Sydney | ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Michael Francis WHEELAHAN | Melbourne | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Angus Morkel STEWART | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Michael Hugh O'BRYAN | Melbourne | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Australian Competition Tribunal – Deputy President |
| The Hon Darren John JACKSON | Perth | |
| The Hon John Leslie SNADEN | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Stewart Maxwell ANDERSON | Melbourne | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge |
| The Hon Wendy Jane ABRAHAM | Sydney | ■ Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory – Additional Judge ■ Supreme Court of Norfolk Island – Judge |

| JUDGE | LOCATION | OTHER COMMISSIONS/APPOINTMENTS |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| The Hon John HALLEY | Sydney | |
| The Hon Elizabeth CHEESEMAN | Sydney | |
| The Hon Helen Mary Joan ROFE | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Kylie Elizabeth DOWNES | Brisbane | |
| The Hon Scott Anthony GOODMAN | Sydney | |
| The Hon Simon Patrick O'SULLIVAN | Adelaide | |
| The Hon Shaun Brendan McELWAINE | Hobart | |
| The Hon Michael James FEUTRILL | Perth | |
| The Hon Fiona Mary Ruth MEAGHER | Brisbane | ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – President |
| The Hon Timothy James Francis McEVOY | Melbourne | ■ Administrative Appeals Tribunal – Deputy President |
| The Hon Lisa Anne HESPE | Melbourne | |
| The Hon Elizabeth RAPER | Sydney | |

The Chief Justice was absent on the following dates during the year. Acting Chief Justice arrangements during these periods were as follows:

- 28 June 2022 to 30 June 2022 – Justice Kenny

Most of the judges of the Court devote some time to other courts and tribunals on which they hold commissions or appointments. Judges of the Court also spend a lot of time on activities related to legal education and the justice system. More information about these activities is set out in Part 3 (*Report on Court performance*) and Appendix 8 (*Judges' activities*).

Appointments and retirements during 2021–22

During the year, ten judges were appointed to the Court:

- The Honourable Justice Helen Mary Joan Rofe was appointed on 12 July 2021.
- The Honourable Justice Kylie Elizabeth Downes was appointed on 2 August 2021.
- The Honourable Justice Scott Anthony Goodman was appointed on 11 November 2021.
- The Honourable Justice Simon Patrick O'Sullivan was appointed on 20 January 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Shaun Brendan McElwaine was appointed on 24 January 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Michael James Feutrill was appointed on 8 March 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Fiona Mary Ruth Meagher was appointed on 31 March 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Timothy James Francis McEvoy was appointed on 26 April 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Lisa Anne Hespe was appointed on 27 April 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Elizabeth Raper was appointed on 2 May 2022.

During the year, eight judges retired or resigned from the Court:

- The Honourable Justice Geoffrey Alan Flick retired with effect on 18 October 2021.
- The Honourable Justice Neil Walter McKerracher retired with effect on 5 December 2021.
- The Honourable Justice John Edward Reeves retired with effect on 1 January 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Richard Conway White retired with effect on 5 January 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Duncan James Colquhoun Kerr Chev LH retired with effect on 25 February 2022.
- The Honourable Justice John Edward Griffiths retired with effect on 1 April 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Jennifer Davies resigned with effect from 1 April 2022.
- The Honourable Justice Paul Elias Anastassiou resigned with effect from 29 April 2022.

Other appointments during the year are as follows:

- Justice Middleton AM was re-appointed as President of the Australian Competition Tribunal, on a part-time basis, on 26 July 2021.
- Justice Collier was re-appointed as a Judge of the National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea on 9 November 2021.
- Justice Logan was re-appointed as a Judge of the National and Supreme Courts of Papua New Guinea on 9 November 2021.
- Justice Jagot was re-appointed as a Deputy President of the Copyright Tribunal of Australia on 8 December 2021.
- Justice Kenny was appointed Acting President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 13 December 2021.
- Justice Collier was appointed Acting President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 13 December 2021.
- Justice Meagher was appointed as President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on 1 April 2022.

Executive

Chief Executive Officer and Principal Registrar

The CEO and Principal Registrar is appointed by the Governor-General on the nomination of the Chief Justice and has the same powers as the Head of a statutory agency of the Australian Public Service in respect of the officers and staff of the Court employed under the *Public Service Act 1999* (Cth) (section 18ZE of the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*).

Ms Sia Lagos was appointed the CEO and Principal Registrar on 15 May 2020.

Officers of the Court

Officers of the Court are appointed by the CEO and Principal Registrar under section 18N of the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* and are:

- a District Registrar for each District Registry
- Registrars and Deputy District Registrars as necessary

- a Sheriff and Deputy Sheriffs as necessary, and
- Marshals under the *Admiralty Act 1988* (Cth) as necessary.

The registrars must take an oath, or make an affirmation, of office before undertaking their duties (section 18Y of the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*). Registrars perform statutory functions pursuant to the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*, *Federal Court Rules 2011*, *Federal Court (Bankruptcy) Rules 2016*, *Federal Court (Corporations) Rules 2000*, *Federal Court (Criminal Proceedings) Rules 2016*, and the *Admiralty Act 1988* and *Admiralty Rules 1988*. These include issuing process, taxing costs and settling appeal indexes. They also exercise various powers delegated by judges under the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976*, *Bankruptcy Act 1966* (Cth), *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and *Native Title Act 1993*. A number of staff in each registry also perform functions and exercise delegated powers under the *Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Act 2021* (Cth). More information can be found in Appendix 4 (*Registrars of the Court*).

Staff of the Court

The officers and staff of the Court (other than the Registrar and some Deputy Sheriffs and Marshals) are appointed or employed under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

At 30 June 2022, the Federal Court entity engaged 1,247 employees under the *Public Service Act 1999*. This figure includes 765 ongoing and 482 non-ongoing employees. More details on court staff can be found in Part 4 (*Management and accountability*) and Appendix 9 (*Staffing profile*).