



Notice to the Profession 2012 – Civil Circuits

The Judge in Charge of Circuit, the Honourable Justice J Forrest, advises the profession as follows:

1. Introduction of Red Crest

The Court has resolved to introduce the Red Crest electronic case management system for proceedings managed in the Circuit list. It is hoped that the system will be available for use as at 1 January 2014. Practitioners will be advised as to information sessions which will be conducted prior to its introduction.

2. Issuing of proceedings

The Court encourages regional practitioners to issue proceedings out of their local Registry. This is appropriate where the parties, practitioners and witnesses are from the local area. Practitioners are reminded that applications under Part IV of the *Administration and Probate Act 1958* can be heard in civil circuit sittings, as well as personal injury and commercial matters.

3. Special fixtures

Where appropriate and if resources permit, the Court will hold special fixtures at regional courts. Practitioners are encouraged to contact the Court to enquire about matters being listed outside scheduled circuit sittings.

4. Judicial Mediation

The Court will provide judicial mediators to regional courts. Where a proceeding otherwise fits within the guidelines set out in Practice Note 2 of 2012, *Judicial Mediation Guidelines*, Associate Judges, Registrars and Deputy Prothonotaries will travel to regional courts to conduct mediations. The Court can also conduct taxation hearings at regional courts.

5. Listings

Eight weeks prior to the commencement of a circuit sitting, the Court will provide to practitioners a list of matters scheduled for that circuit. Practitioners are encouraged to contact the court with any queries in relation to the list.

6. Contacts

Practitioners should contact the Associate to the Judge in Charge of the List, or the Common Law Division Legal and Policy Officer with any questions in relation to circuit sittings. Contact details are on the Court's website:

www.supremecourt.vic.gov.au.

Associates to the Honourable Justice J Forrest
20 August 2012