

Media Release

The Hon Jill Hennessy MP

Attorney-General

Minister for the Coordination of Justice and Community Safety – COVID-19

Minister for Workplace Safety



Tuesday, 12 May 2020

PRESIDENT OF THE CHILDREN'S COURT REAPPOINTED

The Victorian Government has today announced the reappointment of Judge Amanda Chambers as President of the Children's Court of Victoria for a further six months, in order to assist us in dealing with coronavirus, before she returns to the County Court.

Judge Chambers has served as President of the Court for the past five years after first being appointed in 2015, when she was also appointed as a Judge of the County Court.

During her tenure as President, Judge Chambers has overseen significant changes to the Children's Court jurisdiction, including the introduction of a successful Family Drug Treatment Court program, the Fast Track Remand Court, and a Koori Family Hearing Day known as *Marram-Ngala Ganbu*.

Judge Chambers also modernised the process for all child protection proceedings to improve outcomes for children and young people.

She had previously served as a magistrate for over eight years, when she was a Joint Supervising Magistrate for the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal, and for three years as Supervising Magistrate of the Sexual Offences List.

From 2008 to 2012 she was also a part-time Commissioner of the Victorian Law Reform Commission.

Judge Chambers began her 30-year legal career working as a solicitor specialising in the areas of industrial employment and human rights law.

Judge Chambers will commence her reappointment from 9 June 2020.

The Children's Court of Victoria deals with cases involving children and young people, including both family issues and criminal matters.

Quotes attributable to Attorney-General Jill Hennessy

"Judge Chambers has an immense knowledge and understanding of the legal and justice system, through many years of experience at the Magistrates', County and Children's courts."

"I congratulate Judge Chambers on her reappointment and know she will continue to lead the Children's Court diligently as she has done so for the past five years, ensuring the court continues to have strong leadership."