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NEW MAGISTRATES FOR THE ACT.

As previously reported, the ACT Magistrates Court has undergone a significant increase in jurisdiction. The Court now has a civil jurisdiction up to \$250,000.00, which means that it can hear and determine claims for damages or other payments up to and including that figure. The government has introduced new rules which will penalise litigants who commence their claim in the Supreme Court when it should have been commenced in the Magistrates Court (because it was worth less than the above-mentioned limit). These changes are likely to head to a larger workload for ACT Magistrates, who are likely to hear many of the personal injury and other similar claims currently dealt with by the Supreme Court.

There have been some recent changes in the Supreme Court with Lorraine Walker being appointed as the Chief Magistrate. Further, new magistrates, namely David Mossop, Peter Morrison and Bernardette Boss have also been appointed. We look forward to appearing before the new Magistrates as we represent our clients in the Magistrates Court.

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