

Recent appointments

Portfolios amalgamated in new ministry

The newly-combined portfolio of Attorney-General and Minister for Justice was taken up by Daryl Williams after the election of the Coalition Government in March.

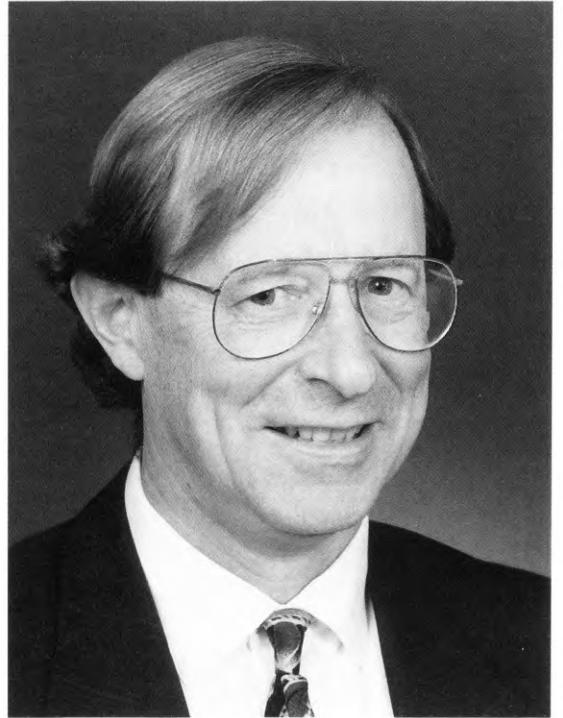
Mr Williams, QC, has been federal member for Tangney in south metropolitan Perth since 1993.

He holds law degrees from the University of Western Australia (1964, LLB) and Oxford (1967, BCL), and was a WA Rhodes Scholar in 1965. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1989 for services to the legal profession.

Mr Williams was in private practice from 1968 to 1971 and from 1975 to 1993. He was a commissioner of the Law Reform Commission and President of the Law Council of Australia from 1986 to 1987. He was Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister assisting the Leader of the Opposition on constitutional reform from 1993 to 1994.

The amalgamation of the two ministries was among several portfolio changes made by the prime minister.

They included the transfer of the consumer affairs function from the Attorney-General's portfolio to that of Industry, Science and Tourism, and the Australian Securities Commission, also from Attorney-General's to Treasury.



Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Daryl Williams



Elizabeth Montano

New director at AUSTRAC

Elizabeth Montano assumed her appointment as Director of the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) recently.

AUSTRAC works in co-operation with financial dealers to detect and prevent money laundering, much of which is associated with drug trafficking and the resulting organised crime, serious fraud and corporate offences.

Ms Montano, a Sydney lawyer, has wide experience in commercial and banking law and has worked as a senior executive and a consultant to the Australian Securities Commission.

She has practised in the banking and finance sections of a private firm where she was involved in the establishment of banks and advising in large financing transactions. She has also consulted with Chase Manhattan Bank on lending and securities policy.

As first permanent director of the Companies Branch (now the Regulatory Policy Branch) in the Australian Securities Commission's Office of the Chairman, Ms Montano was responsible for policy formulation in a wide range of financial market regulatory areas.

She also managed several national regulatory reform programs for the ASC.