

'2017 FEEDBACK FROM THE BENCH MOOT FOR WOMEN BARRISTERS'
MOOT – 20 MAY 2017

WBA is very pleased to announce the 2017 Feedback from the Bench Moot for Women Barristers.

This follows on a successful pilot program last year, which developed from a concern about the small number of women barristers appearing in appeals, especially with respect to the presentation of oral argument.

The moot will be held on Saturday 20 May 2017 between 9.30am and 5pm in the Court of Appeal. Places for eight advocates are available.

Justice Jane Dixon has prepared a problem on habeas corpus loosely based on a decision by Bell J in *Antunovic v Dawson* (2010) 30 VR 355 and incorporating subsequent amendments to the *Mental Health Act 2014*. A copy of the problem and *Antunovic* are attached.

Judges of the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court, coordinated by Justice Pamela Tate, will preside over a number of mock appeals, each involving a single advocate for the appellant and a single advocate for the respondent.

Expressions of interest

If you would like to participate, please send an expression of interest to Kylie Weston-Scheuber at kylie.weston-scheuber@vicbar.com.au. Please include your name, how long you have been at the Bar, areas of specialisation, any Court of Appeal experience, and your reasons for applying.

Please note that there is no requirement for experience with habeas corpus or mental health law to participate.

Expressions of interest are due by 5pm **Tuesday 14 March 2017**.

Goal

The goal of the workshop is to provide the opportunity for female barristers to gain advocacy experience in the Court of Appeal.

Requirements

Expressions of interest are sought from all women barristers who are members of WBA, regardless of how long they have been at the Bar. Applicants should have an interest in Court of Appeal advocacy, as that is the focus of the moot.

There is no cost to participate.

Time requirements

Each moot will run for approximately 1.5 hours. Each advocate will speak for

35 minutes, including responding to questions from the Bench, with 15 minutes feedback at the end of the moot. Participants will only be required to be present for the moot in which they are participating. There will be flexibility as to when participants are required throughout the day.

Participants will be required to prepare no more than 6 pages of written submissions which will be due one week before the moot (Friday 12 May). Participants will also be required to devote some time to prepare oral submissions to present to the moot court.

We do ask that participants be prepared to devote sufficient time to preparation of oral and written arguments, and commit to attending their designated session on 20 May (though there will be flexibility as to when participants will be required to appear during the day).