

# Media Release



**Monday, 24 October 2016**

## Resignation of Solicitor-General

"Mr Justin Gleeson SC is an eminent barrister. He is a person of the highest integrity and skill," the President of the Law Council of Australia, Stuart Clark AM, said today.

"His decision to end an impasse he believed contrary to the national interest is both selfless and honourable.

"The Office of the Solicitor-General plays a key role in assisting Government, Ministers and agencies to discharge their responsibilities and observe the rule of law.

"It is critical that the legal advice which the Solicitor-General provides to Government Ministers and their agencies is frank, fearless and independent.

"Maintaining the independence of that office ensures Executive decision-making is conducted within the confines of the law and the powers conferred upon the Executive by the Parliament.

"The Law Council trusts that Mr Tom Howe PSM QC will ensure the appropriate continuation of that crucial independence in his role as Acting Solicitor-General," Mr Clark said.

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