

# News Release Deputy Premier John Rau

Attorney-General  
Minister for Justice Reform  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Housing and Urban Development  
Minister for Industrial Relations

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## New Crown Advocate for SA

Attorney General John Rau has today announced the appointment of Dr Christopher Bleby SC as the new Crown Advocate for South Australia.

Mr Rau said that in this role Dr Bleby will be responsible for the conduct of the State's major civil and commercial litigation, and will act as senior trial counsel in more complex matters.

"With nearly 20 years of legal experience in both the public and private sector, Dr Bleby is one of South Australia's most well-regarded lawyers," Mr Rau said.

"Dr Bleby brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and strong leadership to the role - particularly from the last decade as a barrister practising in the areas of administrative and constitutional law, employment law, taxation, commercial litigation and succession.

"Prior to this, Dr Bleby held positions as a solicitor at the Office of the South Australian Director of Public Prosecutions and the Crown Solicitor for South Australia, practising predominantly in the areas of criminal prosecutions, administrative and constitutional law."

In addition to his extensive experience in legal practice, Dr Bleby has been involved in teaching law at both the University of Cambridge (UK) and the University of Adelaide, where he also studied.

"I am pleased that a legal practitioner of Dr Bleby's experience and standing has agreed to take on this role," Mr Rau said.

"His understanding of the need to meet the changing demands of the justice system makes him an ideal candidate for this position."

The services delivered to the State by the Crown Solicitor's Office includes the provision of legal advice, representation before courts and tribunals, the negotiation of commercial contracts, the management of native title claims and the drafting and production of legal documents.

Dr Bleby's appointment follows an extensive selection process, after a national call for applications. His appointment to the role fills a vacancy left by Michael Evans QC who took up the role of Crown Solicitor earlier this year.

Dr Bleby will take up a 5-year appointment from 1 September 2014.