

Justice John Dominic Burns

Justice John Burns was first admitted to practice as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW in 1981. He practiced as a Legal Aid solicitor in the Legal Services Commission of NSW, specialising in criminal law, until January 1983 when he joined the Deputy Crown Solicitors office in Canberra as a Prosecutor.

In 1984 he joined the newly created office of the Australian Government Solicitor in Canberra as a senior solicitor. In August 1985 he resigned from the Australian Government Solicitors office to take up a position in the firm of Gallens Barristers and Solicitors. He subsequently became a partner in the firm of Gallens Barristers and Solicitors. When Gallens merged with the firm of Crowley and Chamberlain, he became a partner in the new firm of Gallens Crowley and Chamberlain. During this period, His Honour practiced predominately in the field of criminal law and civil litigation.

In April 1989 His Honour commenced practice at the bar at Blackburn Chambers. His Honour practiced in criminal law and general civil litigation.

His Honour was appointed as a Magistrate and Coroner of the Australian Capital Territory in April 1990. At the same time His Honour was also appointed as a Magistrate of the Norfolk Island Territory. During his time as a Magistrate His Honour spend three years as the Children's Court Magistrate. His Honour also took over responsibility for managing the lists of the Magistrates Court as List Co-Coordinating Magistrate in 2007.

In December 2009 His Honour was appointed Chief Magistrate and Chief Coroner of the Australian Capital Territory. He held those positions until he took up his appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court on 1 August 2011. Since 2012 his Honour has been a member of the ACT Law Reform Advisory Committee.