

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE5527

## Kennedy, Antoinette

(1945 - )

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**Born** 1 January, 1945, Perth Western Australia Australia

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**Occupation** Barrister, Chief Justice, Judge, Lawyer, Solicitor

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### Summary

Antoinette Kennedy was the first woman judge to be appointed in Western Australia when appointed to the Bench of the District Court in 1985.

### Details

Justice Antoinette Kennedy has been a leader and a mentor in the legal profession and has achieved many 'firsts' that have allowed others to follow in her footsteps.

These include:

- She was the only woman from her year at high school to attend university
- She was the only woman from her graduating class at the University of Western Australia to gain articles of clerkship
- She was the second woman to join the Independent Bar in Perth to practise as a barrister
- She was the first woman judge to be appointed in Western Australia when appointed to the Bench of the District Court in 1985
- She was a founding member of Women Lawyers of Western Australia Inc. (she has been a Patron of that group since 1999)
- She was the first woman to be appointed Chief Judge of the District Court of Western Australia in 2004.

### Published resources

#### Journal Article

An Interview with Chief Judge Antoinette Kennedy, Fletcher, Catherine, 2010,  
<http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/UWALawRw/2010/8.pdf>

#### Site Exhibition

Australian Women Lawyers as Active Citizens, Trailblazing Women Lawyers Project Team, 2016,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/lawyers>

### Author Details

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