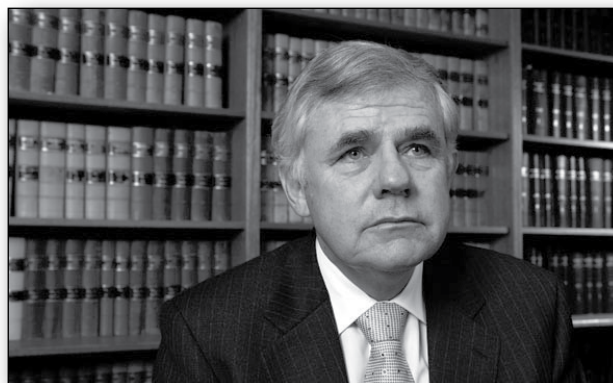


The Hon Justice Geoffrey Flick

Geoffrey Flick SC was sworn in as a judge of the Federal Court of Australia by Chief Justice Black in chambers on 15 October 2007. Prior to his appointment, his Honour was a member of Sixth Floor Selborne Wentworth Chambers.

Justice Flick practiced as a barrister at the New South Wales Bar since 1982, and was appointed senior counsel in 1993. He is the author of several legal publications including *Federal Administrative Law*, *Federal Court Practice*, *High Court Practice*, *Natural Justice* and *Civil Liberties*. Prior to his appointment Justice Flick practiced widely in the Federal Court in many aspects of federal law, particularly in administrative law. As the above works demonstrate, his Honour is a well known author in the area of administrative law and natural justice.

His Honour has a doctorate in law from Cambridge University, having obtained his undergraduate degree at the University of Sydney, where he has also lectured in a number of legal subjects. Justice Flick has been a member of various committees and advisory groups including at the Law Council of Australia and the Australian Law Reform Commission. His Honour is also a former director of research at the Administrative Review Council.



Verbatim

Westfield Management Limited v Perpetual Trustee Company Limited [2007] HCATrans 336 (31 July 2007)

Kirby J: That is the bottom line. You talk to the bottom line. That is the bottom line.

Mr Walker: The bottom line is that this is valuable. There is no question about that. That was one of the reasons why the council was prepared to spare my friend's predecessor in title millions of dollars of expense so that they could carry out a lucrative development to the extent they wanted to carry it out without having to spend millions of dollars on bonus. It was that valuable. In fact, there is evidence of \$3 million worth in terms of the value that was put forward by the grantor to say to the counsel, now, how about my bonus? I have done what you wanted, which is to facilitate, to permit, to ensure, was their word, when in August they described what they had done in February, admissible evidence.

Kirby J: It is sounding awfully commercial.

Mr Walker: Of course it was – everything here – their Honours, there are...

Hayne J: You are not going to tell us that there is some commercial drivers driving both parties, are you, Mr Walker? Heavens above.

Mr Walker: Your Honours, I fear this is all about money...

Kirby J: I feel much happier when we are back in the law of easements.

Mr Walker: Easements are valuable rights which sound in money.

How to take a subtle hint from a judge

In *Global Metal Group Pty Ltd v Chief Executive Officer of Customs* [2007] HCATrans 540, after making orders to remit a matter to the Federal Court, Heydon J asked Svehla if the orders were satisfactory. Svehla raised a single point.

His Honour: Mr Svehla, the choice is between arguing it now, which may have nasty consequences, or referring it to some kindly Federal Court judge.

Mr Svehla: I would prefer to let it be dealt with later, your Honour.