



The Hon Chief Justice William Alstergren

Chief Justice, Family Court of Australia and Chief Judge, Federal Circuit Court of Australia



The Hon Chief Justice William Alstergren was appointed as Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia on 10 December 2018. His Honour holds a dual commission as Chief Judge of the Federal Circuit Court of Australia, to which he was appointed on 13 October 2017. His Honour is also the administrative head of the Appeal Division of the Family Court of Australia.

After graduating from Melbourne University in Law (and completing an LLM), Chief Justice Alstergren undertook articles in family law with Kenna Croxford & Co. From 1991 he practiced as a barrister in Melbourne and took silk in 2012. His Honour was regularly briefed in large and complex commercial, family, industrial and tax trials and appeals in the Federal Court and state superior courts.

He was a member of the Bar Ethics Committee, the founder of the Bar's Pro Bono Duty Barristers Committee and received the Distinguished Pro Bono Service award by the Victorian Chief Justice in 2008. His Honour is a former Chairman of the Victorian Bar. Immediately prior to coming to the Bench, His Honour was the President of the Australian Bar Association.

In his spare time, Chief Justice Alstergren enjoys spending time with his family, walking his two kelpies, playing electric guitar, surfing and reading. His Honour enjoys all things Norwegian and supporting the Hawthorn Football Club.