



JUDICIAL OFFICE FOR SENIOR COURTS
Te Tari Kaiwhakawā mo ngā Kōti Mātāmua

MEDIA STATEMENT
PĀNUI PĀPAHO

On Thursday 14 March at 11am there will be a Pōwhiri and Swearing in Ceremonial Sitting at the Supreme Court of New Zealand to mark the appointment of the new Chief Justice, Dame Helen Winkelmann.

The Rt Hon Dame Helen Winkelmann is being sworn in as Chief Justice of New Zealand following the retirement of Dame Sian Elias.

The ceremony will open with a Pōwhiri welcome from Te Āti Awa, as mana whenua of Te Whanganui-a-Tara (the Wellington region).

The Hon Justice William Young will administer the oaths of office which the new Chief Justice must make before commencing her duties: The Oath of Allegiance and the Judicial Oath as prescribed by Parliament in the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

At the Ceremonial Sitting speeches will be made by The Hon David Parker, the Attorney-General, Kathryn Beck, President of the New Zealand Law Society, Kate Davenport QC, President of the New Zealand Bar Association and Chris Farrelly, the Auckland City Missioner. Dame Helen Winkelmann will then make her first address as the Chief Justice of New Zealand.

The ceremony is a public event. It can be viewed in the court as space allows, and otherwise the public foyer of the Supreme Court via video link.

It will also be live streamed. <https://livestream.com/accounts/8362941/events/8596453>

Links -

Beehive Media Release – [Helen Winkelmann appointed Chief Justice of New Zealand](#)

Courts of New Zealand website - [Appointment of new Chief Justice](#)

Courts of New Zealand website - [Chief Justice retires March 2019](#)

[Former Chief Justices](#) – New Zealand Law Society, 9 November 2018

Contact: Cate Brett

Chief Advisor Judicial Development and Communications

Phone 021 557 874

email cate.brett@courts.govt.nz