

Stephen John Gageler

Category: Elite

Classification: Law

Stephen Gageler, SC, the son of a saw miller from Sandy Hollow, near Denman in the Upper Hunter Valley of New South Wales, was appointed **Solicitor General of Australia in 2008**. This made him the nation's second law officer, after the Attorney-General.

He was born on 5th July, 1958, and went to school at Giants Creek Public School, a one- teacher school about three kilometres from Sandy Hollow, which had a population of about 150. He went on to Muswellbrook High, where he says he received a "superb education". He was school captain in 1976.



After gaining the Higher School Certificate in 1976, he attended the Australian National University, where he obtained two degrees; B.Ec in 1980 and LL.B. (H1) in 1982. Then followed LL.M. from Harvard University (USA) in 1987.

Stephen, between 1982 and 1983, was employed as a solicitor with Elringtons, Solicitors in Canberra. After his term as associate to Chief Justice Mason, he moved to the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, where he was Legal Officer/Senior Legal Officer from 1985 to 1987, and then Principal Legal Officer to 1989.

He was made a barrister of the Supreme Court of NSW in 1989 and appointed Senior Counsel (S.C.) in 2000.

During his illustrious career, he has specialised in constitutional, administrative and commercial law. As Solicitor-General, he will be the Government's legal adviser and represent it in cases of significant litigation in Australian and international courts.

Stephen has been involved in numerous law related activities. He is the author of many articles on constitutional law, administrative law, conflicts of law and contracts. He was a member of the Administrative Review Council between 1999 and 2006 and served as Editor of Australian Law Reports from 2006 to 2008.

Inducted December 2009