

SUPREME COURT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
ALICE SPRINGS COURTHOUSE

WELCOME CEREMONIAL SITTING FOR
THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE B.R. MARTIN

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

COURTROOM 1, WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2004 AT 9:30 AM

PRESIDING JUDGES:

THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE, JUSTICE B.R. MARTIN
THE HON. JUSTICE D.N. ANGEL

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ANGEL J: Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, the purpose of this special sitting of the court is to welcome the new Chief Justice, Brian Martin, who was sworn in this week on Monday in Darwin. We are particularly pleased that today we have present Mrs Pat Miller, Deputy Administrator. We have Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs Fran Kilgariff. The Honourable Peter Toyne, the Attorney-General is present. Ms Jodeen Carney, a member of the Legislative Assembly is present.

We also have present Mr Michael Ward, DCM; Ms Melanie Little, SM, Mr John Birch, SM and the Reverend Colin Griffiths, Father Brian Healy, the Reverend Lindsay Faulkner and also Commander Gary Manison of the NT Police. We are honoured by their presence today.

Mr Attorney, do you move?

MR TOYNE: Thank you, Your Honour.

May it please the court, I am delighted again to officially congratulate Your Honour on your appointment to the high office of the Chief Justice of this Honourable Supreme Court of the Northern Territory. I would like to extend my warm welcome to you in your new role and in another – of its important context, the administration of justice in Central Australia.

The Northern Territory, like South Australia, has a tradition of holding a special sitting to welcome a new judge to the Bench. Your Honour will be well aware it is customary in the introduction to reveal some personal details about the newcomer. This tradition not only demonstrates the wide ranging experience the new judge brings to the judicial office, but it also reinforces the view that all of those that are appointed are in fact human.

Your Honour was educated at Adelaide High School before studying law at the University of Adelaide. You were admitted to practice in 1970 and began your career in the firm of Wallman & Partners. The Crown Prosecutor at the time, now Duggan J, saw you in court and was so impressed that he shamelessly poached you, as he put it, from Wallman & Partners.

In 1974 you took up an appointment as Assistant Crown Prosecutor and rose quickly through the ranks to the position of Senior Assistant Crown Prosecutor for the State of South Australia in 1982. Two years later you were appointed as Queen's Counsel. You developed a reputation as an excellent prosecutor and I am informed that you were considered firm but fair, although I also heard in the previous ceremony that the softest part about you is your teeth, as a prosecutor.

In the latter days of your time as Crown Prosecutor you gained extensive appellate experience in the Court of Criminal Appeal and the High Court. You were also responsible for the administration of the Crown Prosecution section from 1979 until 1985.

In 1985 Your Honour left the Crown to begin private practice at Murray Chambers where you undertook a variety of work, including appellate work, criminal prosecutions, defence work and civil cases.

In 1991 you were appointed Senior Counsel assisting the Royal Commission into WA Inc and you worked on that Royal Commission for about two years.

In March 1997 you were appointed the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, a role which you held until your appointment to the Bench of the Supreme Court of South Australia in 1999.

While on the Bench Your Honour played a leading role in the standing committee of Attorneys-General, a deliberative forum on Criminal Trial Reform. With you as Chair the forum produced a report containing 68 recommendations, which resulted in Ministers from around Australia agreeing to improve the efficiency of all those involved in criminal jurisdiction. From my involvement in that forum I can certainly say that was an enormous achievement getting all those Ministers to agree to any proposal whatsoever.

Although you have been a leading figure in the law of South Australia for some time, Your Honour is perhaps equally well known to the wider public for your exploits as a football player. From 1966 to 1972 you played league and reserves for Sturt and later became involved in football administrations. And I do not intend to mention again the fact that you were dropped after kicking 10 goals.

You were a member of the Sturt Management Committee, Chair of its recruiting committee and then a member of the Board of Management of the South Australian National Football League. You were also the Chair of the South Australian Schools Football Association executive for a marathon 14 years.

Whether it was in the court or in chambers, on the football oval or in the back rooms of football administration, Your Honour has earned the respect and affection of those who came into contact with you. You are well known for your excellent blend of vigorous commitment and intellect. This combined with your legal experience, quick analytical skills and sound judgment, plus your knowledge of the wider world will equip you well for the challenging new role of Chief Justice.

Some of these challenges can be understood simply by contrasting the two events we have shared this week. The venues are 1500 kilometres apart; one in the wet tropics and the other in the dry inland. Added to this the people of Central Australia can be wild and unpredictable, so much so that the great defensive works have been put in place at Berrimah, in the outskirts of Darwin. So mighty is this defence that it is even said that as well as holding back the incursions of Central Australians but has proved equally potent in repelling those from the Barkley, Arnhem and even the peaceful throng from Palmerston.

Your Honour, justice must be applied equally to all and that our courts have a proud history of taking justice to the wilder places of the Northern Territory.

I know from your past actions and your statements to date that you will accept this challenge of the Berrimah Line and add to this history of equity and innovation in our courts.

Central Australia is also the home of many unique Indigenous cultures of the Northern Territory. Indigenous Territorians make up just over a quarter of our population, but they are unfortunately significantly over-represented in our justice system. They are also more likely to be victims of violent crime.

There is a need for the court to ensure that the protections afforded by our general body of law are maintained. But we also need to find ways to ensure that aspects of customary law can be recognised, where appropriate. Again, where appropriate, we need to find ways for communities to have increased input into the sentencing processes of the courts, especially in circuit courts on remote communities.

On behalf of the Government and the people of Central Australia I also extend a particularly warm welcome to your wife, Leigh, to Joanna and Stuart and the rest of your family. I look forward to working closely with you and wish you all the best as you enter the exciting new phase of your life.

I would like also to repeat my pledge made in Darwin earlier this week that I, as Attorney-General, and as long as I remain Attorney-General, will be there to defend the reputation and honour of the courts against ill-informed comment, whether it be by politicians or by media or by the general community. I will be there to do my traditional role as Attorney-General.

May it please the court.

ANGEL J: Mr Director, do you move?

MR WILD QC: May it please the court. Your Honours, on this occasion I am wearing two wigs. I was told when I first came in that the two wigs (inaudible 9:48:07).

Your Honour, the two wigs I am wearing; one is on behalf of the Northern Territory Bar Association and the other of course the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

I should tell Your Honour that there is no separate Bar in Alice Springs. The Northern Territory Bar comprises its members all stationed in chambers in Darwin, as far as I am aware. At least there are of course independent practitioners in Alice Springs and you will see many of them during your visits here. There are, of course, senior lawyers present at the Bar table here today who are the leading lights of their own respective legal aid offices and Your Honour will have a great deal to do with them and their staff during your visits here.

Your Honour was welcomed by Mr Reeves QC in Darwin on behalf of the Bar. I do not intend to repeat, although he kindly lent me his speech so that I could read it again for Your Honour. Your Honour will recall what he said. I do not think anything of it is particularly relevant to Alice Springs, as opposed to Darwin. So I merely remind Your Honour that you are welcomed by the Bar in Darwin and Your Honour should accept the fact that you will be made equally welcome here in Alice Springs by all the members of the profession. And of course they will speak for themselves in due course.

Your Honour, there has already been reference made by the Attorney to something that was said on Monday. I think he has stolen my line. And I have passed it around the Bar table here so people can see where the real source was. I will not repeat it.

Your Honour had a reputation as a firm and fair prosecutor, and my inquiries indicate that that was a well-earned reputation. Your Honour, however, has a great deal of compassion, and that reflects itself in your contact with other members of the profession and their families. And again, I don't propose to repeat half of what I said on Monday (inaudible 9:50:18).

However, the master of the story I think, Your Honour, is the one about the bet you had with Jeff Flatman, the late Jeff Flatman, who bet Your Honour foolishly that your football team would not win the grand final, and your football team being Adelaide Crows.

They did, of course, win the AFL Grand Final on two occasions, I think, Your Honour, but on the one that he made the foolish bet, the prize was a bottle of very special wine. The bet was made, I think, in New Zealand, at a conference that we both attended with Mr Flatman, and he lost, you won.

He went to a great deal of trouble to ensure that the trophy, your trophy was presented to you, which he did, ceremonially, I understand. Your Honour, however returned the favour as it were, and when next visiting Melbourne, took the trophy bottle with you and shared it with your wife, Leigh and Jeff and Margaret, and I think that shows something of your style, if nothing else, Your Honour. Great style. And we welcome what we see of that when Your Honour is here.

Your Honour was the Commonwealth DPP for two years, and I had the pleasure of your company at meetings and conferences during that period, and got to know

you and Leigh well, as my wife did, and we look forward to continuing that friendship, insofar as possible given the distance between us in court, from time to time.

Your Honour, when you became the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, showed another part of your well-known, I suppose, to your friends, skills, which is in tennis. And in tennis you were good enough to donate to your office a cup for perpetual competition. The Director's Cup, I am told it is called.

I just have to interrupt myself to say this. I know Your Honour has the last word, so there are some stories I am not going to tell today, in case Your Honour has something about me hiding somewhere that I do not know about. Well I know about it but Your Honour may know about it too.

In olden days, Your Honour will recall, members of the public here may not, the judges used to have chamber pots up on the Bench with them so they would not interrupt their work. Of course in those older days the judges used to receive fines that they imposed on the miscreants that appeared before them. So if you were going to fine somebody \$1000 it went straight in your pocket.

Fortunately that system has changed, but the chamber pot was a good way of not interrupting your good work up on the Bench. The trophy that you presented, the Director's Trophy or Director's Cup, was in fact a chamber pot. And I am told by Mr Bake, who is the present Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, I spoke to him early on Monday morning about this, that he absolutely refuses to return to Your Honour your chamber pot, so there will be no use by you of it in this court.

Your Honour, as I said, your reputation is of firmness and fairness. We prosecutors can ask for nothing more than that. We ask for are content with that, and get it, I think, from all our judges. It is very fortunate in that respect. Your Honour, I understand that another member of the Bar here today will ask you for something different. Fairness, but something less than firmness on behalf of his clients.

I ask Your Honour to reject that submission and maintain firmness rather than something apart from that. Your Honour is most welcome to the Bench, and I say that on behalf of the whole of the Bar, and the office which I represent.

Your Honour please.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you, Mr Wild.

Madam President of the Law Society, do you move?

MS SHORT: Chief Justice; Angel J; Mr Attorney-General; Mrs Pat Miller, Deputy the Administrator; Madam Mayor; Chief Magistrate; Magistrates; Distinguished Guests; Colleagues; Ladies and Gentlemen, it is with great pleasure that I address the court on this historic day, the swearing in of Brian Ross Martin CJ. And how nice it is to see so many familiar faces from the Territory's legal profession.

Martin CJ is highly regarded and very well respected throughout the legal profession. The commencement of Brian Martin's term as Chief Justice has been greatly anticipated and his appointment has been well received by the local profession. The Northern Territory currently enjoys a strong, stable and well-respected judiciary, which has a reputation for judicial independence.

The Law Society believes that under Martin CJ's leadership, the judiciary and the Territory's legal profession will continue to thrive. Over the years the Law Society has enjoyed a close working relationship with various Chief Justices, from 1979 when Sir William Foster CJ was the first appointee to the newly created position.

The Law Society looks forward to continuing its close working relationship with the judiciary and we believe that Martin CJ will continue the tradition of strong leadership in the courts. On behalf of the Law Society, I would like to congratulate the Chief Justice on his appointment and welcome him and his wife, Leigh, to the Northern Territory for the start of what we hope will be a long and happy association.

May it please the court.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you, Ms Short.

Mr Bamber, do you move?

MR BAMBER: If it please the court.

Your Honour, the majority of people that will come before your court in Central Australia will be represented by Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service. On behalf of CAALAS, welcome to Central Australia. Our clients come from about 16 different language groups. Most come from remote communities and live lives to varying degrees dominated by distinctive cultures and customs.

They are an amazing, diverse group of peoples. Unfortunately, they are also beset with problems that are, in a sense, well known, but not well understood, certainly not understood well enough for much to be done about them. They are drastically over represented as defendants in the criminal courts, and as prisoners in gaol. Our legal system has little meaning for many of them.

And those many find justice primarily according to their own customary law and practice. Greater participation in our legal system by Aboriginal people, other than as victims and defendants, is necessary and desirable. A move towards achieving that may be through greater recognition by our legal system of Aboriginal lore and custom, and a greater interest in and respect for their values and beliefs.

I hope Your Honour has plenty of opportunity to get to know the desert clans and their country. If you do, I am sure you will enjoy your circuits down here and that you will dispense justice with empathy and understanding. If that leads to leniency, all well and good.

Welcome and good luck.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you, Mr Bamber.

Mr Goldflam, do you move?

MR GOLDFLAM: Yes, please the court.

Your Honour, the last time most or at least some of us at the Bar table today appeared before Brian Martin CJ was not so many weeks ago, on the occasion of the retirement of Your Honour's eponymous predecessor. And in His Honour's gruff way, Brian Martin conveyed, very movingly, something of the profound disappointment, despair is perhaps not too strong a word, that he felt in the face of the extraordinary challenges faced by those charged with the administration of the justice system, and in particular the criminal justice system in our jurisdiction, and in particular, our corner of this jurisdiction.

Those of us who have made our homes here in Central Australia may at times become a bit blasé about just how serious these challenges and problems are. But the release, just a few days ago, of the Productivity Commission's 2000 report on government services, this week, makes for nothing less than shocking reading.

Your Honour has assumed office in the jurisdiction where the per capita cost of administering the criminal courts, the per capita cost of administering the civil courts and the per capita cost of providing police services is over twice the national average. And where the per capita cost of administering correctional services is almost three times the national average, and that is just counting beans.

When one starts counting people, as the Productivity Commission has done in their report, the picture is even more depressing. Victims of assault per capita in the Northern Territory double the national average. Victims of murder per capita five

times the national average. Victims of fatal road accidents per capita, often of course associated with illegal driving of one form or another, four and a half times the national average. And imprisonment rates here are three and a half times the national average.

With an unsettling symmetry I might note that the number of Supreme Court judges per capita in the Northern Territory is also three and a half times the national average.

Imprisonment rates here are on the increase and sentences imposed by this court for serious crimes also appear to be on the rise. Mandatory sentencing for property crimes has been tried and abandoned in our jurisdiction, which is a rather curious thing given that the single offence category in which the Northern Territory lags behind the rest of the country is victims of crimes against property.

But we stand out head and shoulders as the most policed, the most prosecuted, the most convicted and the most imprisoned population in the nation. And of course as the most criminally offensive population in the nation.

The causes of this appalling state of affairs are of course by and large ones which cannot be directly remedied by Your Honour or by Your Honour's brethren in the courts. Nevertheless the legal profession and the community look to our courts not just to apply the law, not just to dispense justice, although we hope that occurs on a regular indeed continuous basis, but also to provide legal and dare I say moral leadership at a time when there is a genuine and general sense that law and order is not just a political football to be kicked around at election time, but as an issue symptomatic of a profound crisis in Northern Territory society.

Your Honour thus faces an extraordinarily difficult challenge in the years ahead. Fortunately, if we can believe what the learned Attorney and learned Director have told us about Your Honour's background today, and I am sure we can, Your Honour is extraordinarily well equipped to take up this challenge.

On behalf of the Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission therefore I wish Your Honour every success and satisfaction in meeting this challenge and I heartily welcome you and your family to the Northern Territory.

If it please the court.

MARTIN CJ: Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for the warmth of your welcome to me and to my wife, Leigh. I must say that people from all walks of life have been very kind and supportive during our short time in the Territory. By your attendance this morning and through the more than generous words that have been said you have reinforced that welcome and support.

And I must say after the last two speakers that welcome and support is needed right now. Having listened to those two speakers in particular the feelings of trepidation that lie not very far beneath the surface at the moment have distinctly risen this morning.

Mr Attorney, I repeat what I said in Darwin in response to your remarks there. I am honoured that you and your government have sufficient confidence in me and my abilities to appoint me Chief Justice of this court. I follow a Chief Justice who has given great service over many years, not only to the court but to the wider Territory community. It is a daunting prospect but I hope to bring to this court and the Territory experiences, knowledge and ideas that will be of benefit.

And, Mr Attorney, I thank you again for your additional remarks about the support that you will give to this court as a whole on the face of what undoubtedly will occur from time to time, unfair criticism. It is refreshing to hear an Attorney-General give such a public acknowledgement of what is an important part of the role of an Attorney-General.

Of course, as I said previously, following a Chief Justice with the same name has both advantages and disadvantages. I understand, Mr Attorney, that we are, if not directly inside your electorate, very near to it. I am not familiar with the precise boundaries. So I think those in your electorate should understand a little story that I have about you.

Since my appointment numerous wags have spoken about the cost savings that can occur with the non-changing of stationery since my appointment. In fact if I may say that the gentleman who rang me very kindly at the outset actually said to me, 'We are wondering whether you would be kind enough to take up an appointment as Chief Justice of the Northern Territory and we might add that we are looking to save our stationery costs of changing.' I thought that was very complimentary of him.

Anyway I pointed out to the Attorney-General very early on that the old stationery used by the former Chief Justice has letters after his name, which he obviously earned over the years, and I do not have those letters. Rather than offer me the letters the Attorney-General offered me a container of whiteout.

In the same vein I should tell you that at a retirement dinner before my appointment was announced the former Chief Justice, rather mischievously, stated that the name, Brian Martin, will live on. That much I do not mind. But when he goes around regularly in public saying that he is the handsome one I get a bit concerned.

Madam President, Mr Director, Mr Bamber, Mr Goldflam, I thank you too for your remarks. Thank you in particular to the Attorney-General and to Mr Director for observing the tradition of not laying bare the real truth, but rather of embellishing the truth in rather kind and flattering ways. I am sure the Director failed to lay bare the

real truth because he did recognise that I have the right of reply and also that I do have an interesting position in respect to him in the future years in this court.

As to the Director's Cup, I am not sure that I need to explain how that particular cup was created. I might say it was my wife's idea but that would be unkind to her, I suppose. Can I say I am not about to retrieve that particular cup from the Commonwealth DPP, nor am I about to reinstate the use of such a pot on the Bench. However, the possibility of reinstating the receipt of fines imposed is an interesting and appealing one, in some respects.

I have a lot to learn. I think it has been made clear by two speakers in particular this morning that learning not only about the Territory but about the particular issues affecting Central Australia is an area in which I am very ignorant; I acknowledge that. And I will need to get out and about and I hope to do so and meet the communities and hear of their problems and get an understanding of what the court may be able to do to assist.

I need to add, of course, that the court is the, in a sense, end user or the place of last resort. The problems cannot be cured by the courts alone. It is a community problem and it must start right at the beginning with the communities. But to the extent that I can learn about different particular difficulties and to the extent that we can, within the law as it is given to us, have an empathy, have an understanding and operate and hand out appropriate, if they be, sentences or orders that will assist in the problems, I hope that we can achieve some mileage in that regard in the near future.

I come to a court which has given excellent service to the community. I trust that it will continue to do so. In speaking of that, I want to repeat what I said in Darwin on Monday. I recognise that from time to time there is dissatisfaction with the work of the court and in particular in the area of sentencing. Criticism, robust criticism, is to be expected and in a healthy democracy is a good thing. But I hope that in the future the criticism that is levelled at the court will be more informed criticism than perhaps has happened in the past. It should be based upon a knowledge of the particular facts of the case, a knowledge of the law that the court must apply and of the restrictions that judges and magistrates face. And in this area the placing of sentencing remarks on the internet is a valuable step.

But I have in mind that more needs to be done. More needs to be done in terms of communicating with the public and that goes right down to school children. More needs to be done to give them an understanding of how we work, the restrictions we have, the dilemmas we face and why particular orders are made. That will inevitably involve the media and I hope to improve the lines of communication and consultation with the media.

I need to make it clear that I am not about to embark on an attempt to make the courts popular. That would be an impossible dream, but as the Chief Justice of the

High Court observed during the Centenary of the High Court, the role of the court is sustained by public confidence.

And on another occasion His Honour noted that confidence in the judiciary does not require a belief that all judicial decisions are wise, but it requires, in His Honour's words, 'A satisfaction that the justice system is based upon values of independence, impartiality, integrity and professionalism, and that within the limits of ordinary human frailty, the system pursues those values faithfully'.

My hope is that through improved communication and understanding of the work of the courts, public confidence in the judiciary will be maintained and improved.

These and other issues such as those that have been mentioned this morning, in particular, the sentencing of indigenous persons, together with matters such as listing procedures, delays, medication as an alternative to court trials, will all require careful consideration. And I have no doubt that the particular issues that are confronting Central Australia and the operation of the courts here will be brought to my attention and will be given very close attention by me. I might add, Mr Attorney, without delving into any political issues, that this morning I was given a tour of this court building, and I think you might expect to hear from me shortly about some of the inadequacies that I've observed. I might contrast that, of course, to the court facilities in Darwin which are, to put it mildly, quite magnificent.

As I said earlier, the feelings of trepidation arise when I hear of all the issues that the court must face. At those times, and at other times, I derive great comfort from the knowledge that my wife and children will continue to provide unwavering love and support.

As our children and friends will attest, my wife is, in fact, the more intelligent half of our union, and I hope that many of you will come to meet her in our years here. I thank her for choosing the vital role of raising our children, and for supporting me rather than pursuing any career that would have been open to her.

Leigh and I have particularly fond memories of Alice Springs. In 1995, we competed in an around Australia rally. It was in a 1967 Peugeot 404, and from time to time, we arrived in towns around Australia with our little car somewhat battered. Alice Springs was no exception, and we received very, very generous support from the local people in carrying out the repairs that we could not have conducted ourselves.

That, of course, was well into the rally. I think I should tell you that it was only the two of us in the car. I was the main driver and my wife was the navigator. Contrary to perhaps the belief of many men, which is unjustified, women can actually be very good navigators.

We were about to cover, I think, something in the order of 20,000 kilometres around Australia, perhaps 17,000 might be closer, and we were going to do it in 20 days. It took just 20 kilometres from the start in Brisbane for me to countermand my navigator's instructions and take what turned out to be a wrong turn.

It is a great pity it was not a right turn because I can tell you I was told very forcibly at the time of the errors of my ways, and that night, other navigators confirmed the error of my ways and confirmed that as a driver, I was required to obey the navigator's instructions without question and unhesitatingly throughout the entire rally.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, can I suggest to you that the remaining 19 days and 16,980 kilometres that we had to travel gave a new dimension to that old expression, 'She who must be obeyed'. Our marriage survived. It was a wonderful experience, and we look to more great experiences during our time in the Territory.

I want to make mention again, publicly, of my gratitude to my parents, who gave me such a happy start on an apple orchard in the Adelaide Hills at Oakbank. Some of you may know of Oakbank where the Great Eastern Steeplechase is held. It was real country in those days, and my grounding in that real country has been of great benefit to me over the years. My parents were wise enough to recognise that I was hopeless on the property and that I needed to have a higher education to pursue some other career.

There have been many in the law who have assisted me, and they are too numerous to mention. Outside the law I have many friends who have been a wonderful support, and some of them were kind enough to come to Darwin to celebrate with us.

On Monday I swore an oath to do right to all manner of people according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill will. It is an oath that I will strive to carry out to the best of my ability. I will need extensive and ongoing assistance from the profession and from my fellow judges. It is clear that I will need particular assistance from the profession and others in Central Australia.

Ultimately, when my time is finished, I hope that I will have earned from the profession and the public the verdict that I have, during my time on this Bench and in the Territory, made a worthwhile contribution to this court, and to the community which it serves.

This is not in the script, but Angel J wants to say something. I am a little worried about this.

ANGEL J: Chief Justice, I just wish to add two things. First, we have had two apologies that I should have mentioned earlier. First, His Honour the Administrator

was unable to attend today, though invited. He was, of course, present when His Honour the Chief Justice took his judicial oath on Monday in Darwin.

And the second apology is from the Honourable Loraine Braham, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, who was also unable to attend today. I just wish to record that, Chief Justice. And the only other thing was Mr Goldflam mentioned that your brethren were unable to cure the ills of society from sitting on this Bench. I do remind Mr Goldflam we do have a sister judge, Chief Justice.

MARTIN CJ: Thank you.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, that concludes the formal part of this morning's sittings. Thank you very much for your attendance, and again, for your welcome. Angel J and I would now like to invite you to join us for morning tea.

Please adjourn the court.

ADJOURNED 10:17 AM INDEFINITELY