

The Hon. Chief Justice Diana Bryant AO, Family Court of Australia.

The Honourable Diana Bryant AO was appointed Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia in 2004. Prior to her appointment she was the Chief Federal Magistrate of the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia (now the Federal Circuit Court of Australia) from 2000-2004 having guided the emergence and growth of that court as the inaugural Chief Federal Magistrate. She one of the two Hague Network Judges for Australia and is presently chairing a working group for the Hague Permanent Bureau in relation to the Child Abduction Convention and is co-chair of the Association of International Family Judges. She has a strong interest in family law policy.

Before her appointment to the Bench, Chief Justice Bryant practised as a family lawyer with a national firm in Perth and spent 10 years at the Victorian Bar, becoming a Queen's Counsel in 1997. She has had a longstanding commitment to the advancement of women in the law and is currently the Patron of Australian Women Lawyers and a committee member of The Australian Association of Women Judges.

Chief Justice Bryant received a Centenary Medal in 2001 for her role in the establishment of the Federal Magistrates Court and was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2011 for her distinguished service to the judiciary and to the law, particularly to family law policy reform and practice, through the establishment of the Federal Magistrates Court, and to the advancement of women in the legal profession.