

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE STEPHEN ROTHMAN AM

CURRICULUM VITAE

Justice Rothman AM commenced practice at the Bar in 1982, was appointed Senior Counsel in 1995, and continued to work as a barrister until early in 2005, when he was appointed as a Justice of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

His Honour sits in the Common Law Division, as a trial judge in: administrative law (judicial review); contracts; torts; bail appeals; and, with a jury, in major crime; and as a judge of the Court of Criminal Appeal (being appeals from all indictable offences).

His Honour's practice prior to his appointment to the Bench was predominantly in appellate advocacy, in the High Court of Australia and elsewhere, and otherwise he practised in labour law, constitutional law, administrative law and human rights law.

Justice Rothman was, immediately prior to his appointment to the Court, involved in cases concerning the protection of persons applying for refugee status under the immigration laws in Australia and two groundbreaking cases on racial vilification and freedom of speech (*Toben* and *Scully*), being cases which determined that Holocaust denial was racial vilification and unlawful, and as a result of which orders were eventually obtained shutting down an internet website.

As counsel, his Honour was a founding member of the International Centre on Trade Union Rights and was selected by the I.L.O. to advise the Soviet Union on the establishment of free trade unions. For that purpose his Honour met with and advised Mikhail Gorbachev in 1987 and 1988.

Justice Rothman is the President of The Great Synagogue, Sydney (since 2014); is a current member of the Board of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; was President of the New South Wales Jewish Board Deputies from 2000 to 2004 (the maximum term); and also currently holds or has held a number of other Jewish communal positions. His Honour continues to act as the Co-Chair of the Australian Council of Jewish Schools, a position he has held since 1994.

Justice Rothman was awarded with membership of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2007, for work in the Jewish community.