

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 22

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 19 October 2009:

Provide relevant particulars for each complaint (judicial and non-judicial) made in 2008 and 2009, including how many were resolved, and advise whether relevant judges were counselled.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Judicial Complaints

The Family Court received 31 complaints in 2007-08 which the Court categorised as relating to the conduct of a judicial officer and 17 complaints in 2008-09.

The Court received 43 complaints concerning delays in the delivery of reserved judgments in 2007-08 and 33 in 2008-09.

In none of the complaints received during 2007-08 or 2008-09 was it found necessary for either the Chief Justice or the Deputy Chief Justice to raise the matter formally with a Judicial Officer.

Non-judicial complaints

During 2007-08 the Court received 235 complaints.

During 2008-09 the Court received 202 complaints.

Details of individual complaints and complainants are not able to be divulged due to privacy restrictions.