

JAMES SPIGELMAN AC QC

The Honourable James Spigelman AC QC served as Chief Justice of New South Wales, Australia's largest state, from 1998 until the end of May 2011. After his retirement as Chief Justice he joined One Essex Court as an arbitrator. He has since been appointed Chair of panels with seats in London, Singapore, Dubai and Perth, as sole arbitrator determining a legal privilege issue on reference from a NAFTA Tribunal, as sole arbitrator in two, related, disputes in Sydney and as a party appointed arbitrator on two panels in London, one panel in Melbourne and one panel in Kuala Lumpur. In 2013 he was appointed a Non-Permanent Judge of the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal.

From 1972 James Spigelman was Senior Advisor and Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of Australia, before appointment as Permanent Secretary of the Department of Media in 1975. He was a member of the Australian Law Reform Commission from 1976 to 1979. He commenced practice at the NSW Bar in 1980. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1986. He was acting Solicitor General of New South Wales in 1997. He has served on the boards and as chair of a number of cultural and educational institutions. He is currently chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

James Spigelman is the author of three books, co-author of a fourth and of some 170 published articles, including on a range of aspects of commercial and corporate law such as contractual interpretation, insurance law, commercial arbitration, insolvency, international commercial litigation, freezing orders and proof of foreign law. Three volumes of his speeches as Chief Justice have been published.