

## **PRESENTER**



### **Madeleine Laracy, Director, Public Defence Service, Wellington**

Madeleine was appointed Director of the Public Defence Service in April 2014. Her work has included representing defendants in criminal appeals. Prior to that Madeleine spent 16 years as a criminal lawyer with Crown Law. She appeared in many appeals in the Court of Appeal and has been lead counsel on a number of major criminal and contempt of court cases in the Supreme Court.

*The statements and conclusions contained in this paper are those of the author(s) only and not those of the New Zealand Law Society. This booklet has been prepared for the purpose of a Continuing Legal Education course. It is not intended to be a comprehensive statement of the law or practice, and should not be relied upon as such. If advice on the law is required, it should be sought on a formal, professional basis.*

# CONTENTS

<b>R V DIXON – DIGITAL FILES, SIMPLY INFORMATION OR “PROPERTY”?</b> .....	<b>1</b>
INTRODUCTION .....	1
THE APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT .....	2
<i>Legislative Discussion</i> .....	2
<i>The Previous Decisions</i> .....	3
<i>Supreme Court Discussion</i> .....	5
<i>The Fortunate Mr Watchorn</i> .....	10
<i>Implications for the Criminal Law</i> .....	11