

## PRESENTER



### **The Honourable Justice Joseph Williams, High Court, Wellington**

Justice Williams was appointed a Judge of the High Court on 10 September 2008. He graduated from Victoria University with an LLB in 1986 and from the University of British Columbia, Canada, with an LLM (Hons) in 1988. Justice Williams then joined, and later became a partner of the law firm Kensington Swan in Auckland. After practising as a partner of Walters Williams & Co between 1994 and 1999, he was appointed Chief Judge, Māori Land Court in December 1999. Shortly thereafter Justice Williams was appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal and appointed the Chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal in 2004. He is a former Vice President of the Māori Law Society and a former President of Te Runanga Roia o Tamaki Makaurau, the Auckland Māori Lawyers Association. While in practice, he had extensive experience as a company director including sitting on the Board of MAI FM in Auckland for some years. He was the lead singer of “Aotearoa”, a popular R&B/reggae band in the 1980s. He is a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, a fellow of the Law Faculty at Victoria University of Wellington, an Honorary Lecturer, Faculty of Law at Waikato University and an adjunct professor at the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre at Canterbury University. His tribal affiliations are Ngāti Pukenga and Te Arawa (Waitaha, Tapuika).

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