

SUPREME COURT OF TASMANIA

CIRCULAR TO PRACTITIONERS

No.4

2 May 2007

SUPREME COURT AMENDMENTS RULES 2007

These rules come into force today and make the following changes:

1. Defamation Rules

These rules were made to accord with the *Defamation Act* 2005 and specify requirements for pleadings in defamation actions.

2. Preliminary Discovery

These rules enable the Court to make orders before proceedings have been instituted, to compel:

- (a) the provision of information and discovery of documents as to the identity or whereabouts of a prospective defendant or respondent; or
- (b) the discovery of documents to enable an applicant to decide whether or not to commence a proceeding in the Court against the respondent.

3. Bound Judgments and Orders

Judgments and orders are no longer required to be kept in separate volumes and only an original will be kept on the Court file.

4. Expert Evidence

These rules provide for additional requirements for expert evidence, statements and the service of those statements. The rules also amend the form of Certificate of Readiness.

5. Cross-Vesting

The rules extend the Master's jurisdiction to determine applications for Cross-Vesting Orders.

Ian Ritchard
REGISTRAR