



FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

CHAMBERS OF THE
DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE
CANBERRA

24 June 2010

Mr R Partington
8 Dunbar Way
North Gosford NSW 2250

Dear Mr Partington

I refer initially to a telephone call you made on Tuesday 15 June 2010 and directed to my Chambers, in which you requested that Mr O'Rourke, a senior member of my personal staff, contact you in regard to a complaint. I have been informed that Mr O'Rourke returned your call and spoke with you at approximately 4.10pm that day. Mr O'Rourke ascertained and discussed with you the general nature of your complaint which concerned a number of issues regarding the hearing of your family law matter – NCC3620 of 2007 – and which came before Judicial Registrar Loughnan in Newcastle earlier that same day.

In general terms you complained that Judicial Registrar Loughnan refused to consider evidence you wished to place before the Court relating to your capacity and fitness to exercise contact with your son, declined to deal with your application for interim contact and was unable to provide you with a specific date for the Less Adversarial Trial proceeding relating to your application for final orders regarding your son.

Mr O'Rourke indicated to you that in the circumstances following the proceedings earlier that day, your options included the seeking of independent legal advice concerning the possibilities of availing yourself of any appeal processes which might be available to you or the feasibility of your filing a further interim application which might include the seeking of a specific date for a final hearing. Mr O'Rourke emphasised that judicial decisions, such as those made by Judicial Registrar Loughnan earlier that day, could not be overturned or otherwise remedied by any administrative action or procedure. I note you were advised of this general restriction in my letter to you of 24 November 2009.

I also refer to your email communication dated 15 June 2010, referred through Client Feedback on 16 June 2010, in which you repeated the general thrust of your