## Start at the Top Family

**Erin Bowpitt** 

Membership and Events Coordinator Law Society NT

The Start at the Top Family Law Conference 2018 was held on 24 and 25 January 2018 at Parliament House. The Law Society NT (the Society) hosted this conference with the generous support of the Federal Circuit Court and Family Court of Australia and in particular, Judge Peter Cole. This conference has grown from the one-day 'Family Law Refresher' held in 2011 to an annual and prominent feature of the Society's CPD calendar. This year is the first time the conference has expanded to a two-day event.

The conference attracted 64 delegates, of which 25 per cent were from interstate.

The conference program covered a diverse range of topics which included: family violence in a family law context, Thorne & Kennedy – an update, mental health, legal capacity and family law, accounting and business valuation dilemmas, and a judicial panel session – 'things we like and things we hate'. The conference allowed delegates to earn twelve CPD points across all competencies.

Like previous years, the delegates were encouraged to dress casually and enjoy the relaxed, tropical Darwin atmosphere. The conference concluded with an informal



Jordan Pana

Dimitra Tolis

## **Law Conference 2018**

dinner at Crustaceans on the Wharf, complete with a stormy setting which the monsoon provided.

The Society looks forward to working with the Federal Circuit Court to ensure the ongoing success of future Start at the Top Family Law Conferences.



