

Statements from Christian Porter:

The first statement:

After politics I am intending to return to private legal practice. This is well known and I have been approached by a number of people with a number of potential future briefs. Obviously what briefs are ultimately accepted and when I commence appearance work will depend upon the timing of when the election is called. I have not yet accepted nor worked on any briefs and do not intend to do so until I am no longer a member of Parliament which occurs, as the clerk's office will confirm, on the calling of the election and the dissolution of the parliament.

I ceased legal practice in 2008 when I entered State Parliament but before then had many years in legal practice including significant criminal trial experience as a Senior State Prosecutor at the DPP. Whilst in politics I have always maintained my practice certificate including undertaking all required continuing legal education that this requires and for a large portion of the time in politics I was the first law officer of the State of Western Australia and then the first law officer of the Commonwealth, with conduct of all significant litigation for the Commonwealth.

Members retiring from politics planning for their next employment is completely orthodox and the list of Attorney Generals on the both sides of the house that have gone back to legal practice even after significant stints in Parliament is a long list.

The second statement:

Again, I have been approached by a number of people with a number of potential briefs. I have indicated willingness to be briefed in a number of matters but obviously what briefs are ultimately accepted and when I commence appearance work will depend upon a number of factors the most significant being the timing of when the election is called. For those people that have approached me, where I have indicated a willingness to potentially take the matter on, I have been clear that I cannot make any guarantee or file a notice of appearance or accept and prepare the matter until the election is called and I am no longer a Member of Parliament. You ask if 'I am definitely not taking the case'; the fact is I may well act in the matter but whether I do will depend on when the election is called. But I can definitely say, again, I have not yet accepted nor worked on any briefs and do not intend to do so until I am no longer a Member of Parliament, which occurs on the calling of the election and the dissolution of the parliament and any suggestion otherwise is totally wrong.