



# Media Release

The Hon Alan Griffin MP  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

VA051

Friday, 19 June 2009

## Veterans' Review Board

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Alan Griffin, today announced that Mr Michael Griffin has resigned as Principal Member of the Veterans' Review Board and that Mr David Mackrell will be appointed as the acting Principal Member pending the recruitment of a permanent replacement.

"David Mackrell has considerable senior management experience in both the Commonwealth and state public services and an extensive knowledge of veterans' issues," Mr Griffin said.

"The veteran community will be familiar with Mr Mackrell from his time as Deputy Commissioner (Queensland) of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. His strong skills in administration will ensure the continued efficient operation of the Board during the period of transition to a new Principal Member.

"The Veterans' Review Board has an ongoing role in providing an independent tribunal in an informal and supportive environment which ensures members of the veteran community continue to receive their lawful entitlements.

"In the coming weeks, I will begin a recruitment process to select a new permanent Principal Member of the Veterans' Review Board. The position will be advertised nationally.

"David Mackrell has agreed to a three month appointment, during which the selection process will proceed.

"I thank Michael Griffin for his time at the Board and wish him well with his future endeavours."

### Background

The Veterans' Review Board is an independent tribunal that reviews decisions on veterans' entitlements and some military rehabilitation and compensation claims.

The Board is made up of members who decide cases and staff who assist the members. There are four types of members: Principal Member, Senior Members, Services Members and Members.

The Principal Member is responsible for the overall operations of the Board. Ongoing appointments of members are made by the Governor-General.

### **Media inquiries: Belinda Cole 0437 863 109**

The VVCS – Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service can be contacted 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **1800 011 046**.

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