

**December 2003**

**AP240**

## **COLLEGE OF PERSONAL INJURY LAW ANNOUNCES NEW SENIOR FELLOW APPOINTMENT**

One of the country's leading clinical negligence lawyers has been given the College of Personal Injury Law's (CPIL's) highest accolade.

John Pickering, partner at national law firm Irwin Mitchell, has been appointed senior fellow of the college, which was set up by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) in 1999.

John is one of only nine lawyers to be awarded the prestigious title since CPIL was launched. Denise Kitchener, chief executive of the college, said the calibre of candidates for the appointment of senior fellow was always of an exceptionally high standard.

"Each year we see some outstanding applications," she said. "I am delighted that John Pickering has been recognised for his fantastic contribution to personal injury law – the senior fellow appointment is a reflection of his remarkable achievements over the years."

Each year an independent assessment panel meets to assess the applications. The title is retained for life, provided senior fellows maintain their commitment to undertake 50 hours of CPIL training over five years, as both students and trainers.

"I'm obviously very pleased," said John Pickering. "The college provides a quality service to

both lawyers and to members of the public who are looking for someone experienced to assist with their claim, and I am honoured to be part of it.”

- ends -

**Note to editors:** The College of Personal Injury Law is the training division of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) It was set up to ensure APIL members are trained to the very highest level and are fully up-to-date with legal developments in personal injury. The initiative was also designed to help members of the public gain access to the best lawyers in their area and was supported by the Lord Chancellor, the Law Society and National Consumer Council. Lawyers are admitted to the college at five different levels to reflect their expertise and experience. The levels are: litigator, fellow, senior fellow, associate and member. Senior fellow is the highest level and is reserved for those people with at least 15 years experience and have made an outstanding contribution in the field of personal injury law.

For further information, please contact:

Lorraine Gwinnutt  
Head of Legal & Public Affairs  
APIL  
11 Castle Quay  
Nottingham  
NG7 1FW  
Tel: 0115 958 0585  
Fax: 0115 924 3485  
email: [lorraine@apil.com](mailto:lorraine@apil.com)

or

Lisa Wardle  
Press & PR Officer  
APIL  
Tel: 0115 958 0585  
Fax: 0115 924 3485  
email: [lisa@apil.com](mailto:lisa@apil.com)