



**FAMILY LAW  
SECTION  
NEW ZEALAND LAW SOCIETY**

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**Family Law Section to launch Relationship Property Survey in conjunction with Grant Thornton**

On 8 May 2017 the Family Law Section in conjunction with Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants, will launch a survey of New Zealand family lawyers, with particular emphasis on relationship property practice.

Similar surveys have been employed in the United Kingdom where the results have proved very useful for practitioners. It is proposed that the survey will be repeated every two years so that the results will provide a picture over time about the practice of family law. This will provide robust information on the role of family lawyers and the special expertise they bring to these issues. It will also provide sound evidence for use in future law and practice reforms – something that has been missing in reforms to date.

We urge all Family Law Section members and others who may do some work in the relationship property area (including trust, testamentary and estate work) to participate in the survey. The results will be made available to members. They will provide a much needed window into how these matters are handled. In other jurisdictions the survey results have assisted lawyers in their work in these areas and provided useful information on trends in the area over time.

This is our “survey”. The more of us that participate the more compelling the results will be.

Please find 10 minutes in your busy day to fill in the survey when it hits your desk.

*Michelle Duggan*  
*Chair*

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