



## **Phil Thurbon – Senior Reviewer – Canberra**

Phil Thurbon had a highly successful Commonwealth APS career spanning thirty-nine years. He is originally qualified in both criminal investigations and criminal intelligence analysis, with a considerable portion of his career spent ensuring the integrity of agency programs, and the conduct of staff both domestically and internationally. Phil has conducted numerous criminal and APS disciplinary investigations in various domestic and international jurisdictions.

Phil has extensive operational experience as an investigator with the Australian Taxation Office and the then Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA), and in leading and conducting internal investigations in DIMA.

Phil served at the SES level for 12 years in what is now the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, the last four as a Band 2 First Assistant Secretary. His responsibilities included: the design and implementation of Australian led international counter-terrorism initiatives; delivering major improvements to the Immigration portfolio's global ICT infrastructure; overseeing the original implementation of Immigration related Internet visa application processes; policy responsibility for Tourism, International Education and Border Security matters; and negotiating numerous tourism and security related arrangements between Australia and foreign governments as diverse as Italy and Iran, and the USA and Indonesia.

Phil has chaired numerous Inter-departmental Committees, and international meetings in fora such as APEC, ASEAN, OECD and FCC. He has extensive experience in leading and delivering large scale, multilateral initiatives and programs.

More recently he established and led the division responsible for working closely with the Digital Transformation Office. That division brought together portfolio digital and service channel strategies across visa, citizenship, trade, customs, border, enforcement and maritime functions.

Phil was a foundation member of the Department of Finance's Contestability Program Steering Committee, established to progress findings from the National Commission of Audit.

He is an alumni of the National Security College and holds a current Top Secret (NV) security clearance.

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