

Meg O'Brien

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Overview: Barrister with a practice in commercial and public law

ADMISSIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- **2017:** NSW Bar
- **2013-2014:** Masters of Law (First Class Honours) (Leonard Coling Scholarship), University of Cambridge (UK)
- **2009:** Legal Practitioner, Victoria & Federal Court
- **2003 – 2008:** Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) (Dean's Scholarship), Monash University, Melbourne

SELECTED CASES

Inquests, Inquiries and Commissions

- *Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes* (Special Commission of Inquiry) (counsel assisting, led by Peter Gray SC) (2022-2023)
- *Inquest into the disappearance suspected death of Habtom Ghilagaber* (NSW Coroner's Court No. 2020/00299793) (counsel assisting, unled).
- *Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry* (counsel for various witnesses instructed by the Financial Rights Legal Centre).

Administrative law

- *National Disability Insurance Scheme v Paterno* (AAT 2021/4711) (merits review) (unled).
- *NSW Electoral Commission v Kempsey Shire Council (No 2)* [2022] NSWSC 282 (judicial review).
- *Frankcom v Commissioner of Corrective Services* [2022] NSWSC 225 (judicial review) (unled).
- *North Parramatta Residents' Action Group Inc v Infrastructure New South Wales and Minister for Planning and Public Spaces* [2021] NSWCA 146 / [2021] NSWLEC 60 (judicial review) (led by R Beasley SC).
- *Reyson Pty Ltd v Minister administering the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* [2020] NSWCA 281 / [2019] NSWLEC 203 (judicial review) (led by S Free SC).
- *Youssef Nouh v Commissioner for NSW Fair Trading* [2019] NSWSC 1303 (judicial review) (unled).

- *Mwango v Fair Work Commission* [2019] FCA 1274 (judicial review) (unled).

Construction, planning and environment

- *Lambess v Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation & Anor* (LEC 2021/00304807) (unled).
- *Hy-Tec Industries Pty Ltd v Parramatta City Council* [2022] NSWLEC 1041 (led by Michael Hall SC).
- *Styles v Department of Planning, Industry and Environment* (class 1 appeal) (LEC 2021/00194333) (unled).
- *Benning v Department of Planning, Industry and Environment* (LEC 2021/00040948 and 2021/00040919) (unled).
- *Sell & Parker v Minister for Planning and Public Spaces & Anor* (class 1 appeal) (LEC 2020/000101315) (unled).
- *Winten (No 21) Pty Ltd v Newcastle City Council & Ors* (class 1 appeal) (LEC 2019/19165) and *Winten (No 21) Pty Ltd v Lake Macquarie Council & Ors* (LEC 2019/19121) (unled).

Commercial

- *Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Keith Charles Cohen & Anor* (NSD1114/2021) (conflicted remuneration; breach of directors' duties) (led by T Wong SC and with T Kane).
- *Forge Group Ltd (In Liq) (Receivers and Managers Appointed) v Hutchinson (No 2)* [2021] NSWSC 370 (security for costs) (led by W Edwards).
- *OneHub Business Pty Ltd v Optus Mobile* (contractual dispute) (unled).
- *Supay FX Pty Ltd Ors v Chandos Projects (Kirrawee) Pty Ltd and Ors* (property; equity) (New South Wales Supreme Court No. 2020/00054218) (led by K Andronos SC).
- *Spotlight Pty Ltd v Fatseas Investments Pty Ltd* [202] NSWCA 312 (contractual dispute; leases; evidence) (led by D Lloyd SC).
- *Patakas v Bevan* (contractual dispute and oppression proceedings) (SC NSW 2016/124927) (led by M Elliot SC).
- *Sunderland Marine Insurance Company Limited, in the matter of Sunderland Marine Insurance Company Limited* [2018] FCA 565 (application for dispensation from compliance with s 17C(2)(c) of the Insurance Act 1973) (Cth) (led by M Izzo SC).
- *International Consulting and Business Management (ICBM) Pty Ltd & Ors v ACN 080 349 855 and Skybase (VIC) Pty Ltd* [2017] ACTCA 43 (evidence) (led by K Rees SC).
- *In the matter of South Head & District Synagogue (Sydney) (Administrators appointed)* [2017] NSWSC 823 (conflict of laws) (led by V Whittaker).

Criminal

- *CDPP v McDonald's Australia Limited* (prosecution under to s 8C(1)(a) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* (Cth)) (led by C Withers SC).
- *CDPP v EC Audit Pty Ltd and Evett* (prosecution under the s 989CA of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)) (led by C Withers SC).

Interlocutory

- *Resort Living Group Limited v Strategic Advisers Group LLC* (NSWSC 2021/00155345) (default judgment) (led by C Withers SC).
- *Rahme v Satouris (No 2)* [2019] NSWSC 208 (application for indemnity costs) (unled).
- *Elmo Software Limited v Enero Group Limited* (District Court, 2020/00138076) (application to transfer proceedings) (unled).
- *Yang v Jin* (2019/00178715) (freezing order) (unled).
- *Manly Property Holdings Pty Ltd v Lisker Pty Ltd & Anor (No. 2)* [2018] NSWSC 61 (costs) (led by Michael Izzo SC).

Taxation

- *Fitzpatrick Investments Pty Ltd v Chief Commissioner of State Revenue* (NCAT 2019/00021637-001) (stamp duty dispute) (led by M Richmond SC).
- *Lochtenberg v Commissioner of Taxation* [2018] AATA 4667 (led by M Richmond SC).

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

October 2014 – October 2016: Supervising Associate at Simmons & Simmons LLP, London Commercial Arbitration and International Arbitration).

July 2014 – October 2014: Researcher in International Dispute Resolution and Arbitration, University of Cambridge.

November 2012 – October 2013: Lawyer at Arnold Bloch Leibler (Litigation).

October 2011 – November 2012: Associate to Justice J Forrest, Supreme Court of Victoria.

2011: Seconded solicitor with the Human Rights Law Centre.

February 2009 – October 2011: Graduate and Solicitor at Mallesons Stephen Jaques (now King & Wood Mallesons) (Dispute Resolution).