

**David Hume SC**  
6 Selborne Wentworth

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Sydney NSW 2000  
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## Practice

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Areas of specialisation

**Commercial Law** (including tax, contracts, equity, trade practices, building & construction, torts)

**Public Law** (including administrative law, criminal appeals, migration, land and environment, constitutional law)

Doyles Guide leading administrative & public law, taxation and construction & infrastructure counsel

Legal500: construction, infrastructure & property

Called to the Bar: 2013

Appointed Senior Counsel: 2025

## Education

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**Harvard Law School**

LLM (2009)  
Frank Knox Memorial Fellow  
John Monash Scholar

**University of New South Wales**

LLB, University Medal in Law  
BA (Hons I), University Medal in Philosophy

## Professional Background

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**Barrister**  
Sixth Floor

2013-

**Lecturer**, UNSW and Melbourne University

Constitutional Law and Administrative Law 2008, 2014

**Lawyer**  
Australian Government Solicitor

2011-2012

Constitutional Litigation Unit

**Solicitor**  
Freehills

2009-2011

Commercial Litigation  
Supervising Partner: Geoff Healy

**Associate**  
High Court of Australia

The Honourable AM Gleeson AC 2007

## Practice

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- Appeared in more than 40 High Court appeals and original jurisdiction matters, including landmark cases in constitutional law, administrative law, tax, building and construction and migration.
- Appears regularly led and unled in appeals and trials in Courts and Tribunals around Australia, and also in commercial arbitrations.
- Recent unled matters include:
  - *Builtcom Constructions Pty Ltd v VSD Investments Pty Ltd* [2025] NSWCA 92; *Builtcom Construction Pty Ltd v VSD Investments Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2025] NSWSC 203 (security of payment)
  - *Stuart v Minister for Transport* [2025] NSWSC 39 (administrative law)
  - *Johnson v Commissioner of New South Wales Police* [2025] NSWSC 21 (warrants)
  - *Harlech Enterprises Pty Ltd v Beno Excavations Pty Ltd* [2025] NSWCA 5 (restitution)
  - *Coveney v Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund* [2024] NSWCA 317; *In the matter of Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund* [2024] NSWSC 1163 (trusts)
  - *Fredon Infrastructure Pty Ltd v Hitachi Rail GTS Australia Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWSC 1244 (security of payment)
  - *Australian Turf Club Ltd and Commissioner of Taxation* [2024] AATA 2278 (and related matters) (tax)
  - *Commissioner of Police v Attorney-General for New South Wales* (2024) 114 NSWLR 281 (public interest immunity)
  - *Metricom Homes Pty Ltd v Lipari* [2024] NSWSC 566; [2024] NSWSC 684 (building and construction)
  - *In the matter of Riverina Solar Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWSC 480 (statutory demands)
  - *Canterbury Bankstown Council v General Works and Construction Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWSC 310 (building and construction / security of payment)
  - *Forte Sydney Carlingford Development Limited v Forte Sydney Carlingford Pty Ltd* [2024] FCAFC 9 (building and construction / security of payment)
  - *A-Civil Aust Pty Ltd v Ceerose Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWCA 7 (building and construction / security of payment)
- Recent led matters include:
  - *YTL Power Investments Limited v Commissioner of Taxation* [2025] FCA 1317 (tax / taxable Australian real property)
  - *Tackelly No 8 Pty Ltd v Reward Interiors Pty Ltd* [2025] NSWSC 300 (security of payment)
  - *Forestry Corporation of New South Wales v South East Forest Rescue Incorporated* [2025] HCA 15 (standing)

- *Martinus Rail Pty Ltd v Qube RE Services (No 2) Pty Ltd* [2025] NSWCA 49 (security of payment)
- *Commonwealth of Australia v Stradford* (2024) 88 ALJR 396 (judicial immunity, intentional torts)
- *Automotive Invest Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Taxation* (2024) 98 ALJR 1245 (luxury car tax)
- *SFQV and Commissioner of Taxation* [2024] ARTA 9 (GST)
- *LSR3 v State of New South Wales* [2024] NSWSC 1570 (torts)
- *Oracle Corporation Australia Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Taxation* [2024] FCA 1262 (mutual agreement procedures)
- IAL / Greensill and commodity trading litigation (Federal Court and Supreme Court of NSW: insurance)
- a major international commercial arbitration relating to an Australian infrastructure project
- *Denman Aberdeen Muswellbrook Scone Healthy Environment Group Incorporated v MACH Energy Australia Pty Ltd* [2024] NSWLEC 86 (Pt 4 / judicial review)
- *Enermech Pty Ltd v Acciona Infrastructure Projects Australia Pty Ltd* (2024) 115 NSWLR 56 (security of payment / performance bonds)
- *Major v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs* [2024] FCA 597 (migration)
- *Hartley v Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police* [2023] FCAFC 197 (search warrants)
- *ACCC v Lactalis Australia Pty Ltd* [2023] FCA 830; [2022] FCA 1087 (civil penalties)

- Select publications:
  - *People Power: How Australian Referendums are Lost and Won* (2024, UNSW Press) (with George Williams)
  - *Human Rights under the Australian Constitution* (2013, Oxford University Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed) (with George Williams) (winner of the Australian Publishing Association's best Tertiary Scholarly Resource)
  - *People Power: The History and Future of the Referendum in Australia* (2010, UNSW Press) (with George Williams) (finalist for the John Button Prize for best Australian Public Policy and Politics writing)