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PROFILE

I am a Barrister at Francis Burt Chambers in Western Australia, with a natural inclination towards dispute resolution. The skills I use on a regular basis include advocacy, negotiation, strategic thinking, and the provision of legal advice.

My civil and commercial litigation legal practice is varied, involving wills & estates, including family provision litigation; Corporations Act; taxation; employment law; and construction law matters. I appear in all courts and tribunals and work well in teams leading to the resolution of legal disputes as cost-effectively as possible.

I am active in the legal profession and have held formal roles with the Law Council of Australia; Australian Women Lawyers; the Legal Practice Board of WA; the Western Australian Bar Association; the Law Society of Western Australia (Inc); and Women Lawyers of WA (Inc).

In October 2025, I successfully completed my two-year appointment as a member of the Administrative Review Tribunal (formerly the Administrative Appeals Tribunal).

The Women Lawyers of WA (Inc) have recognised me for being an inspirational role model for other women within, or aspiring to, the legal profession, and providing leadership in the legal profession over a long period of time. I believe in equity for all and 'lifting as you climb'.

EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Feb 2004 – ongoing	Barrister
Oct 2023 – Oct 2025	Member, Administrative Review Tribunal (formerly the Administrative Appeals Tribunal)
Sept 1997 – Jan 2004	Solicitor then Senior Associate (from July 2000) – Minter Ellison (Perth)
Apr – Aug 1997	Solicitor – Minter Ellison (Melbourne), based in client's office in Perth
Aug 1993 – Apr 1997	Articled Clerk then Solicitor – Jackson McDonald
Feb – July 1993	Articled Clerk – Mr Eric M. Heenan QC (as he was then)

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2011 Negotiation courses	Harvard Negotiation Institute
2004 Bar Reader's Course	Western Australian Bar Association
1999 Master of Laws	The University of Western Australia
1992 Bachelor of Laws	The University of Western Australia
1992 Bachelor of Science (pure mathematics major)	The University of Western Australia

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are selected highlights.

Specialist Courses

- Signature Leadership Program – Leadership WA, 2016
- Advanced Trial Advocacy Course - Australian Bar Association, 2015 (January)
- Advanced Negotiation: Difficult Conversations - Harvard Negotiation Institute, 2011 (June)
- Essentials for Lawyers and Working Professionals - Harvard Negotiation Institute, 2011 (June)
- Certificate in Foundation Tax - The Tax Institute of Australia, 2011 (May)
- Mediation Workshop February - LEADR, 2011 (February)

Formal Recommendations

- Junior Counsel Leading Tax Barristers WA - Doyle's Guide, 2020-2022
- Junior Counsel Leading Employment & WHS Barristers WA – Doyle's Guide, 2020

Awards

- Senior Woman Lawyer of the Year - Women Lawyers of WA (Inc), 2016
- Chief Justice's Prize for Outstanding Reader; Advocacy Prize and Jurisdiction/ Procedure Prize at Inaugural Bar Reader's Course - Western Australian Bar Association, 2004
- Procedure Prize (compulsory unit) - The University of Western Australia, 1992
- Anita & Meyer Davis Prize (Jurisprudence) - The University of Western Australia, 1991

Admission

- Elected to the Western Australian Bar - 12 August 2003
- Admitted to practice as a solicitor and barrister Supreme Court of WA - 2 February 1994

CASES

The following are selected cases in which I have acted as (sole) counsel.

Construction/Contract/Employment Law

Acted in 2023 for the respondent entity in successfully negotiating a resolution to an employment contractual dispute in the Supreme Court of WA.

CIV 2476 of 2015, in which I acted for the plaintiff in a construction matter in the Supreme Court of WA (quantum meruit claim for nearly \$3 million dollars), including appearing for the plaintiff in mediation in early 2018, with the matter settling in early 2021.

[2020] FCCA 2846, in which I acted for the respondent company in defending an unfair dismissal application in the Federal Circuit Court (via Microsoft teams).

[2020] FCA 893, in which I acted for the respondent company in defending an adverse action claim in the Federal Court of Australia (via Microsoft teams).

Acted for applicant companies in successful arbitration in 2014, involving interpretation of what is a 'proposal' under a State Agreement.

Mineralogy Pty Ltd v Sino Iron Pty Ltd & Korean Steel Pty Ltd [2013] WASC 194, in which I appeared for the successful plaintiff in construction of contract matter in the Supreme Court of WA.

Corporations Act

COR 180 of 2022, in which I acted for the defendant company and one of the director/shareholder defendants, defending an oppression claim in the Supreme Court of WA that was successfully resolved prior to trial, with the matter being dismissed in January 2023.

Metalicity Ltd -v- Allen [No 2] [2022] WASC 420, in which I acted for the defendant company and one of the shareholder defendants, successfully defending an allegation in the Supreme Court of WA of a contravention of s.606 of the Act.

COR 65 of 2022, in which I acted for the plaintiff company in the Supreme Court of WA, in a dispute with a director involving the company's and directors' blockchain and cryptocurrency assets. The matter settled prior to trial.

Taxation/Administration Law

Trustee for Starbrake Holdings Trust & Guce Holdings Pty Ltd and Commissioner of Taxation, Re [2015] AATA 661, in which I appeared in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) for successful taxpayers in staying applications for review pending Federal Court proceedings being determined.

LVR (WA) Pty Ltd & CZ Holdings Pty Ltd v Administrative Appeals Tribunal & Commissioner of Taxation [2012] FCAFC 90, in which I appeared for successful appellants before the Full Court of Federal Court seeking a review of a decision of the then Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Wills and Estates

CIV/1759/2021, in which I provided counsel's opinion for the purposes of Order 70 Rule 10(1) of the *Rules of the Supreme Court 1971*, leading to the Court in January 2023 approving the compromise of various family provision claims.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

I have sought out opportunities to engage constructively with professional bodies on a state and national level, with a view to improving the impact of laws on society; the structure and accessibility of the judicial system; and assisting practitioners within the profession. In these roles, I have been able to utilise skills learned in my legal practice. I have delved into the detail of past acts, analysed, and applied applicable law to resolve matters in the present, as well as looking ahead and acting to safeguard and improve the further peaceful resolution of disputes for the benefit of society.

The Law Society of Western Australia (key roles)

Immediate Past President 2023 and President 2022

Serving the Law Society of WA in these roles has been a highlight of my career.

During my tenure, the legal profession and broader community were finally emerging from the social, professional, and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Law Society continued its work to stand by its members during the pandemic, which had started whilst I was Treasurer during the first year of COVID-19. At the same time, the Law Society maintained our public advocacy on critical issues affecting the profession, addressed the impact of impact of current and proposed legislation on our wider community, and continued to grow the membership.

I gave speeches at welcome and farewell ceremonies for judicial officers and at the inaugural Gala Dinner 2022 Annual Awards Celebration. I also participated in a live television interview and was interviewed for print media. In my capacity as President, I liaised with various stakeholders in government and the judicial system, including the Attorney-General and Shadow Attorney-General of Western Australia; various heads of jurisdiction; and members of the legal profession.

I have been a member of the Law Society of WA since 1993, serving on various committees over the years. Previous significant roles with the Law Society of WA include:

- Senior Vice President, 2021
- Treasurer/Junior Vice-President, 2019-20
- Councillor, 2016-17
- Editor of *Brief*, Journal of The Law Society of Western Australia, 2012-14

Angelhands Inc (angelhands)

During my time with angelhands, I held the following official roles:

- Chair, 2020-21 (18 months)
- Secretary, 2019-20 (6 months)

This not-for-profit association provides community awareness, recognition, and education programs to help promote clarity, understanding and compassion within the wider community of the complex psychological, social, and systematic challenges resulting from extreme trauma, including that involving violence. I enjoyed offering my skills beyond the legal profession to assist this small but important charity.

Western Australian Bar Association (WABA)

I have held the following roles for WABA:

- Chair of the Diversity Subcommittee, 2015 -20 (4 years and 5 months)
- Indigenous Clerkship Facilitator, 2017-18
- Elected member of Bar Council, 2016-17

Law Council of Australia (Law Council)

With the Law Council, I undertook the following two roles:

- Director, as President of the Law Society of WA, 2022
- Member of the Equal Opportunity Committee, 2012-17, as WABA's representative

Australian Women Lawyers

I was first appointed as a director 15 March 2008 and have held the following official roles:

- President, 14 August 2011 – 12 August 2012
- Vice President, August 2010 – 14 August 2011
- Secretary, December 2008 – August 2010

Women Lawyers of Western Australia Inc (Women Lawyers)

I was first elected to the Women Lawyers Committee in October 2002, finishing my term with the following two official elected roles:

- President, 2006-08
- Vice President, 2004-06

Legal Practice Board

I was elected by the legal profession to serve on the Legal Practice Board (2004-07), and my committee work included the Legal Profession Complaints Committee.