

MARIA MELLOS

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ADMISSIONS

Barrister, New South Wales Bar, 2023.

Solicitor, Supreme Court of New South Wales, 2018.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Laws (Honours Class I), *University of Sydney*, 2012–2017.

Academic Awards

- High distinction grade for law honours thesis on the equitable doctrine of accident, supervised by Professor Stumbles and marked by Professor Gummow AC, 2017.
- Christopher C Hodgekiss Prize for first place in Competition Law, 2016.
- E.D. Roper Memorial Prize No. 1 for Equity and Corporations Law for highest combined mark in Equity and Corporations Law, 2015.
- Recipient of Dean's Entry Scholarship for Science, 2012.

Mooting Achievements

- Winner, Australian Chartered Institute of Arbitrators pre-moot to the Willem C Vis Commercial Arbitration Moot, 2017.
- Winner of Oral Rounds and Best Written Memoranda, International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot in London, 2016.

EXPERIENCE

Barrister, *Banco Chambers*, present.

Reader, *Fifth Floor St James' Hall*, May 2023–May 2024.

Lecturer and Tutor, Equity and Trusts, *University of New South Wales*, 2021–present.

Associate, *Allens* (Litigation – Restructuring and Insolvency), February 2021–March 2023; Lawyer (Banking and Finance; Litigation – Restructuring and Insolvency; Volunteer, Homeless Persons Legal Service); Senior Paralegal and Summer Clerk, November 2016–August 2019.

Associate and Tipstaff to the Honourable Justice Mark Leeming, *New South Wales Court of Appeal*, August 2019–December 2020.

Paralegal, Corporate Team, *Addisons Lawyers*, November 2015–November 2016.

SELECTED MATTERS

As a barrister

<i>Case name and court</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Leading counsel and instructing solicitors</i>
High Court of Australia		
<i>Potts v National Australia Bank Limited</i> [2023] HCA 41	Tort – Concurrent wrongdoing for liability arising from findings of misleading or deceptive conduct.	Bret Walker SC, James Arnott SC and Celia Winnett; instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright for the respondent.
<i>Hughes as liquidator of Westgem Investments Pty Ltd (in liq) (Receivers & Managers appointed) v Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd & Ors</i> [2023] HCATrans 77	Insolvency – Special leave hearing in relation to uncommercial transactions under s 588FB(1) of the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> (Cth).	Noel Hutley SC; instructed by Jackson McDonald for the applicant.
Special leave applications		
<i>Vamadevan v The King</i> (S3/2025)	Intensive correction orders – whether s 16A of the <i>Crimes Act 1914</i> (Cth) or s 66 of the <i>Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999</i> (NSW) applies.	Thomas Woods; instructed by Hope Lawyers for the applicant.
<i>ABC Insurance Pty Ltd v Law Society of New South Wales; Attorney General of New South Wales</i> [2024] HCASL 332; <i>ABC Insurance Pty Ltd v Law Society of New South Wales</i> [2024] HCASL 331	Whether PII policy for solicitors in NSW requires approval of the Attorney-General under the <i>Legal Profession Uniform Law</i> .	Craig Lenehan SC and Sean Baron Levi; instructed by Meridian Lawyers for the applicant.
<i>Lahoud v Willoughby City Council ABN 47 974 826 099 & Anor</i> [2024] HCASL 287	Matters that may be taken into consideration by a consent authority in granting development consent.	Bret Walker SC and Harrison Grace; instructed by Mills Oakley for the second respondent.
<i>G&J Drivas Pty Ltd v Sydney Metro</i> [2024] HCASL 162	Statutory disregard test under s 56(1)(a) of the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i> (NSW).	Bret Walker SC; instructed by Beatty Hughes for the applicant.
<i>The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne v RWQ (a pseudonym)</i> [2024] HCASL 15	Application of the <i>Legal Identity of Defendants (Organisational Child Abuse) Act 2018</i> (Vic) to secondary victims.	Bret Walker SC; instructed by Wotton + Kearney for the applicant.

<i>Case name and court</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Leading counsel and instructing solicitors</i>
<i>Southport Memorial Club Inc v Returned and Services League of Australia (Queensland) Southport Sub-Branch Inc</i> [2023] HCASL 196	Lessor's rights and liabilities under the <i>Land Titles Act 1994</i> (Qld).	Bret Walker SC; instructed by Turnbull Mylne for the applicant.
<i>I.C. Formwork Services Pty Ltd (ACN 008.591.811) v Nigel James Moir</i> [2023] HCASL 202	Applicable substantive law for damages claim under the <i>Workers Compensation Act 1951</i> (ACT).	Bret Walker SC and Andrew Muller; instructed by MinterEllison for the applicant.
<i>Supreme Court of Fiji</i>		
<i>In the matter of Section 91(5) of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji In the matter of a reference by Cabinet for an opinion from the Supreme Court on matters concerning the interpretation and application of sections 105(2)(b), 114(2), 116(4) and 117(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji</i> (Miscellaneous Case No. 01 of 2024)	Constitutional – Interpretation of provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji concerning qualifications for appointment to judicial office.	Bret Walker SC; instructed by the Government of Fiji.
<i>Intermediate appellate courts</i>		
<i>The Law Society of New South Wales v Attorney General of New South Wales; ABC Insurance Pty Ltd v The Law Society of New South Wales</i> [2024] NSWCA 90	Insurance, interpretation – whether PII policy for solicitors in NSW requires approval of the Attorney-General under the <i>Legal Profession Uniform Law</i> .	Craig Lenehan SC and Sean Baron Levi; instructed by Meridian Lawyers for ABC Insurance Pty Ltd.
<i>Mohareb v Health Care Complaints Commission</i> [2024] NSWCA 79	Administrative – Leave to appeal from summary dismissal of summons for judicial review.	James Emmett SC; instructed by the respondent Health Care Complaints Commission.
<i>Vamadevan v The King</i> [2024] NSWCCA 223	Criminal procedure – intensive correction orders – whether s 16A of the <i>Crimes Act 1914</i> (Cth) or s 66 of the <i>Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999</i> (NSW) applies.	Thomas Woods; instructed by Hope Lawyers for the applicant.
<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Macleod</i> [2024] FCAFC 174	Waiver of privilege – voluntary disclosure to regulator of privileged material.	Jeremy Giles SC and Sebastian Hartford Davis; instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright for the first respondent.

<i>Case name and court</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Leading counsel and instructing solicitors</i>
First instance		
<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Noumi Limited</i> (Federal Court, NSD 163/2023)	Regulatory – Proceedings for alleged breaches of disclosure obligations under the <i>Corporations Act</i> .	Jeremy Giles SC and Sebastian Hartford Davis; instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright for the second respondent.
<i>Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Noumi Ltd</i> [2024] FCA 329; [2024] FCA 495	Evidence – Interlocutory application brought by the first respondent for relief on grounds of legal professional privilege.	Sebastian Hartford Davis; instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright for the second respondent, opposing the application.
<i>Lidgett v Downer EDI Limited & Anor</i> (Supreme Court of Victoria, S ECI 2023 01835)	Class actions – Proceedings arising from a third party notice involving allegations of negligence and misleading or deceptive conduct against respondent auditor.	Perry Herzfeld SC and Julia Roy; instructed by Allens for the respondent KPMG.
<i>Hong Chu & Anor v Louise Carol Lin & Ors</i> (Federal Court, NSD 32/2022) <i>Chu v Lin</i> [2024] FCA 611; <i>Chu v Lin, Gold Stone Capital Pty Ltd</i> [2024] FCA 766	Equity, trusts, corporations, limitations – Proceedings for breach of trust, breach of directors’ duties, misappropriation, misleading or deceptive conduct. Application for stay.	Thomas Bagley; instructed by SHL & Associates for the first defendant. David Sulan SC; instructed by SHL & Associates for the applicant.
<i>Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre v The Star Pty Limited ACN 060 510 410 & Anor</i> (Federal Court, NSD 1025/2022)	Case Management Hearings – Whether orders should be made for joint final hearing; Scope of issues in dispute.	Nicholas Bender SC and Emma Bathurst; Steven Finch SC and Emma Bathurst. Instructed by Allens for the respondents.
<i>In the matter of Ansarada Group Limited ACN 602 586 407</i> (Supreme Court of New South Wales, 2024/00114209)	Corporations – Scheme of arrangement.	David Sulan SC; instructed by Allens for the bidder.
<i>Mohareb v Health Care Complaints Commission</i> (Supreme Court of New South Wales, 2024/00253504)	Judicial review of administrative decision.	Kate Richardson SC; instructed by the respondent Health Care Complaints Commission.
<i>In the matter of the estate of Ali Salim Sultan</i> (Supreme Court of Tasmania, No. 3566 of 2023)	Contract – Enforcement of heads of agreement.	Noel Hutley SC and Sebastian Hartford Davis; instructed by Webb Henderson for the first, second and third defendants.

<i>Case name and court</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Leading counsel and instructing solicitors</i>
<i>Namdar v Kolodynski & Ors</i> (District Court, 2024/00164468)	Property – Proceedings for breach of contract, negligence and misleading or deceptive conduct in connection with contract for sale of land.	James Emmett SC; instructed by Lehman Walsh Lawyers for the plaintiff.
<i>Prapas and Ors v Karageorge</i> (Local Court, 2023/00461702)	Procedure – Application to set aside default judgment.	Unled; instructed by Beswick Lynch Lawyers for the applicants.

OPINIONS

Opinions with senior counsel on questions concerning constitutional law, taxation law, employment law, anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing legislation, gambling regulations, government contracts, prospects of seeking judicial review, prospects of succeeding in application for special leave.

PUBLICATIONS

Lawfulness as an ‘inherent requirement’ *Laundy Hotels (Quarry) Pty Ltd v Dyco Hotels Pty Ltd* [2023] HCA 9, *Bar News* Winter 2023.

An accident waiting to happen: Questioning the relevance of the equitable doctrine of accident (2018) 46 *Aust Bar Rev* 126.