

# CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTONE

YEAR OF CALL: 2007

Christopher has a broad commercial practice in State and Federal Courts, with a particular focus in the areas of insolvency, equity, trade practices and intellectual property.

He has expertise in sports law and has advised athletes and ASADA in respect of anti-doping matters and has appeared for ASADA in the Court of Arbitration for Sport. He has also assisted Australian athletes in appeals against selection for Commonwealth Games and Olympic teams, and has appeared in various tribunals in respect of disciplinary matters.

Christopher previously worked as a solicitor with Malleson Stephen Jaques and Clayton Utz in Sydney and with Clifford Chance LLP in London and the Middle East. Since 2015, he has appeared each year in Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession where he has been described as a preeminent, leading or recommended junior in commercial litigation & dispute resolution and insolvency & restructuring. He was nominated as a preferred counsel by Chambers Global during his employment with Clifford Chance in the Middle East.

He is also an Officer in the RAAF and appears in military tribunals (including courts-martial) and inquiries.

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

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Appellate, Banking, Commercial Equity, Competition & Consumer, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Corporations, Insurance, Intellectual Property, Land Law & Property, Professional Discipline & Regulatory, Professional Negligence, Shipping, Sport.

## CASES

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### ***Sentinel Citilink Pty Ltd v PS Citilink Pty Ltd [2018] QSC 239***

October 2018, Land Law & Property, Contract

### ***Guo v Austree Enterprise Pty Ltd [2018] SBCA 1***

August 2018, Appellate, Commercial Equity, Contract, International

LEVEL

TWENTY  
SEVEN

CHAMBERS



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***Anderson v Bourke; Myrteza v North Burleigh Pty Ltd***[2018] QSC 126  
May 2018, Land Law & Property

***Access Group International Ltd v Dreamfield Pty Ltd***[2017] QSC 276  
November 2017, Commercial Equity, Contract

***Zhou v Gou*** [2017] SBHC 1  
May 2017, Commercial Equity, Contract, International

***Westpac Banking Corporation v Zilzie Pty Ltd***[2016] QSC 238  
October 2016, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Corporations

***Schoch v Palmer*** [2016] QSC 147  
June 2016, Media & Defamation

***Robson v The White Ant Co Pty Ltd***[2016] HCASL 76  
April 2016, Appellate, Contract

***Infa-Secure Pty Ltd v Crocker (No.2)***[2016] FCA 202  
March 2016, Appellate, Corporations, Competition & Consumer

***The White Ant Co Pty Ltd v Robson*** [2015] NSWCA 345  
November 2015, Appellate, Contract

***Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority, on behalf of Australian Canoeing and the Australian Sports Commission v Tate Smith*** CAS 2015/A/1  
October 2015, Professional Discipline & Regulatory, Sport

***Canehire Pty Ltd v Themis Holdings Pty Ltd***[2014] QCA 296  
November 2014, Commercial Equity, Appellate

***Black Diamond Group Pty Ltd v Manor of Maluka Pty Ltd***[2014] QSC 219  
September 2014, Land Law & Property

***Bank of Queensland Limited v Pascoe***[2014] FCCA 1394  
July 2014, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Appellate

***Themis Holdings Pty Ltd v Canehire Pty Ltd & Anor***[2014] QSC 238  
March 2014, Commercial Equity

***Perrin v Williams*** (2014) 284 FLR 390; [2014] QSC 021  
February 2014, Corporations

***Shaft Drillers International LLC v Australian Shaft Drilling P/L***[2013] QSC 79  
March 2013

***Erol v Cavus*** [2012] QSC 371

November 2012, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

***Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Starpicket Pty Ltd***[2012] FCA 1196

October 2012, Appellate, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

***Plastec Australia Pty Ltd v Plumbing Solutions Pty Ltd (No. 2)***[2012] FCA 730

July 2012

***Williams (as liquidator of Willahra Pty Ltd (in liq)) v Kim Management Pty Ltd***[2012] QSC 143

June 2012, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

***Kotku Bread Pty Ltd v Vero Insurance Ltd***[2012] QSC 109

April 2012, Insurance

***Campbell v Bank of Queensland***[2011] QSC 122

May 2011, Banking

## EXPERIENCE

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In addition to the cases referred to above, Christopher has advised on various corporate restructures including court approved Schemes of Arrangement and Deeds of Company Arrangement. He also provides specialist corporate advice to a number of listed entities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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### **Australian Financial Review's Best Lawyers**

- 2018-2020 – Listed for Insolvency & Reorganisation

### **Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession**

#### *Insolvency & Restructuring*

- 2018 – 'Leading' junior (Queensland)
- 2017 – 'Recommended' junior (Queensland)
- 2016 – 'Leading' junior (Queensland)
- 2016 – 'Recommended' junior (National)
- 2015 – 'Leading' junior (Queensland)
- 2015 – 'Recommended' junior (National)

#### *Commercial litigation & Disputes*

- 2018 – 'Leading' junior (Queensland)
- 2017 – 'Recommended' junior (Queensland)

- 2016 – ‘Recommended’ junior (Queensland)
- 2015 – ‘Recommended’ junior (National)
- 2015 – ‘Preeminent’ junior (Queensland)

## **APPOINTMENTS**

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Officer in the RAAF

## **MEMBER**

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Australian Bar Association

Queensland Bar Association

Australia and New Zealand Sports Law Association

Australia and New Zealand Banking Law Association

## **CAREER**

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During his university studies, Christopher was employed as the associate to de Jersey J (as his Excellency the Governor then was) and Derrington J in the Supreme Court of Queensland, and Dowsett J in the Federal Court of Australia.

## **EDUCATION**

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Degree in Law and History from the University of Queensland.

Degree in Military Law from the Australian National University.

*Liability limited by a scheme approved under professional standards legislation*