

CLAIRE SCHNEIDER

YEAR OF CALL: 2015

Claire has a civil and commercial practice, with particular expertise in the areas of construction & infrastructure, competition & consumer law, financial services regulation, corporations law, commercial property, and banking & insolvency. She has appeared led and unled in both state and federal jurisdictions at trial and appellate level. In 2018, Claire was briefed to appear with Counsel Assisting the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry.

Claire has been recognised by Australasian Lawyer as one of the 50 Rising Stars of the legal profession and is listed in the Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession as a Leading Construction & Infrastructure and Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Junior Counsel. She is also one of only eight junior barristers in Australia listed in the Chambers & Partners Asia Pacific guide as a leading junior for Construction & Infrastructure and ranked in Band 2 for Construction by The Legal 500 Asia Pacific. Claire is a member of the Law Council of Australia's Competition & Consumer Committee.

She has been a director and board member of companies, charitable associations and community groups, including the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation, the Multicultural Development Association Inc (Now "MDA Ltd"), Brigidine College Indooroopilly, and the Mater Foundation's Community Fundraising Committee.

Before being called to the Bar, Claire worked as a Senior Associate in the commercial litigation group of a global firm. Prior to that, she was the Associate to Justice Patrick Keane in the Queensland Court of Appeal.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Banking, Building & Construction, Commercial Equity, Competition & Consumer, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Corporations, Inquiries & Coronial Inquests, Land Law & Property, Planning & Environment, Professional Discipline & Regulatory, Resources & Energy.

CASES

LEVEL

TWENTY
SEVEN

CHAMBERS



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Compass Marinas Australia Pty Ltd v The State of Queensland; The State of Queensland v Compass Marinas Australia Pty Ltd & Anor [2020] QSC 375

December 2020, Contract

Santos Limited v Fluor Australia Pty Ltd & Anor (No 1) [2020] QSC 372

December 2020, Contract

Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (No 3) [2020] FCA 1421

October 2020, Competition & Consumer

Goldsmith & another v AMP Life Ltd [2020] QDC 140

June 2020, Contract

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission v Productivity Partners Pty Ltd (trading as Captain Cook College) (No 2) [2020] FCA 863

June 2020, Competition & Consumer

McConnell Dowell Constructors (Aust) Pty Ltd v Cardno (Qld) Pty Ltd & Anor [2019] QSC 320

December 2019, Building & Construction

Australian Securities and Investments Commission v Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited [2019] FCA 1284

August 2019, Competition & Consumer

Oakland Investment Group Limited v Sino-Resource Imp & Exp Co Ltd [2019] QCA 92

May 2019, Appellate, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Land Law & Property

Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation, and Financial Service Industry

February 2019, Banking, Competition & Consumer, Inquiries & Coronial Inquests, Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Santos Limited v BNP Paribas [2019] QCA 11

February 2019, Banking, Contract, Building & Construction

Cavalry Investments Pty Ltd v Minister for Revenue and Financial Services [2018] AATA 3433

September 2018, Competition & Consumer, Corporations, Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Securicom (NSW) Pty Ltd v Charter Pacific Corporation Ltd [2018] QSC 109

May 2018, Contract, Corporations

Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry

April 2018, Banking, Inquiries & Coronial Inquests

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission v Cement Australia Pty Ltd [2017] FCAFC 159

October 2017, Appellate, Competition & Consumer

***Santos Ltd v Fluor Australia Pty Ltd* [2017] QSC 153**

July 2017, Building & Construction, Resources & Energy

EXPERIENCE

Recent experience includes:

- › Appearing with Senior Counsel Assisting the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry
- › Appearing unled in the Supreme Court of Queensland for a national investment company in successfully opposing an application to set aside a statutory demand
- › Acting for Santos Limited in an application to the Supreme Court of Queensland seeking access to the financial records of a contractor under an EPC contract
- › Acting for the ACCC in an appeal to the Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia against penalties in relation to anti-competitive arrangements
- › Acting for Santos Limited in a claim brought in the Supreme Court of Queensland for repayment under an EPC Contract of amounts in excess of \$1 billion
- › Acting for a national commercial property lessor in an appeal brought in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal – Appeals
- › Advising a national property development company in relation to the validity of conditions imposed under certain works permits
- › Advising on breaches of the Australian Consumer Law and the availability, scope and quantum of loss of opportunity damages which might be claimed in response to the breach
- › Advising on various disputes arising between the parties to an alliance agreement entered into in relation to a major infrastructure project
- › Acting for lenders in enforcement proceedings against mortgagors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Australian Financial Review *Best Lawyers*®

2021-22 – Listed for Competition Law and Construction & Infrastructure Law

2020 – Listed for Competition Law

Chambers & Partners Asia Pacific

2021 – Construction & Infrastructure – *“incredibly gifted and in very high demand”.*

2020 – Construction & Infrastructure – *“very pragmatic and commercial, and she’s very thoughtful and generally very sensible”* and *“capacity to absorb all kinds of major information is very good. She has that judgement of what’s likely to work even though all the evidence isn’t there, and then the ability to tailor it as things go off.”*

Chambers & Partners Global

2021 – Construction & Infrastructure

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific

2021 – *“...a very diligent junior counsel with excellent strategic judgment and advocacy skills”.*

Doyle’s Guide to the Australian Legal Profession 2021– Leading Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Junior Counsel (QLD).

Doyle’s Guide to the Australian Legal Profession 2019-21– Leading Construction & Infrastructure and Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Junior Counsel (Qld), Recommended Construction & Infrastructure Junior Counsel (Aus).

Doyle’s Guide to the Australian Legal Profession 2018– Recommended Construction & Infrastructure Junior Counsel (Qld)

Doyle’s Guide to the Australian Legal Profession 2017– Emerging Construction & Infrastructure Junior Counsel (Qld)

APPOINTMENTS

2017 Member of the Law Council of Australia’s Competition and Consumer Committee

2015-present Member, Board of Advice of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation

2014–present Member, Mater Foundation Community Fundraising Committee

2014–2016 Director, Brigidine College Indooroopilly Limited

2009–2012 Member and Secretary to the Board of Management, Multicultural Development Association Inc (now MDA Ltd)

2007–2009 Vice President, Board of the Society of St Vincent de Paul Queensland

MEMBER

Bar Association of Queensland

Women Lawyers Association of Queensland

LawRight

CAREER

July 2013–April 2015 Senior Associate, Litigation, Norton Rose Fulbright Australia

August 2010–July 2013 Associate, Litigation, Norton Rose Fulbright Australia

January 2009–July 2010 Lawyer, Litigation, Mallesons Stephen Jaques (now King & Wood Mallesons)

January 2008–December 2008 Associate to the Hon Justice Patrick Keane, Queensland Court of Appeal

December 2008 Admitted as a legal practitioner, Supreme Court of Queensland

EDUCATION

2001–2007 Bachelor of Laws (Hons IIA), University of Queensland

2001–2007 Bachelor of Arts (Political Science), University of Queensland

2004 Australian National Internships Program (Hons), Australian National University

AWARDS

2014 Women in Law Awards – Finalist, National Pro Bono Award

2014 Australasian Lawyer 50 Rising Stars Award

2013 Lawyers Weekly Top 30 Lawyers under 30 – Winner, “Dispute Resolution” Award

PUBLICATIONS

Commissions of Inquiries and Coronial Inquests - perspectives from the bench and each side of the Bar Table

July 2020, Inquiries & Coronial Inquests

Can my contract be varied by what happens on site or how claims are treated?

August 2019, Building & Construction, Contract

Raising the bar for businesses: the ACL's reach in business negotiations and brand protection

October 2018, Competition & Consumer, Corporations, Contract

2017 Construction Law Wrap Up

November 2017, Building & Construction

Catastrophic Failures in Construction

June 2017, Building & Construction

Interpreting Contracts of Insurance

September 2012, Insurance

Liability limited by a scheme approved under professional standards legislation