

DESPINA CHRISTOFIS

Curriculum Vitae

Chambers

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Year of Admission

2007 Called to the Bar

2004 Admitted to the High Court of Australia

1999 Admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW

Education

1999 Diploma in Law, University of Sydney (LPAB)

1999 Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, The College of Law

Areas of Law

Succession

Family Provision

Wills and Probate

Equity

Awards

2017 Recommended Junior Counsel in the area of Wills & Estates Litigation in Doyle's Guide.

Selected Superior Court Cases

A list of some of the cases Despina has appeared include:

P v NSW Trustee and Guardian [2015] NSWSC 579 (protected person)

P v NSW Trustee and Guardian (No.2) [2015] NSWSC 676 (Costs)

Lucantonio v Kleinert & Ors [2011] NSWSC 753 (professional negligence)

Murakami v Wiryadi & Ors [2010] NSWCA 7 (private international law)

Lucantonio v Kleinert [2009] NSWSC 929 (expert evidence)

Lucantonio v Kleinert [2009] NSWSC 1277 (application by plaintiff to reopen case after judgment reserved)

Lucantonio v Kleinert [2009] NSWSC 853 (expert evidence)

Soo v Fisher Cartwright Berriman [2009] NSWSC 665 (professional negligence)

Bevilacqua v Robinson [2008] NSWSC 463 (family provision)

Ludwig v The Public Trustee [2008] NSWCA 115 (beneficiary claim of negligence in administration of deceased estate)

Public Trustee v Alexander - Estate of Alexander [2008] NSWSC 1272 (succession, informal will)

Jowett v Kelly [2008] NSWSC 1009 (succession, family provision)

Publications/Seminars

2017 *Family Provision Claims – Commencing claims* – Presented paper at Novotel Wollongong to Wollongong solicitors on 7 September 2017

2017 *Succession Law* – Chairing seminar for University of NSW on 8 August 2017

2017 *Report from the frontline – giving practical tips for managing matters in the Family Provision List* – Presented paper for NSW Bar Association on 30 March 2017

2016 *Mediation of a Family Provision Claim* – Presenting paper at The New South Wales State Legal Conference on 22 March 2016

LexisNexis

2008 - 2010 *Halsbury's Laws of Australia* loose leaf titles:

- Practice and Procedure
- Costs
- Perpetuities
- Weights and Measures

2007 – 2008 *CaseBase* Digesting

Previous relevant experience prior to coming to the Bar

Henry Davis York Lawyers

This position included working on mortgagee real property contracts, under power of sale, for clients such as Westpac Banking Corporation, National Australia Bank and Perpetual Trustees Australia Limited.

Gadens Lawyers

This position included working on large property developments, in particular, preparing complex off the plan, real property contracts, for multiple developments in New South Wales (for clients such as Winten Property Group and Beckrose Pty Limited) and banking and finance.

LexisNexis - Legal Publishing Editor for *Halsbury's Laws of Australia*

The primary responsibilities of the role include author and/or supplier management, control and development of content in line with customer needs, keeping aware of and ahead of competitor publications, conducting an annual produce review to assess the performance of *Halsbury's Laws of Australia*, building knowledge of the market and assisting subscribers with queries, as required.

This position also included, Editorial, Project Management, Relationship Management, Product Development and Process Improvement.

Memberships

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| 2007 – current | Member of the NSW Bar Association |
| 2005 – 2006 | Inner West Law Society Committee Member |
| 2004 – 2005 | NSW Young Lawyers Civil Litigation Committee |