



## **RECENT PRACTICE**

### **Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions**

*Senior Federal Prosecutor, Commercial, Financial and Corruption Group.*

My practice included:

- Carriage of numerous large ASIC matters involving Corporations Act offences (including s 184, 1041E, 1041G), State fraud offences (s 192E NSW Crimes Act), ASIC Act (s 12DB) and the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 (s 101), covering a range of matters including dishonest use of directors positions and corporate collapses
- Carriage of a large ATO conspiracy matter involving a complex BAS fraud (s135.4(3) Criminal Code (Cth))
- Complex advice work relating to commercial corporate liability

### *Organised Crime and Counter Terrorism Group*

My practice included:

- Instructing Patricia McDonald SC and Sam Duggan in a counter-terrorism jury trial in the Supreme Court of NSW, and on sentence after a guilty verdict
- Assessment of numerous briefs of evidence across a range of crime types to the criminal standard of proof, including complex drug matters

As a Federal Prosecutor, I have gained significant advocacy experience. For example, I have appeared in a successfully contested bail application, which included arguments concerning the validity of arrest warrants, interstate extradition and state/Cth jurisdictional matters. I have also appeared in a sentencing matter arising from an alleged assault on a Commonwealth officer, in relation to which I was successfully able to negotiate a guilty plea on the same day. I also routinely appear in mentions in the Local Court and District Court.

### **Gilbert + Tobin**

#### **Senior Lawyer, Litigation and Dispute Resolution**

My experience includes in acting on four Royal Commissions of Inquiry, assisting both the Commission (in the Northern Territory Royal Commission into Child Detention) and also acting for clients who were investigated by Royal Commissions (the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption and the Banking Royal Commission).

#### *Publications*

2015, Thomson Reuters: Corporate crime, fraud and investigations in Australia - A Q&A guide to corporate crime, fraud and investigations in Australia; co-authored with Stephanie Wee (Gilbert + Tobin)

### **Key achievements**

#### **Senior Lawyer, Acting for Westpac in the Banking Royal Commission**

- acting for Westpac in relation to the Commission's investigations into consumer lending practices
- acting for BT in relation to the provision of financial advice and the conduct of specific financial planners
- these roles involved the analysis of large amounts of documentary evidence, conferencing witnesses, and preparing submissions

**Senior Lawyer, Assisting the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department and the Office of the Royal Commission to conduct the public inquiry into the alleged mistreatment of children at youth detention centres in the Northern Territory**

- I participated in planning the execution of large scale public hearings to extremely short timeframes, which included:
  - planning and executing processes around the collection and analysis of documentary evidence (including evidence from law enforcement agencies);
  - the collection and analysis of witness evidence (including from individuals in detention, government and law enforcement employees);
  - deciding how to use that information in the Commission's hearings (including assisting counsel in preparing cross-examination questions); and
  - a major role in preparing the Commission's final report.
- I developed productive working relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders, including working collaboratively with Australian Government Solicitor employees, Counsel Assisting, Indigenous community representatives, and external government bodies.
- in dealing with a range of stakeholders, I developed and tailored my communication and negotiation skills to effectively deal with a diverse range of individuals, including vulnerable witnesses from remote communities and witnesses in custody, legal communities, and government employees.

**Acting for the Catholic Church in Australia relation to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

- my work in relation to the Catholic Church involved almost three years of full-time work, specialising in the analysis of the knowledge and response of senior members of the Catholic Church to allegations of child sexual abuse.
- I developed significant expertise in interviewing a large number of witnesses, in relation to a range of investigations in various states in Australia. In particular, this involved negotiating and communicating effectively with a range of senior leaders in the Catholic Church.
- I was involved in numerous public hearings as part of the team representing the Catholic Church (including case studies in Adelaide, Melbourne and the Australian Capital Territory).
- I was involved in the drafting of hundreds of pages of submissions in response to the Commission's reports in relation to various case studies.

**Administrative law experience**

I have a comprehensive working knowledge of the legal framework of Royal Commissions and their legal constraints as an administrative decision making body. I have advised on a range of matters relating to this legal framework, including numerous advices in relation to the scope of the Commission's powers in terms of document compulsion and conducting hearings.

**King & Wood Malleons**

**Lawyer, Litigation and Dispute Resolution**

In my role as a lawyer in the Litigation Group of King & Wood Malleons, my role involved primarily working on a large scale class action acting for PricewaterhouseCoopers. I also assisted corporate clients who were subject to investigations by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

**Key achievements**

- Extensive involvement in the Centro Properties Group litigation in the Federal Court of Australia (acting for PricewaterhouseCoopers, 2009 to 2012)
- this case involved the forensic review of a large amount of financial information, and required close scrutiny of accounting methodology and practices.

**Acting for commercial clients summoned for liquidators' examinations under the Australian Corporations Act**

- in this role, I managed the review of a large amount of documentary evidence, instructed and briefed counsel, prepared witnesses for examinations, advised on privilege issues, and attended liquidators' examinations as instructing solicitor.

**Acting for commercial clients in relation to financial investigations by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission**

- this role involved advising clients in relation to the production of documents under compulsion by the regulator
- it also involved providing strategic and legal advice in relation to investigations, and advising clients in relation to their obligations in respect of the market manipulation provisions in Part 7.10 of the Corporations Act and the consumer protection provisions of the ASIC Act.