



SYMPOSIUM

Program – Property Law

59 mins **Electronic Real Property Transactions: Tips and traps from life in the Matrix**

In the rapidly evolving digital landscape of Queensland's property law (much like navigating the simulated reality of The Matrix) today's practitioners must master the art of electronic transactions to avoid glitches that could kill transactions.

This presentation delves into the intricacies of electronic contracts, communications, and signatures, in real property dealings, drawing on recent developments to offer actionable tips and highlight potential traps that could leave parties (and practitioners) exposed.

Presenter: Joshua Fox, Founder & Director, Foxlaw Pty Ltd

Chair: Cheryl Dixon, Executive Account Manager, PEXA

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61 mins **Property Law Act 2023 in Practice - 6 Months On**

This panel session will review the Property Law Act 2023 and its practical impact. Queensland's leading property practitioners will examine key changes in conveyancing practice and procedure, industry approaches to preparing disclosure statements, and the extent to which buyer's practitioners can rely on prescribed certificates attached to Seller Disclosure Statements. The discussion will also cover updates to precedent contracts, options, and leases arising from the Act.

Presenters:

Billy Dent, National Sales Director, First Title

Warren Denny, Partner, Piper Alderman, Accredited Specialist (Property Law) - Qld

Peter Nugent, Partner, Piper Alderman

Chair: **Despina Priala**, Director and Legal Practitioner, Priala Legal





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Presenters



Warren Denny

Warren has over 30 years' experience advising clients on a wide variety of real estate transactions.

Warren is highly skilled in the preparation and negotiation of all common real estate transactions, including leasing, acquisition and sales. Warren's capability also extends to more complex transactions such as off the plan developments including volumetric title and stage developments, development and fund through agreements, put and call options, acquisition and sale of property subject to leases, the acquisition of development sites and large commercial property transactions.

Warren acts for clients across all sectors of real estate, including property development, real estate investment trusts, the fund management industry, air and seaports, and particular service industries such as the dental industry and management rights.

Warren is a Queensland Law Society accredited specialist in Property Law and for many years has been recognised by Best Lawyers in Australia in Real Property and Leasing Law.



Billy Dent

Billy Dent has expertise in commercial property transactions, financial solutions, deal structuring and insurance.

He currently leads the commercial property department for First Title, a global specialist title insurance company. First Title specialise in risk mitigation, deal facilitation and protection for institutional and private property purchasers and major bank and non-bank lenders.

Title Insurance is commonly ordered by lawyers on behalf of their clients and is available for residential or commercial transactions and provides cover for purchasers under the new seller disclosure regime.



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Cheryl Dixon

Cheryl Dixon GAICD is an Executive Account Manager at Property Exchange Australia (PEXA) and an experienced transformational change leader with over 20 years' experience across financial services, property, legal and not-for-profit sectors. She has led large-scale digital and organisational transformation initiatives, working closely with law firms, financial institutions and industry bodies to deliver sustainable, customer-centric outcomes.

Cheryl brings deep expertise in strategy, governance, stakeholder engagement and operational excellence. She is also a Professional Coach accredited through the Australian Institute of Professional Coaching, and is known for translating complex change into practical, executable outcomes. Alongside her executive role, Cheryl serves as a board member for sporting and community organisations and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Joshua Fox

Josh Fox is the founder, Sole Director, and Solicitor at Foxlaw, a Queensland-based law firm focused on property law, business law, estate planning and estate administration.

With degrees in Law (including a Master of Laws) and Commerce from the University, Josh has also completed two semesters of study abroad, one at the University of British Columbia in Canada and one at the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

A passionate speaker and problem-solver, Josh infuses optimism and empathy into discussions on law, business, innovation, travel, psychology, personal development, life, and the future.

His adventures include summiting Mount Kilimanjaro and reaching Everest Base Camp as part of his '100 Things' List.

Josh is currently a Committee Member of the Queensland Association of Collaborative Practitioners and also sits on the PEXA's QLD Advisory Council.



Peter Nugent

Peter has over 30 years of experience in all aspects of commercial property practice, including residential and commercial property sales and purchases, drafting contracts for and managing bulk conveyancing for property developers, complicated property projects and major mixed-use developments.

Peter also has considerable experience with development and joint venture agreements, financing structures and planning advice.



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Despina Priala

Despina Priala has been practising property law in Queensland for over 31 years. She graduated from Bond University in 1989 and in 1994 Despina was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court in Qld. She is also admitted to the High Court of Australia.

Despina began her career as a lawyer at the Gold Coast's largest law firm in the early 90s, where she worked with leading Qld property players of that era; she then progressed to the position of in-house counsel for the Sunland Group in the early 2000s, during their golden era when they developed Palazzo Versace and Q1 on the Gold Coast.

In 2007 Despina established Priala Legal, a boutique property law firm on the Gold Coast.

In 2021 Despina was recognised as reaching the milestone achievement of 25 years of membership with the QLD Law Society.

In 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2021 Despina became a finalist in the National Lawyers Weekly Annual Awards for Sole Practitioner of the Year.

In 2022 Despina was invited to join the Qld Law Society's Property and Development Law Committee, an honorary role advising on law reform in Qld which she proudly still holds today.

Despina is also a member of the Southport Chamber of Commerce and the Gold Coast District Law Association.

Despina is a regular presenter at various law events and functions.