

FAMILY AND CRIMINAL LAW CONFERENCE

Program

OPENING PLENARY

61 min **Perspectives from the Bench: coercive control in the FCFCOA**

Her Honour provides her insights into judicial decision-making around coercive control. This session will consider the Court's approach to coercive control, the friction points between legislation and evidence, and how to navigate sensitive and contentious issues. We consider the pivotal role that practitioners place in shaping the lives of families and children whilst adhering to the law.

Presenter: **Her Honour Judge Samantha Murdoch**, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2)

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Professional Development Solicitor, Queensland Law Society



56 min **Ethics update: new Anti-Money Laundering provisions and client communication**

In this session our CEO will speak to the new anti-money laundering provisions that all practitioners should be aware of. Our ethics team will then unpack issues around client communication. You will consider what to do when you suspect your client may be lying and where the exceptions to confidentiality lie when it comes to threats of harm.

Presenters:

Matt Dunn, CEO, Queensland Law Society

Shane Budden, Special Counsel, QLS Ethics and Practice Centre, Queensland Law Society



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CRIMINAL LAW

61 min **Sexual violence case management**

This session will take you through Practice Direction No 3 of 2024 and provide detailed practical information about the new Sexual Violence Case Management Pilot and the recommended guideline practices for all sexual violence offence proceedings, which are designed to reduce delay, increase court event certainty and reduce re-traumatisation of complainant witnesses, whilst maintaining the right to a fair trial for the accused.

Presenter: **Julie Sarkozi**, Principal Policy Officer, Sexual Violence Case Reform, Department of Justice and the Attorney-General

Chair: **Emma Higgins**, Legal Director, Robertson O’Gorman; Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld



40 min **Case update: Criminal Law**

We provide a timely update on some of the latest and most relevant authorities for your practice.

Presenters:

Laura Dawson, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Callan Lloyd, Director, Gilshenan & Luton; Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld

Chair: **Kirstie Smith**, Lawyer, and Lecturer at Law, University of Southern Queensland; Member, Queensland Law Society Future Leaders Committee



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59 min **Community safety & youth justice**

As the government rolls out changes to the way young people are dealt with by the criminal justice system, we examine our role as practitioners and how we can best support the community.

Presenters:

Damian Bartholomew, Solicitor, Youth Advocacy Centre; Chair, Queensland Law Society Children's Law Committee

Anna Cappellano, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Peta Dent, Principal Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland

Chair: **Danielle Iliffe**, Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland; Deputy Chair, Queensland Law Society Children's Law Committee



58 min **The good, the bad and the ugly**

Collaborative practice can be hard when distinct and contrasting approaches between solicitors and counsel arise, subsequently causing friction. Despite solicitors and counsel having the common goal of achieving the best outcome for the client in the circumstances, we know that issues can arise.

This session brings together different perspectives on the solicitor and counsel relationship and looks at how we can leverage differences to solidify outcomes for clients. You will learn the keys to the success of your good intentions, how to manage the bad challenges, and how to avoid the ugly conflicts that could derail progress for your client.

Presenters:

Andrew Hoare KC, Barrister, Queensland Bar

India Brady, Solicitor, Bamberry Lawyers

Gavin Webber, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **Joe Wicking**, Senior Associate, Potts Lawyers; Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society Criminal Law Committee



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59 min **Coercive control**

Our accredited specialist addresses the new coercive control offence and the outcomes it may have for clients.

Presenter: **Kristy Bell**, Director, Bell Criminal Lawyers; Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society Criminal Law Committee

Chair: **Callan Lloyd**, Director, Gilshenan & Luton; Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld



DOMESTIC FAMILY VIOLENCE

61 min **Criminal Law for family practitioners**

Our criminal and family law specialists consider the implications of domestic family violence proceedings in criminal, civil, and family proceedings.

Presenter: **Emily O'Hagan**, Partner, Wallace O'Hagan Lawyers; Member, Queensland Law Society Domestic and Family Violence Committee

Chair: **Allison Caputo**, Head of Dispute Resolution, Michael Lynch Family Lawyers; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld



51 min **Communication with clients in domestic family violence matters**

Being fearless is often a trait prescribed with being a great lawyer. So how do we continue to be fearless when those clients are paying our fees?

Consider the role that you play in a shifting landscape in this interactive session aimed at practitioners who work with perpetrators and victims of domestic family violence.

Presenters:

Rachel Tierney, Senior Associate, Gilshenan & Luton

Dr Linh Cheung, Clinical Director, Medsana Medical Clinic; Senior Lecturer, University of Queensland (Academic Title Holder)

Chair: **Zoe Adams**, Director, Zoe Adams Family Law; Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee



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59 min **FCFCOA essentials – your questions answered**

We are joined by Senior Judicial Registrar Rice from the FCFCOA, who will consider the difficult parts of the case management pathways and how to effectively navigate through all of the processes and procedures.

Presenter: **Senior Judicial Registrar Anne-Marie Rice**, Executive Director National Registrar Operations and Practice, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

Chair: **Zoe Adams**, Director, Zoe Adams Family Law; Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee



45 min **Controlling information**

Knowledge is power and in cases where power dynamics are prevalent, the flow of that information can be crucial in a survivor's safety.

We look at sensitive information in this session and how you can assist your clients in ensuring they have access to what they need for their matters.

Presenter: **Sarah-Jane MacDonald**, Legal Practitioner Director, MacDonald Law; Councillor, Queensland Law Society; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld

Chair: **Trent Waller**, Waller Family Law; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld



55 min **Magistrate matters: advocacy in domestic violence courts**

We sit down with our specialist domestic family violence magistrates to address effective advocacy in their courtrooms.

You will hear perspectives from the Court, and ways that you can ensure that you are assisting the Bench in the most efficient way possible.

Presenter: **Magistrate Cameron McKenzie**, Magistrates Court of Queensland

Chair: **Emma Kearney**, Associate, Bell Criminal Lawyers; Member, Queensland Law Society Future Leaders Committee



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FAMILY LAW

58 min **Keeping up with financial statements**

You're doing amazing sweetie, but there's nothing wrong with a refresher! We will consider the key tax and financial terms that could make or break your matters. We're here to spill the tea on everything you need to know about your clients' assets and tax obligations.

Presenter: **Julie O'Reilly**, Partner, Business Advisory, William Buck

Chair: **Wendy Miller**, Special Counsel, Damien Greer Lawyers, Senior Counsellor, Queensland Law Society; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee

Chaired by Major Partner William Buck



51 min **Doing disclosure justice – uncovering hidden mines and increasing the pie**

This session explores strategies to employ when acting for a client in a financial matter, including reading and interpreting disclosure, to uncover hidden mines before you step on them, to improve the outcome for your client and to minimise harm to your clients as they engage with the family law system.

Presenters:

Courtney Barton, Legal Practice Director, Barton Family Lawyers; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld

David Young, Director, Azimuth Partners

Chair: **Monica Busine**, Financial Advisor, William Buck

Chaired by Major Partner William Buck



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52 min **Case update: Family Law**

With plenty of new amendments to the legislation, we take a look at some of the most recent authorities from the FCFCOA.

Presenters:

Trent Waller, Waller Family Law; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld

Kayla Milana, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **Kane Anderson**, Head of Client Relationships, LEAP Family Law

Chaired by Major Partner LEAP Family Law



63 min **The art of advocacy in the FCFCOA**

The mark of a great advocate is a combination of exceptional legal knowledge, persuasive communication and strategic decision making.

Join us while we incorporate these elements into our practice so that we can truly master the art of advocacy.

Presenter: **Michael Drysdale KC**, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **The Honourable Justice Jacoba Brasch**, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 1)



61 min **Family Law amendments in context**

We consider the 6 May 2024 amendments to the Family Law Act, as well as other recent legislative changes that might impact your approach to matters.

We provide context as to why those changes have been legislated and what you could expect in the future.

Presenter: **Matt Hempstead**, Partner, Barry Nilsson; Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee

Chair: **Rachael Murray**, Partner, Mills Oakley



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Presenters



Zoe Adams

Director, Zoe Adams Family Law
Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee

Zoe Adams completed a Bachelor of Laws with Honours from Bond University and was admitted in 2006. Since admission, Zoe has practiced exclusively in family law working across Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Toowoomba and regionally in Queensland.

Zoe has been recognised in the Doyle's List as a Rising Star and subsequently as a Recommended Lawyer in Parenting Law.

As well as being a member of the QLS Family Law Committee, Zoe has volunteered at Women's Legal Services for over ten years.



Kane Anderson

Head of Client Relationships, LEAP Family Law

Kane collaborates with family law firms to ensure they are using the LEAP software to the fullest, by increasing their productivity and efficiency. His role also involves reviewing new and upcoming LEAP Integrations to ensure our clients remain at the cutting edge of legal service.

Drawing upon over six years' experience in corporate and commercial law prior to moving to LEAP, as well as a lengthy involvement in the banking and mercantile sector, Kane blends a keen interest in both results-driven legal work and economic data analysis to help drive LEAP firms' business interests towards more lucrative and efficient outcomes.

Kane enjoys helping LEAP family law firms tackle the ever-evolving challenges presented to them with a heavy emphasis on consistent back-end process improvement, and the incorporation of industry-leading profitability and software solutions to drive effective practice management, helping our clients spend more time doing the things they love about their job.



Damian Bartholomew

Solicitor, Youth Advocacy Centre
Chair, Queensland Law Society Children's Law Committee

Since 1994 Damian has been a solicitor at the Youth Advocacy Centre, a community legal and welfare centre for young people. He has been a member of the Children Services Tribunal and the Queensland Child Protection Council.

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Courtney Barton

**Legal Practice Director, Barton Family Lawyers
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld**

Courtney is a family lawyer, conflict resolution specialist and the founder of Barton Family Lawyers.

Courtney has been working in family law firms since 2008. She graduated from the Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Laws with Honours in 2009 and was admitted to the profession as a solicitor in June 2011.

For the last 14 years, Courtney has been working tirelessly to assist her clients to achieve certainty and a fresh start following separation.

Courtney has successfully supported thousands of people through their separation journey. Courtney strives to deliver the best practical outcome to each of her clients that makes a positive difference to their lives.



Kristy Bell

**Director, Bell Criminal Lawyers
Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld
Member, Queensland Law Society Criminal Law Committee**

Kristy completed a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and a Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice from Griffith University. Kristy has worked exclusively in criminal law for the last twelve years, initially in prosecutions and criminal confiscation at both a Commonwealth and State level, before moving into criminal defence.

Kristy became an accredited specialist in criminal law in 2018 and represents a broad range of clients in the Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts, and the Court of Appeal.

Kristy has been consistently recognised as one of Queensland's Leading Criminal Defence Lawyers since 2020, and was this year nominated by Doyle's Guide as a Recommended Criminal Defence Lawyer, Australia.

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India Brady

Solicitor, Bamberry Lawyers

India is an employed solicitor at Bamberry Lawyers and practices exclusively in criminal law. She was admitted to the profession in 2021 after working as a law clerk for 4 years. As such, her role on the panel is to provide a junior practitioners perspective to the struggles and success of briefing counsel.



The Honourable Justice Jacoba Brasch

Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 1)

Prior to her elevation, Justice Brasch had a national practice in family law, and a Queensland-wide practice in child protection, domestic violence matters and coronial inquests.

Currently, her Honour is a statutory appointee to the Family Law Council, a member of the AIJA Board and a presenter in AIFLAM's arbitration training course.

In 2021 her Honour was President of the Law Council of Australia, having previously served as the Inaugural Chair of the LCA's Family Violence Taskforce, and a long-time member of the Family Law Section Executive. Her Honour was also the Inaugural Chair of the Australian Bar Association's Family Law Committee and Chair of its Access to Justice Committee.

Justice Brasch completed an LLB from QUT with first class honours, and then an LLM at New York University as a Fulbright Scholar and NYU Graduate Merit Scholar. Her Honour completed a PhD at UNSW in 2010, and took Silk in 2014.

In her spare time, Justice Brasch chairs the Queensland Rugby League's Anti-Doping Tribunal and its Tribunal of Final Appeal.

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Shane Budden

Special Counsel, QLS Ethics and Practice Centre, Queensland Law Society

As a Special Counsel Ethics in the QLS Ethics and Practice Centre/QLS Solicitor Support Pty Ltd, Shane provides ethical guidance and instruction to practitioners. He contributes significantly to the QLS journal Proctor, both through his regular column and by authoring feature articles. Shane was admitted in 1992 and worked in general practice with a focus on Criminal Law, before moving to in-house work, initially with the Ipswich City Council internal legal team. Prior to joining QLS he headed up the internal legal team at the Queensland Building Construction Commission/Queensland Building Services Authority and was Chair of the QLS Government Lawyers Committee.



Monica Busine

Financial Advisor, William Buck

Monica is passionate about helping women make smart and confident financial decisions. Throughout her career and specialisation in family matters, Monica observed that a female partner in a relationship would not actively partake in consultations with a financial advisor leaving the male partner to manage their joint interests. Her aim is to empower women to proactively manage their finances. She offers strategic advice for clients considering starting a family, saving for their child's education, managing day-to-day cash flow and debt, financial planning, relationship separation, and wealth protection.



Anna Cappellano

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Anna has practised at the private Bar in Queensland since 2008. She practises in criminal law at the trial and appellant level and also appears in regulatory matters, inquiries and inquests. In 2022, Anna was one of the Counsel Assisting the Independent Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence. Anna is a member of the Bar Association's Criminal Law Committee. She is a Chair of the AFL Queensland Tribunal and also represents AFL players in hearings before the national AFLW Tribunal. Anna is a Board Member of inCommunity, a not-for-profit organisation that provides a range of services to homeless, at risk and disadvantaged members of the community.

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Allison Caputo

**Head of Dispute Resolution, Michael Lynch Family Lawyers
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld**

Allison is an Accredited Specialist in family law and Head of Mediation at Michael Lynch Family Lawyers. She has practised exclusively in family law for 19 years, including in private practice on the Gold Coast and Brisbane and was appointed a Judicial Registrar of the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia in 2023.

Allison has returned to private practice to focus on building a mediation practice and assisting private clients. She is a registered mediator with AIFLAM and served as a councillor with the Queensland Law Society from 2020 to 2023.



Dr Linh Cheung

**Clinical Director, Medsana Medical Clinic
Senior Lecturer, University of Queensland (Academic Title Holder)**

Dr Linh trained as a GP with Special Interest in Diabetes at UQ Health/Griffith University Logan Campus. She also became Scope Certified with the World Obesity program to help her patients effectively lose weight.

Dr Linh can deliver focussed psychological strategies for weight management; repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation as a technician; and facilitate the international Circle of Security Parenting Program.

Volunteering in overseas medical missions has motivated her to seek opportunities to serve similar communities in the pacific. The backdrop to this has been her Vietnamese refugee background and wishing to give back to her community and surrounds.

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Laura Dawson

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Laura holds undergraduate degrees in Law and Arts (majoring in psychology), as well as qualifications in writing and editing. Since being called to the Bar she has practised predominantly in the areas of criminal defence, plaintiff personal injury, and discrimination law. She calls 8 Petrie Terrace Chambers home, and also maintains a door tenancy at 31 Sturt Chambers in Townsville.

Prior to being called to the Bar in 2022, Laura was associate to the Honourable Justice Burns and to the Honourable Chief Justice Holmes in the Supreme Court of Queensland.

She recently appeared unled in the Court of Appeal arguing a limitation extension question under s.31 of the Limitation of Actions Act and regularly appears in criminal and civil matters in courts and tribunals throughout Queensland.



Peta Dent

Principal Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland

Peta is an Acting Principal Lawyer in the Youth team at Legal Aid Queensland. She has extensive experience in criminal law having worked in private practice and at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service prior to joining Legal Aid Queensland.

For the last six years Peta has practised almost exclusively in the Childrens Court jurisdiction. Peta is aware of the nuances of this jurisdiction and is dedicated to helping her clients and other practitioners navigate the Childrens Court.

Michael Drysdale KC

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Michael Drysdale has been a practising barrister for more than 20 years. In addition to practising in the family law jurisdiction he enjoys a wider common law practice with particular interest in common law, building and construction cases, commercial law and alternative dispute resolution.

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Matt Dunn

CEO, Queensland Law Society

Matt is the Chief Executive Officer of Queensland Law Society (QLS). Appointed in March 2024, Matt was previously General Manager – Advocacy, Guidance and Governance for QLS. Originally joining QLS in 2005, he departed to take up a national policy leadership role with the Law Council of Australia in 2014, before returning to raise his family in Brisbane.

Matt's extensive industry experience places him in the unique position of having a strong understanding and insight into the issues affecting the modern profession. An advocate for ensuring practitioners have affordable and accessible resources to build and maintain their practice, Matt is proud to be in such a position of trust to guide and enable the profession.



Rebecca Fogerty

President, Queensland Law Society Partner, Jasper Fogerty Lawyers Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld

Rebecca is the President of Queensland Law Society. She is a partner at Jasper Fogerty Lawyers and practises exclusively in criminal defence and domestic violence law. Rebecca is an Accredited Specialist in Criminal Law and the immediate past Chair of QLS' Criminal Law Committee. In addition to her role as a Councillor, Rebecca sits on the QLS Executive and Financial and Risk Management Committees. She is recognised as a leading Queensland Criminal Lawyer in the Doyle's Guide.

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Matt Hempstead

**Partner, Barry Nilsson
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld
Member, Queensland Law Society Family Law Committee**

Matt is experienced across a diverse range of Family Law matters, including property, domestic violence, child support and spousal maintenance.

Matt has specialised in Family Law since his admission in 2011. In 2017, he gained his Specialist Accreditation in Family Law with the Queensland Law Society.

He is an experienced advocate, with a particular interest in complex property, child support and parenting matters. Matt draws on his extensive experience to ensure clients understand the range of alternative dispute resolution options available to suit their circumstances. He is passionate about working with clients to help them focus on their long term goals and what's best for them and their families.

Matt has been named as a Family Law Rising Star in the 2019 to 2023 editions of *Doyle's Guide*.

Matt is a member of the Queensland Family Law Practitioners Association and a member of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia.

Emma Higgins

**Legal Director, Robertson O'Gorman
Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) Qld**



Andrew Hoare KC

Barrister, Queensland Bar

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Danielle Iliffe

**Senior Lawyer, Legal Aid Queensland
Deputy Chair, Queensland Law Society Children's Law Committee**

Danielle is an Acting Senior Lawyer with Youth Legal Aid Queensland. Danielle joined Legal Aid Queensland after commencing her legal career in the community legal sector working with both YFS Legal and the Youth Advocacy Centre.

Danielle is acutely aware of the complexities of the youth justice system and issues facing children in Queensland. Danielle recognises the over-representation of First Nations children in both the youth justice and child protection systems and continues to work towards upholding the rights of all Queensland children. A keen mentor and advocate, Danielle is committed to contributing to the professional development of all those who work in this sector.



Emma Kearney

**Associate, Bell Criminal Lawyers
Member, Queensland Law Society Future Leaders Committee**

Emma was admitted as a solicitor in February 2019 and has been an associate at Bell Criminal Lawyers since the firm opened in July 2022. She predominantly practises in criminal and domestic violence matters across various courts in southeast Queensland. Before her move to Brisbane, Emma spent about four years working in Beenleigh at a small firm called Ide Lawyers. There, she often assisted the court as duty lawyer and acted in a number of serious matters, as is common in that jurisdiction. Emma mostly enjoys the advocacy component of being a solicitor, in particular, making legal arguments and cross-examining witnesses, as well as crafting submissions to be sent to the prosecution.

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Callan Lloyd

**Director, Gilshenan & Luton
Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld**

Callan appears in a wide variety of complex criminal and professional discipline proceedings. He has appeared as solicitor advocate, and instructing solicitor, in superior court hearings and sentences, coronial inquests, disciplinary hearings, and commissions of inquiry.

Callan has a particular interest in assisting other lawyers with professional discipline proceedings, as well as other professionals in misconduct investigations and hearings. A significant aspect of Callan's practise includes advising and representing government bodies in regulatory prosecutions, and in the enforcement of statutory powers.

Callan is a member of the Queensland Law Society's Proctor Committee.



Sarah-Jane MacDonald

**Legal Practitioner Director, MacDonald Law
Councillor, Queensland Law Society
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld**

Sarah-Jane is a strong advocate of practice in the regions, having practised in the Toowoomba region for the entirety of her legal career, and continues to serve on the Downs and South West Queensland Law Association.

Sarah-Jane was admitted to the Supreme Court of Queensland and the High Court of Australia in 2014, after completing her Bachelor of Laws.

Sarah-Jane is a qualified parenting co-ordinator and assists parents navigate their post-separated coparenting relationship. For Sarah-Jane, working with people is the crux of why she has continued to work in the Family Law sphere since her admission.

Sarah-Jane also provides pro bono legal advice to vulnerable women through the Women's Legal Service Qld. She has been recognised for her community involvement by being previously awarded the Regional Young Citizen of the Year Award.

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Magistrate Cameron McKenzie

Magistrates Court of Queensland

Magistrate McKenzie was appointed a magistrate of the Magistrates Court of Queensland in 2019 and presided until June 2023 in the Specialist Domestic & Family Courts in Southport for one year and Beenleigh for two years. He is a current member of the Supreme Court of Queensland Rules Committee, and the Magistrates Court Domestic and Family Violence, Civil Law, Judicial Wellness and Conference Planning committees.

Prior to his appointment, Magistrate McKenzie practised in the areas of commercial litigation and insolvency and was a partner at DibbsBarker, Gadens and DWF. Before gaining partnership, he spent a decade at NortonRoseFulbright where he progressed from Articled Clerk to Senior Associate. Whilst a solicitor he held positions on the Queensland Law Society's Insolvency & Restructuring, Domestic & Family Violence, and Dispute Resolution policy committees, as well as the Law Council of Australia Business Law Section Insolvency & Restructuring Committee, the Appeal Costs Fund Board, and the Insolvency Practitioner Registration and Disciplinary Committee.

Magistrate McKenzie was also a Nationally Accredited Mediator, Registered Farm Debt Mediator and Franchise Code Mediator.



Kayla Milana

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Kayla was called to the bar in September 2024 after practising as a lawyer for nine years. She has chambers at Carson Chambers.

Kayla holds a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and also holds a Bachelor of Arts (Languages & Linguistics) from Bond University. She previously worked as a chambers clerk at Inns of Court working for barristers who practiced in family law, class actions and personal injuries.

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Wendy Miller

Special Counsel, Damien Greer Lawyers
Senior Counsellor, Queensland Law Society
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld

Wendy holds a Bachelor of Laws and Arts, a Masters in Law and a Masters in Taxation Law. She has been a Queensland Law Society Accredited Specialist – Family Law since 2001, is an Approved Arbitrator and also a Chartered Tax Advisor.

Wendy specialises in complex financial and property settlements and identifying tax minimising opportunities to maximise financial outcomes presented by a marriage breakdown. She is an expert in asset protection strategies and business succession planning in a family law environment. Wendy is a member of the Family Law Practitioners' Association of Queensland and the Australian Institute of Family Law Arbitrators and Mediators.

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The Honourable Judge Samantha Murdoch

Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2)

Prior to commencing her career with the Courts Judge Murdoch worked at several private law firms before becoming the principal solicitor at Murdoch's Family Law. She was an accredited Family Law Specialist appearing as a solicitor advocate in the family law jurisdiction on a regular basis both in final and interim defended hearings. She is an accredited arbitrator.

Judge Murdoch originally joined the Court as a Sessional Registrar in 2004 conducting the divorce list in the Parramatta Registry as she was occupied for the most part with her then very young baby boy – who will be 21 this year! She became a Registrar on a contractual basis in 2014 and finally obtained a permanent position in 2019. From 2020 Judge Murdoch was part of the team that set up and implemented the award winning Lighthouse Pilot and Evatt List, including being instrumental in the design and drafting of the case management pathway and all supporting material.

In 2020 Judge Murdoch was appointed a Senior Registrar in August 2020. This role included hearing and determining complex, high risk interim parenting matters in the Evatt List.

Subsequent to her appointment Her Honour has continued her work in the Evatt List as a Judge. She is on the Children's Committee as a court representative and subsequent to her moving from the Parramatta Registry to the Sydney Registry, continues to keep in touch with her Western Sydney roots by continuing to conduct the Compliance and Readiness Hearings in Parramatta.

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Rachael Murray

Partner, Mills Oakley

Rachael is a Partner and co-manages the Mills Oakley Brisbane Family Law practice. Having worked solely in family law since 2002, Rachael possesses particular expertise and interest in cases involving parties' interests in corporate and trust structures, and relationship planning by use of binding financial agreements. Her practice has a specific focus that includes complex parenting matters involving international parenting disputes, drug and alcohol misuse, cases involving mental health issues and children with special needs.

Rachael is also trained in collaborative law and parenting coordination. In her work as a parenting coordinator, Rachael coaches parents in post-separation communication strategies and conflict resolution. Rachael arms parents with the tools they need to make positive and constructive contributions to their child's development, and helps them avoid the poor outcomes traditionally associated with children who have been exposed to parental conflict.



Emily O'Hagan

Partner, Wallace O'Hagan Lawyers

Member, Queensland Law Society Domestic and Family Violence Committee

Emily graduated with a Bachelor of Laws with honours and a Bachelor of Psychology from Griffith University, completing elective study in Criminal Law and forensic mental health at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. She later undertook a clerkship with HopgoodGanim Lawyers in Litigation and Family Law. Emily was admitted as a solicitor to the Supreme Court of Queensland and the High Court of Australia in 2010.

Following her admission, Emily commenced work at Russo Lawyers and practised in criminal defence. She was appointed to Senior Associate at Russo Lawyers in 2014 and then became a founding partner of Wallace O'Hagan Lawyers in 2015.

Emily appears in all criminal law jurisdictions. She has represented clients at every level of the criminal justice system, from pleas of guilty before the Magistrates Court to Supreme Court Appeals.

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Julie O'Reilly

Partner, Business Advisory, William Buck

As a Partner in the Business Advisory division at William Buck, Julie is a divorce and separation specialist, and has family succession and asset structuring as well as having specialised knowledge in relation to the medical and dental industries.

Julie assists clients in all areas of general and specialist practises, assisting them with their tax and business advisory requirements, including establishment, structuring, asset protection, family wealth and growth strategies.



Senior Judicial Registrar Anne-Marie Rice

Executive Director National Registrar Operations and Practice, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

Senior Judicial Registrar Anne-Marie Rice is a multi-award-winning family lawyer and mediator.

She began her career as a Legal Associate in the (then) Family Court in 1998 and has been a past FLPA (Qld) vice-president, an executive member of the Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia and a former member of various Queensland Law Society Committees.

She joined the Courts in July 2020 and, as a senior member of the Courts' leadership team, is responsible for the expansion of the Court's dispute resolution programs and Registrar work practices nationally.

Senior Judicial Registrar Rice has been delivering local, national and international keynote addresses, conference papers and workshops for lawyers and non-lawyers for over 20 years.

Anne-Marie taught the undergraduate Family Law subject at the University of Queensland for many years prior to joining the Court and she continues to teach both undergraduate and post graduate Dispute Resolution courses at that university.

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Julie Sarkozi

Principal Policy Officer, Sexual Violence Case Reform, Department of Justice and the Attorney-General

Julie has been a practicing lawyer for 20 years, working in private practice, LAQ, ATSILS, and over 10 years at the Women's Legal Service Queensland – establishing and leading the 'Counselling Notes Protect' service. In November 2023, Julie moved to the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce (WSJT) Implementation Unit in the District Court to develop operational responses to the WSJT recommendations which the Chief Judge was asked to consider and implement (rec 69, 71 and 72). These recommendations related to addressing court delay and uncertainty in court event listings, as well as reducing the likelihood of witness – complainant's being re-traumatised by the court process. The Sexual Violence Case Management Practice Direction and supporting materials, are the product of the WSJT Implementation Unit team, the Chief Judge and a multi-agency 'Working Group' made up of leaders in the legal and justice sector.



Kirstie Smith

**Lawyer, and Lecturer at Law, University of Southern Queensland
Member, Queensland Law Society Future Leaders Committee**

Kirstie is a Mununjali, Yugembeh woman practicing in criminal law on Giabal and Jarowair country and is also a Lecturer in Law at University of Southern Queensland. She is the first person in her immediate family to not only finish high school, but also go to university. Kirstie has experience working in both prosecution and criminal defence and is the Vice-President of DSWQLA.

A mother of three, she also represents early career lawyers on Future Leaders Committee (QLS) and represents Murri people in her region as a Council member on the Catholic Care Council. She undertakes additional volunteer roles including assisting new Australians and the refugee community at the Social Justice Commission 'Dignity Project'.

She is a member of the Future Leaders Committee with QLS, Women Lawyers Association Queensland, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Inc, and Indigenous Lawyers Association Queensland. She is routinely invited to speak on panels in the areas of criminal law, and First Nations issues.

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Rachel Tierney

**Senior Associate, Gilshenan & Luton
Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld
Member, Queensland Law Society Domestic and Family Violence
Committee**

Rachel has considerable experience in domestic violence matters, where she assists clients in both bringing domestic violence applications for their protection and defending against them, as well as assisting with criminal charges arising from domestic violence-related matters. In addition to domestic violence law, Rachel has complex trial experience and represents clients in all aspects of criminal law with particular expertise in sexual offences and misconduct related charges brought against members of the public service.



Trent Waller

**Director, Waller Family Lawyers
Accredited Specialist (Family Law) – Qld**

Trent is an accredited Family Law specialist. He is Director of Waller Family Lawyers, Brisbane. Trent is past president of the Family Law Practitioners Association of Queensland and a member of the Family Law Section, Law Council of Australia.



Gavin Webber

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Gavin has extensive experience in criminal law. Gavin has been working as a Barrister since he was called to the Bar in May of 2019. Prior to that he worked for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for ten years where he attained the role of Senior Crown Prosecutor and routinely appeared as counsel in the higher courts on complex criminal trials and hearings.

After moving to the Private Bar and joining the distinguished Halsbury Chambers group in 2019, Gavin has worked almost exclusively in criminal law. He is an accomplished advocate, having defended many clients in a broad range of criminal matters in the Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts. He also appears in the Court of Appeal and continues to brief as counsel for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

FAMILY AND CRIMINAL LAW CONFERENCE



Joe Wicking

**Senior Associate, Potts Lawyers
Accredited Specialist (Criminal Law) – Qld
Member, Queensland Law Society Criminal Law Committee**

Joe is a dedicated and experienced criminal lawyer, practising exclusively in this area. Joe has been recognised as one of Queensland's Leading Criminal Lawyers by DoYLES Guide for a number of years.

Joe routinely appears before the Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts in Queensland and is a proficient advocate that aims to achieve the best results for his clients across a wide gamut of matters. In addition to a busy practice Joe is active in mentoring other lawyers who practice in Criminal Law.



David Young

Director, Azimuth Partners

David is a specialist accountant in the discipline of business valuation. David is the founder and principal advisor at Azimuth Partners. David commenced his career in 1990 and has been in private practice for the past 27 years.

David's commercial expertise, independence and objectivity has assisted advisors and their clients to solve complex business and commercial issues. David works closely with the legal profession, accountants and financial planners to provide expert opinion and reports on business and entity valuation issues, including a range of commercial, taxation, shareholder and family law property matters. David is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants, Fellow of the Institute of Financial Accountants and a Professional Member of the Business Valuation Institute UK.

David completes valuation and other expert engagements including critiques of expert reports for clients and their advisors across Australia and Internationally.