

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE

Program

66mins **Keynote address**

His Honour will speak to the efficacy of expert evidence in the Court. You will then be invited to engage with his Honour in a brief Q&A session lead by our accredited specialist, Luke. This Q&A will focus around core issues in expert evidence.

Presenter: **The Honourable Justice David Boddice**, Supreme Court of Queensland (Court of Appeal)

Chair: **Luke Murphy**, Director, MurphySchmidt Solicitors; Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld; Past President, Law Council of Australia; Deputy Chair, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee



59mins **Ethics – Roundtable**

This session will cover the latest in the ASCR changes and what practitioners ought to be mindful of when conducting their matters. Our expert panel will then consider real scenarios and how practitioners should be handling common and complex ethical problems in advancing their clients' interests.

Presenters:

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

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

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



PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE

48mins **NIISQ – Tips and Tricks**

This session will focus on practical tips, tricks and insights into the National Injury Insurance Scheme.

Presenters:

Kassandra Squire, Director, Legal Services and Claims, National Injury Insurance Scheme

Simon Lang, Consultant, Moray & Agnew Lawyers

Chair: **Vanessa Herrmann**, Chief Executive Officer, Red Health Independent Medical Assessments



58mins **Navigating psychosocial hazards**

In this session we explore psychosocial hazards faced by lawyers in the workplace. We'll address the hazards we face not only from the content and subject matter to which we are exposed, but also from the work environment itself. In application to legal practice, we'll provide an overview of the relevant duties imposed by work health and safety legislation, an update of recent case law and trends, and the increased regulatory focus to explicitly address psychosocial hazards. Our presenters will highlight the work demands that feature as frequent hazards. We'll close with tips about managing psychosocial risks in the workplace.

Presenters:

Eric Halden, Lawyer, Gilshenan & Luton

Jackson Inglis, Partner, Sparke Helmore Lawyers

Chair: **Eduardo Cruz**, Partner, CZ Injury Law; Member, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee



PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE

67mins **Case law update**

An overview of case law and its defining principles.

Presenters:

Sebastian Olsen, Principal & Legal Practitioner Director, MurphySchmidt Solicitors;
Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld

Robyn Hala, Special Counsel, MurphySchmidt

Moderator: **Trent Johnson**, Partner & Brisbane Office Leader, Travis Schultz & Partners;
Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society
Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee

Chair: **Christine Mercer**, Principal, Legal & Quality Assurance Assessment Hub



55min **Advancing instructions**

This session will consider the best ways to advance your clients' instructions and managing your matter once it has been filed.

We will consider the following steps in detail:

- Critical analysis
- Obtaining records
- Getting confirmation that instructions match records
- Confirmation that Pleadings are consistent with instructions – client needs to consider the Pleadings
- Confirmation that evidence has been obtained or can be obtained to prove the pleaded allegations
- Properly preparing the case in a disciplined way

Presenters:

Rachael Miller, Partner, QMT Law; Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld;
Member, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee

Luke Murphy, Director, MurphySchmidt Solicitors; Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld; Past President, Law Council of Australia; Deputy Chair, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee

Chair: **Michael Garbett**, Partner, Moray & Agnew Lawyers; Chair, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee



PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE

49mins **The case for and against a Common Law Claim**

This session will explore the considerations a personal injuries lawyer should explain and discuss in depth with a claimant as part of the decision making process on whether to proceed beyond a Notice of Assessment with a common law claim. You will engage with the provisions of Part 8 of the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 2003 (Qld) and recent case law in exploration of the analysis necessary to provide recommendations on whether a claimant ought to accept a lump sum offer or to consider proceeding further. This analysis will also benefit defendant lawyers in their consideration of the extent to which the employer and their insurer is at risk once a claim is notified.

Presenter: **Stephen Hughes**, Consultant

Chair: **Cameron Seymour**, Partner, Mullins Lawyers; Accredited Specialist (Personal Injuries Law) – Qld; Member, Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee



PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE

Presenters



The Honourable Justice David Boddice

Justice Boddice is a graduate of The University of Queensland—Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (1983). In 1984, Justice Boddice was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of Queensland and appointed Senior Counsel in 2001.

His Honour previously served as a member of the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Tribunal (2006–2009), chair of the Queensland Nursing Tribunal (2007–2009), director (1993–2010) and chairperson (2006–2010) of Barristers' Chambers Limited, junior vice president (2006–2008) and senior vice president (2008–2010) of the Medico-Legal Society of Queensland and member of the Continuing Professional Development Committee of the Bar Association of Queensland (2007–2009). Justice Boddice has been the legal patron of the Medico-Legal Society of Queensland since 2014.

Justice Boddice was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2010. His Honour served as an additional Judge of the Mental Health Court from 2011 to 2014 and as President of the Court from 2014 to 2017. Justice Boddice was appointed the Southern Region Judge of the Land Appeal Court in 2020. His Honour was appointed a judge of the Queensland Court of Appeal in 2023.



David Bowles

David was admitted as a solicitor in 1996 and was in private practice from that time until joining Queensland Law Society's QLS Ethics and Practice Centre in November 2012.

David's experience, initially as an employee and then as a sole practitioner includes crime, property, litigation and estate planning. As an ethics solicitor he is responsible for providing ethical guidance to members, and continuing legal education.

He holds postgraduate certificates in Artificial Intelligence from the Said Business School at Oxford University, in Cybersecurity from Harvard University Extension School, in Project Management from the University of Adelaide EdX program and is a director of the Australasian Computer Law Institute.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Shane Budden

As a Special Counsel 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. He is also a member of the QUT University Animal Ethics Committee.

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 Society's Government Lawyers Committee.



Eduardo Cruz

Eduardo was admitted as a solicitor in November 2004 and has worked exclusively with a culturally diverse client base since 2002. He is extremely motivated to utilise his versatile legal training and experiences to assist members of our community that have limited access to and/or knowledge of the legal and social system. His professional and life experiences have moulded him into a versatile and resourceful professional. Through his legal practice and life experiences he contributes to the development of a better society. Eduardo has been involved with the Queensland Law Society's Accident Compensation and Tort Law Committee since 2017. He is actively engaged in procedural and legislative reform across motor vehicle accident insurance, workers' compensation, public liability insurance and historical sexual abuse claims. He volunteers as General Counsel for Australia's fastest growing charity Serving Our People. He is also a Board Member for youBelong Australia, a leading charity that welcomes and empowers refugees. In July 2024 he was appointed as the Consul of the Republic of El Salvador. He has previously worked in two national firms and for WorkCover Queensland managing a section of its common law division.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Genevieve Dee

Queensland Law Society President Genevieve Dee is a partner with Lander & Rogers and an Accredited Family Law Specialist who has practiced exclusively in family and relationship law for 20 years. Highly sought after for her expertise in complex property matters - including those involving taxation issues, trusts, manufacturing companies, rural issues, intergenerational wealth and family businesses, and complex corporate structures – Genevieve has been recognised through various awards including WLAQ's 'Emergent Lawyer of the Year' Award and a finalist for WLAQ's 'Ford Woman Lawyer of the Year' Award. Recognised in The Best Lawyers in Australia for her expertise in family law and family mediation, she was named a Lawyer of the Year for family law mediation in the publication's 2022 edition.

Having served three terms as Councillor of the Queensland Law Society her experience as a member and Chair of the Committee of Management, Professional Conduct Committee, and the Specialist Accreditation Board, including a term as Chair, highlights her engagement and commitment to the legal profession. Genevieve is also Chair of the Board for Women's Legal Service Qld (WLAQ).



Michael Garbett

Michael has been practising in all aspects of Personal Injuries Law for over 30 years. He practises predominantly in the field of compulsory third party litigation.



Robyn Hala

Robyn is a Special Counsel at MurphySchmidt Solicitors and has practised exclusively in plaintiff personal injury law since commencing with the firm as a research clerk in 2011, before being admitted in 2013. She has considerable experience across the various personal injury regimes including workplace accidents, public liability, CTP claims, medical negligence and civil aviation claims.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Eric Halden

Eric is a Senior Associate at Gilshenan & Luton Legal Practice. He is an Accredited Specialist in Criminal Law and a member of the QLS Wellbeing Working Group.

Eric has worked in criminal defence most of his career, developing particular interest in regulatory prosecutions, focusing on advising and defending clients charged with offences under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, the Environmental Protection Act 1994, ASIC Act 2001 and Corporations Act 2001. Eric acts for individuals and corporate entities including the provision of advice, post-incident response, and representation through the prosecution process.



Vanessa Herrmann

Vanessa Herrmann is the Chief Executive Officer of Red Health Independent Medical Assessments, a leading Australian-owned provider of medico-legal services since 2011. With a foundation in healthcare and experience in personal injury law, Vanessa offers a unique perspective on the intersection of clinical insight, legal process, and business strategy.

She brings over a decade of leadership in the medico-legal sector, with a strong focus on stakeholder engagement, operational excellence, and human-centred service delivery. Vanessa and her team are committed to supporting legal professionals with clarity, efficiency, and a deep understanding of the challenges involved in personal injury and insurance law.



Stephen Hughes

Stephen holds an LLB from University of Queensland and a LLM from QUT. He was admitted as a solicitor in Queensland in 1991 and the High Court of Australia in 2005. He has more than 34 years' experience working across employment, health & safety and compensation law; and has been a QLS Accredited Specialist (personal injuries) of over 25 years' standing.

Stephen is a regular presenter at CPD events on personal injuries & employment law locally and internationally.

Stephen has served as an Honorary Board Member and Legal Counsel for the Australian Society of Rehabilitation Counsellors Ltd (ASORC) since 1993. In 2021 Stephen was awarded an Honorary Fellowship in recognition of his decades of service. In 2023, Stephen received an Associations Hall of Fame Award for his pro bono services to the not-for-profit sector.

Stephen has been a committee member of the LAWASIA employment group for over 10 yrs.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Jackson Inglis

Jackson leads Sparke Helmore's Workplace practice in Queensland and is a Queensland Law Society Accredited Specialist in Workplace Law. With more than 20 years' experience in employment and work health and safety (WHS) law, Jackson is a highly regarded workplace lawyer.

Jackson has extensive experience in all aspects of employment and safety law including responding to serious workplace incidents. He has negotiated complex national industrial agreements and engaged in enterprise bargaining with Unions and other bargaining representatives.

An experienced advocate, Jackson regularly appears in complex employment litigation matters before the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (FCFCoA), Federal Court of Australia (FCA) and the Fair Work Commission (FWC), and in the Queensland jurisdictions defending private and Commonwealth Government clients, including high profile Department of Defence matters, in safety prosecutions.

Jackson's clients value his experience and advice on the management of difficult employee and misconduct cases that warrant disciplinary action or termination of employment. He advises clients on all aspects of managing workplace incidents, as well as dealing with and responding to regulators across all Queensland and Commonwealth jurisdictions.

With his Crown Law background and in-house experience, Jackson brings a deep understanding of the pressures of complex government and business environments. Jackson's passion lies in helping government and business work through the complexities of the current workplace and safety law environment.



Madeleine Walsh

Maddie is a Senior Associate in MinterEllison's Brisbane Workplace team with experience in litigious and non-litigious matters across employment and workplace health and safety matters for a range of public, private and not-for-profit clients.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Trent Johnson

Trent is a partner at Travis Schultz & Partners and leads their Brisbane office. He is a Queensland Law Society Accredited Specialist in personal injury claims and practices in all aspects of personal injury litigation, including motor vehicle accident, public liability, workers' compensation, asbestos/dust and child abuse claims. He is a long-term member of the Australian Lawyers Alliance, and past president and former volunteer of the Suncoast Community Legal Service.



Simon Lang

Simon has specialised in accident compensation law since 1984, focusing on CTP claims. He represents private and government CTP insurers, self-insurers, and public sector risk entities. A skilled negotiator, he frequently resolves claims via mediation and ADR, often without counsel. Simon has extensive experience conducting bulk settlement conferences across regional Queensland. He has managed complex cross-border claims involving foreign nationals, requiring in-depth analysis of international care and legal systems. He has for many years maintained a practice focused on catastrophic injury claims. He acts for and provides advice to a range of CTP insurers including the Nominal Defendant. He also acts for the NIISQ Agency.



Christine Mercer

Christine Mercer is Assessment Hub's legal advisor on all things related to personal injury claims and expert evidence.

Christine brings over 20 years of invaluable experience as a plaintiff claim solicitor to her role. Having worked extensively in private practice both here in Brisbane and the UK, and specialising in medical negligence claims, Christine has a deep understanding of the nuances of medical evidence which uniquely positions her to enhance the quality of our medico-legal reports and our experts.

At Assessment Hub, Christine works closely with medical experts to produce robust, evidence-based reports that are meticulously quality-assured. Her transition from practicing law to focusing on medico-legal services reflects her commitment to improving the interface between law and medical expertise.

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Rachael Miller

Rachael was admitted in 1987 and since that time has practiced exclusively in the field of insurance litigation, with an emphasis on accident compensation. She has in excess of 35 years' experience in insurance litigation in Queensland, NSW & Victoria and has particular expertise in and regularly advises on indemnity and liability issues and catastrophic claims. She also provides general advice, recommendations and in-house training in response to legislative change and industry issues.

Rachael was an inaugural member of the QLS Personal Injury Specialist Accreditation Committee and was a member of the QLS Specialist Accreditation Board between 2006 and 2013. She is now serving a second term on the Personal Injury Specialist Accreditation Committee and is also a member of the Litigation Rules Committee and the Accident Compensation/Tort Law Committee.



Luke Murphy

Luke has been a legal practitioner for more than 34 years and is an Accredited Specialist in Personal Injury Law (1999). He has served as President of QLS (2020), and President of the Law Council of Australia (2023) (LCA). He currently serves as the Deputy Chair of the Section 193A Review Panel under the WCRA Act 2003, Deputy Chair of the Queensland Law Society Accident Compensation & Tort Law Committee and Chair of the LCA's Personal Injuries and Compensation Committee. Luke was a member of QLS Council (2018 to 2021), and served on QLS Executive and the QLS' Finance and Risk Committee. He has also served on QLS' Specialist Accreditation Committee, QLS' CPD Committee and QLS' Practice Management Committee. Luke served on the LCA Executive (2021 – 2023), was Chair of the LCA's Corporate Governance Committee, and of LCA Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Finance Working Group (2022 – 2023).

PERSONAL INJURIES LAW CONFERENCE



Sebastian Olsen

Sebastian commenced his career at MurphySchmidt as a Research Cadet in 2004 and was appointed a Partner, now Principal, in July 2021.

Sebastian brings a unique perspective to his work, having completed a medical science degree before undertaking his legal studies. Sebastian is a strong advocate and enjoys the challenge of court work, as well as being a volunteer in the firm's programs with Anglicare and formerly with the LawRight Self Representation Service of the District and Supreme Courts and the Self Representation Service of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

He is a guest lecturer at the Queensland University of Technology School of Law and former Independent Director of Rugby League Brisbane Limited. He also serves on the Queensland Rugby League Judiciary and Disciplinary Tribunals (Major Competitions), Brisbane Rugby League Judiciary and Disciplinary Tribunals and the Queensland Rugby League South-East Region Appeals Tribunal.



Cameron Seymour

Cameron was admitted as a solicitor in 1990. He has practised extensively in torts law and became an Accredited Specialist in personal injuries law in 1998. Cameron joined Mullins Lawyers in 1999 where he has been a Partner since 2000. He practises primarily in workers' compensation, public liability and compulsory third party claims. He is a contributing editor to LexisNexis loose leaf service Personal Injuries Queensland (Work Injuries), is on the Queensland Law Society Personal Injuries Conference Planning Committee as well as Queensland Law Society's Accident Compensation & Tort Reform Committee and delivers seminars to clients and the profession on personal injuries law.



Kassandra Squire

Kassandra Squire is a qualified solicitor with over twenty years' experience in personal injury insurance. Currently leading the NISQ Agency's Legal Services and Claims team, providing expert counsel and advice regarding legislative interpretation, strategic management and guidance across a range of ever more complex issues. Working in both private practice and the public sector have afforded the opportunity to look at all matters with collaboration, perspective and a willingness to step in and resolve issues on specific cases in a calm, professional manner while also building positive relationships and engagement with insurers and legal representatives to help prevent further issues arising.