

# COURTNEY ROBERTSON

• Barrister, 12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers •

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## ADMISSIONS

Barrister, 2021

Solicitor, 2011

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

Administrative and public law

Anti-discrimination and human rights

Aviation

Commercial and corporations

Common law

Competition and consumer

Disciplinary proceedings

Employment and industrial law

Equity

Inquests, commissions of inquiry and statutory tribunals

Insurance

Professional liability

Regulatory

Work health and safety

## BIOGRAPHY

Courtney accepts briefs in a broad range of practice areas across civil, commercial, regulatory and public law matters. She regularly advises and appears in complex civil and commercial disputes in superior and appellate courts. Courtney also regularly advises and appears in disciplinary proceedings, inquests, inquiries, including Royal Commissions, and matters before statutory tribunals.

Prior to being called to the Bar, Courtney was a senior lawyer in Gilbert + Tobin's disputes and investigations team in Sydney. Courtney also gained public law experience having been a senior lawyer in the Solicitor for the Northern Territory's litigation division. In that role she spent time on secondment to the Northern Territory Department of Health. Courtney commenced her practice in Western Australia where she worked as a litigator at Maxim Litigation Consultants, which later integrated with Lavan.

## LEADERSHIP

Director, 12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers (2025 - present)

Director, Women's Legal Service NSW (2019 - 2025)

## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Master of Laws, Columbia University in the City of New York, 2016

Bachelor of Laws, Murdoch University, 2009

Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Murdoch University, 2009

## SELECTED CASES

### Administrative law

*Boschen & AGAIR v CASA* Administrative Review Tribunal 2025/6970, 2025/6971 and 2025/6966: appeal against a decision of CASA to revoke AWC, cancel AOC, for the applicant, unled

*Michael Jarrett & Anor v Forestry Corporation of NSW* Land and Environment Court 2023/265664: class 4 appeal, for the applicants, led by Henry El-Hage SC

*Office of the Children's Guardian v DVR* [2022] NSWSC 1036: appeal against a decision of NCAT to issue a working with children check clearance, for the successful appellant, led by Zelig Heger SC

*New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council v Minister Administering the Crown Land Management Act* Land and Environment Court 2021/54488: class 3 appeal, for the appellant, unled

### Anti-discrimination and human rights

*Andy Yin v Maria Kovavic & Ors* Federal Court of Australia NSD1026/2024: racial discrimination (dismissed), for the respondents (the NSW Liberal Party), unled

### Appellate

*Aslan v Ficarra & Anor* NSW Court of Appeal [2026] NSWCA 33: application for leave to appeal (refused), for the respondent, unled

*Jamie Greenwood v Department of Education* NSW Court of Appeal 2025/00366796: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the respondent, led by David Lloyd SC

*Estate of the late Geoffrey Croft v MTH & Ors* High Court of Australia S155/2025: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability in foster care, for the second respondent, led by Callan O'Neill (see also, [2026] HCADisp 24 for successful special leave disposition on cross-appeal)

*AA v Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle* [2026] HCA 2: child sexual abuse - negligence, non-delegable duty of care, vicarious liability, for the respondent, led by Justin Gleeson SC and James Sheller SC, with Penelope Bristow

*MTH v State of New South Wales & Ors* NSW Court of Appeal [2025] NSWCA 122: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability in foster care, for the successful first respondent, led by Callan O'Neill  
*Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle v AA* [2025] NSWCA 72: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the successful appellant, led by James Sheller SC

*Page v Sydney Seaplanes Pty Ltd* High Court of Australia [2022] HCATrans 70: statutory construction, for the respondent, led by David Lloyd SC

*Sydney Seaplanes Pty Ltd v Page* [2021] NSWCA 204: statutory construction, for the appellant, led by David Lloyd SC

*Muriniti v Mercia Financial Solutions Pty Ltd* [2021] NSWCA 180: personal costs orders, for the successful respondent, led by David Lloyd SC

*Daniel Paolini v Liquor & Gaming NSW* District Court of NSW 2021/00248822-001: severity appeal against a decision of the Local Court of NSW (successful CRO), for the appellant, unled

### Aviation

*Zappala & Anor v Terelle & Ors* Supreme Court of QLD 471/22: aerial spraying case - negligence, for the third and fourth defendants, unled (discrete advice on statutory construction)

## SELECTED CASES CONTINUED

*Marisa Secerov v Jetstar Airways Pty Ltd and Sydney Airport Corporation* Supreme Court of NSW 2021/00228893: personal injury, for the second defendant, led by David Lloyd SC

*Andrew Norbury Aircraft Pty Ltd v QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited* Federal Court of Australia VID400/2021: contractual dispute (insurance), for the defendant, led by David Lloyd SC

### Commercial and equity

*Prostar Capital (Australia) Pty Ltd v EPG Payroll & HR Pty Ltd* Federal Court of Australia NSD2404 of 2025: contractual dispute, for the respondent, unled

*Elias Shamoon v F & L Violi Pty Ltd & Ors* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00219378: successful application for a stay and related advice, for the third and fourth defendants, led by David Lloyd SC

*In the matter of Arbitrium Credit Partners Pty Ltd* [2025] NSWSC 1457: application to set aside statutory demands (withdrawn), indemnity, third party and lump sum costs, for the plaintiff, unled

*Carl Pires v Sampa Tembo* District Court of NSW 2024/00073287: contractual dispute (entertainment industry), for the plaintiff, unled

*IHG Hotels Management (Australia) Pty Limited v LFG Parker Pty Ltd & Ors* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00336956: claim for interference with contractual relations, unlawful interference with trade or business interests arising from sale of hotel, for the first to sixth resp., led by Henry El-Hage SC

*JW Hunt Pty Ltd & Ors v Paul Smith & Ors* Federal Court of Australia NSD1145 of 2023: claims in contract (loan agreements), negligence, breach of trust, breach of fiduciary duty, misleading and deceptive conduct, damages exceed \$400 million, for the applicants, led by David Lloyd SC

*John O'Neill v Augusto Henrique Soares Sousa* Local Court of NSW 2022/00237431: contractual dispute (loan), (judgment) for the plaintiff, unled

*Pinnacle Healthcare Ltd Ltd v Prominent Lawyers Pty Limited* District Court of NSW 2021/00084144: contractual dispute (professional services), for the defendant, led by Andrew Harding SC

*Saba Bros Tiling Pty Ltd v John R Keith* Local Court of NSW 2020/00353759: contractual dispute (construction), for the plaintiff, unled

*Lendlease Building Contractors Ptd Limited & Anor v Insurance Australia Limited* Supreme Court of NSW 2017/287985: contractual dispute (construction), for the plaintiffs, led by Terry Mehigan SC with Tim Kane and James Braithwaite

### Common law and insurance

*Patrick McCarthy v Zurich Australia Limited* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00309703: indemnity, for the defendant, led by David Lloyd SC and with Sinclair Gray

*Kathleen Kruse v State of NSW* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00308502: negligence (failure to remove child), for the respondent, led by Anne Horvath SC

*Luke Kruse v State of NSW* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00308548: negligence (failure to remove child), for the respondent, led by Anne Horvath SC

*Michael Pantanella v Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Wollongong & Anor* Supreme Court of NSW: child sexual abuse - negligence, for the defendant, unled

*Amy Jones v Transport for NSW* District Court of NSW 2023/338686: negligence (personal injury), for the defendant, unled

*NSW Crime Commission v Jung Im Lee* Supreme Court of NSW 2020/284347: examination, for the Crime Commission, unled

*Michael Khalil v Zurich Australian Insurance Limited* Supreme Court of NSW 2022/00015854 (and related proceedings and cross claims): negligence (personal injury), breach of contract, workers compensation, for the defendant, led by Michael Fordham SC

*George Alan Matri v Trustees of the Maronite Sisters of the Holy Family* Supreme Court of NSW 2024/00229830: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability (dismissed/discontinued), for the defendant, led by Dominic Villa SC

*Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney & Ors v IAL and Anor* Supreme Court of NSW 2025/00194807: claim for indemnity for policy periods 1957 and 1972 across a large number of claims, for the plaintiffs, led by David Lloyd SC and with Carolyn Coventry

*MJH v Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle* [2025] NSWDC 533: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability (dismissed), for the defendant, unled

*John Paul Snitch v State of New South Wales (Police)* District Court of NSW 2024/00231744: intentional torts, (judgment) for the NSW Police, unled

*MTH v State of NSW* [2024] NSWSC 1517: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability in a foster care arrangement, for the successful first defendant, led by Callan O'Neill

*Robert Douglas Forbes v Luther Roy Allen & Anor* Supreme Court of NSW 2024/00343216: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the first defendant, unled

*David Ritchie v The Corporation of the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00243908: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the defendant, led by David Lloyd SC

*Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle v IAL* Supreme Court of NSW 2020/00130607: claim for indemnity for policy periods between 1957 and 1981 across ~89 claims of child sexual abuse, for the plaintiff, led by David Lloyd SC and with Carolyn Coventry

*David Blazejko v The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Parramatta & Anor* (and related proceedings x 7) Supreme Court of NSW 2023/207276: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability etc, for the defendant, led by David Lloyd SC

*Holmes v State of NSW* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/291678: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, (judgment) for the defendant, led by Anne Horvath SC

*Eboney Jane McKee v State of NSW* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00339684: child sexual abuse - negligence, for the plaintiff, unled

*Greenwood v Department of Education* [2025] NSWSC 969: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the successful defendant, led by David Lloyd SC

*Lyons v The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle* Supreme Court of NSW 2022/00378612: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, (judgment) for the defendant, led by Nicholas Polin SC

*IZG2 v State of NSW* (and related proceedings x 4) Supreme Court of NSW 2022/00084730-001: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, (judgment) for the plaintiffs, led by Callan O'Neill

### **Competition and consumer**

*Rowan McDonald v BMW Sydney Pty Ltd & Anor* Federal Court of Australia NSD975/2024: rejection of goods, for the applicant, unled

### **Employment and industrial law**

*Allied Pinnacle Pty Limited v Ben Thompson* Supreme Court of NSW 2023/00288914: injunction - confidential information, for the defendant, unled

*Timberwolf Planting Pty Ltd v Nakia Ferguson* Local Court of NSW 2022/00141789: restraint and solicitation, for the defendant, unled

*CFMMEU v Boggabri Coal Operations Pty Ltd* [2021] FCA 719: dispute concerning the operation of s 474(1), inter alia, of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth), for the successful respondent, led by Yaseen Shariff SC

### **Inquests, inquiries and Royal Commissions**

*Inquest into the death of Joseph Massa* Coroner's Court: coronial inquest, for Healthscope, led by David Lloyd SC

*Inquest into the deaths of Riley Shortland, Rachel Martin and Alex Raichman* Coroner's Court 2017/00335331: coronial inquest, for the family of Riley Shortland, unled

*Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability*: Royal Commission, for the Commonwealth of Australia, led by various counsel including Amy Munro SC, Kate Morgan SC, Rob Anderson SC, Jonathon Redwood SC

### **Professional liability**

*Mathew Leighton-Daly v Antoinette Campbell Pty Ltd* NCAT 2024/00472345: professional negligence, ACL claims (dismissed), for the defendant (lawyer), unled

*Simone Selkirk v Maria Walz & AJ Karim* Supreme Court of NSW: professional negligence, for the defendant (lawyer), unled

*Shahid Rafique & Ors v Golam Rabbi Hadi* Supreme Court of NSW: professional negligence, for the defendant (lawyer), unled

*SC v Integro Partners Pty Ltd* District Court of NSW 2023/004595576: novel duty of care, for the defendant (lawyer), unled

*Ling v Beyond Development Group Pty Ltd* [2022] NSWSC 685: professional negligence, for the successful fourth defendant (accountant), led by David Lloyd SC

*Khodr Harmouch and Nabel El-Sayed v Hill Road Lurnea Pty Ltd* Supreme Court of NSW 2021/136636: professional negligence, for the defendant (lawyer), led by David Lloyd SC

*Paulson v Cardillo* [2021] NSWDC 587: professional negligence, for the defendant (lawyer), successful advocate's immunity defence, led by David Lloyd SC

### **Work health and safety**

*SafeWork NSW v LaRouche Restaurant Liverpool Pty Ltd*: health and safety, for SafeWork NSW, unled

*MacJac Sheds Pty Ltd v SafeWork NSW* Industrial Relations Court 2025/00261508; 2025/00261494; 2025/00261225: failure to notify, not disturb site, health and safety, for the defendant, unled

*Safework NSW v Toll Transport Pty Ltd* s155 notices: investigation, for the defendant, unled