

# 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

### Appellate

AA v Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle High Court of Australia: child sexual abuse - negligence, non-delegable duty of care, vicarious liability, for the respondent, led by Justin Gleeson SC and James Sheller SC

MTH v State of New South Wales & Ors NSW Court of Appeal 2025/00034755: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability in a foster care arrangement, for the 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 appellant, led by James Sheller SC

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

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

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, for the respondents (the NSW Liberal Party), 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)

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

## SELECTED CASES CONTINUED

### Commercial and corporations

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 2023/336956: 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), 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

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

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, 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 State of NSW* Supreme Court of NSW 2022/00382008: child sexual abuse - negligence, vicarious liability, for the 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, 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, 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 respondent, led by Yaseen Shariff SC

### **Insurance**

*Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney & Ors v Insurance Australia Limited and Zurich Properties Pty Ltd* Supreme Court of NSW 2025/00194807: claim for indemnity for policy periods between 1957 and 1972 across a large number of claims of child sexual abuse, for the plaintiffs, led by David Lloyd SC and with Carolyn Coventry

*Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle v Insurance Australia Limited* 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

### **Inquests and inquiries**

*Inquest into the deaths of Riley Shortland, Rachel Martin and Alex Raichman*: 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**

SC v Integroe Partners Pty Ltd District Court of NSW 2023/004595576: novel duty of care, for the defendant law firm, unled

Ling v Beyond Development Group Pty Ltd [2022] NSWSC 685: professional negligence, for the 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 law firm, led by David Lloyd SC

### **Work health and safety**

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