

CURRICULUM VITAE

DENES BLAZER
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I was called to the bar in 2020 having previously worked as a solicitor for 13 years. Most of my experience is in commercial litigation (including class actions) and regulatory investigations and proceedings. Prior to the bar, I worked at Allen & Overy LLP and in the criminal law and inquests/inquiries practice group at the NSW Crown Solicitor's Office.

CORE AREAS OF PRACTICE

Class actions and representative proceedings	Financial services and banking law
Competition and consumer law	Insolvency and bankruptcy
Contract and commercial disputes	Inquests and inquiries
Corporations Law	Regulatory investigations and proceedings (ASIC and ACCC matters)
Equity/Commercial	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

May 2020 to present Barrister, 12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers

I practice predominantly in commercial litigation (including class actions) and regulatory investigations and proceedings (ASIC and ACCC). My experience highlights include acting for:

- ASIC in civil penalty proceedings against Firstmac Limited, being the first contested liability hearing under the Design and Distribution Obligations regime in Chapter 7 of the Corporations Act (led by Andrew Harding SC and David Healey) - [2024] FCA 737;
- a global investment bank in a multi-party class action alleging cartel conduct in the FX market – [2021] FCA 36 (led by Chris Archibald KC and Stuart Lawrence SC);
- three company directors in a multi-party class action – [2021] FCA 829 (led by Ian Pike SC);
- an executive director of a multi-national company in multi-party civil penalty proceedings brought by ASIC – (No 2) [2022] FCA 184 and [2020] FCA 1721 (led by John Sheahan KC and Justin Williams SC);
- a financial advisor in review proceedings following the imposition of a banning order by ASIC (led by Nick Beaumont SC) - [2024] AATA 2085 and [2023] AATA 3073;
- Court appointed receivers resisting the setting aside of a bankruptcy notice – (2023) *Paltos v Morgan & Anor* (unled);
- ASIC in civil penalty proceedings against Westpac Banking Corporation – [2022] FCA 515 (led by Lincoln Crowley KC and David Healey);
- both ASIC and persons the subject of investigation, in respect of various confidential ASIC investigations (often led by Tim Faulkner SC, Jo Shepard and David Healey);
- the CDPP in a criminal cartel prosecution – *CDPP v CFMMEU & Anor* (led by Rowena Orr KC, Rob Ranken and Dan Tynan); and

Confidential

- a respondent to an application by ASIC for urgent interim travel restraints – *ASIC v Nicholas & Anor* (led by Michael Elliott SC).

**November 2011 until March 2020, Allen & Overy LLP
Senior associate (from 2012)**

During my time at Allen & Overy, I represented global and Australian corporates and financial institutions, and their company officers, in significant litigation (including class actions), and in regulatory investigations involving ASIC, the ACCC and other Asia Pacific regulators.

My experience highlights included:

- defending three global investment banks from a shareholder claim after a capital raising - [2013] NSWSC 1762, [2016] NSWSC 1377, [2016] NSWSC 1510, [2017] NSWCA 169 and [2017] HCASL 285;
- defending The Sage Group plc in the \$200m+ claim by Archer Capital - [2015] FCA 960 and [2013] FCA 1098;
- defending Reckitt Benckiser (Australia) Pty Ltd, the manufacturer of the Nurofen Specific Pain Range products, in a class action – [2017] FCA 341, and [2017] FCA 785;
- representing company directors in a class action – (No 2) [2020] FCA 653;
- securing an injunction restraining a party from proceeding with an expert determination in the context of a mining dispute – [2018] WASC 159;
- acting for a global investment bank on its FX trading investigation in the Asia Pacific (in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea);
- representing traders, analysts and company officers in ASIC investigations;
- advising a global institution on insider trading and self-reporting; and
- defending Air Asia in ACCC civil penalty proceedings - [2012] FCA 1413.

**February 2009 until November 2011, Samaha & Associates
Associate**

Samaha & Associates was (until its team joined Allen & Overy LLP) a Sydney-based law firm providing advice and representation to businesses in litigation and other dispute resolution processes, and contentious regulatory investigations and actions.

**October 2007 to February 2009, Crown Solicitor's Office
Solicitor**

As a solicitor in the criminal law and inquests/inquiries practice group of the New South Wales Crown Solicitor's Office I provided advice and representation to various New South Wales government departments including in respect of statutory prosecutions and applications by the Attorney General under the *Crimes (Serious Sex Offenders) Act 2006*. My role also included assisting the State or Deputy State Coroner at inquests in the New South Wales Coroner's Court.

**January 2007 to October 2007, Crown Solicitor's Office
Paralegal**

**December 2006 to June 2007, Division of Law, Macquarie University
Research Assistant**

**May 2006 to February 2007, Inner City Legal Centre, Sydney
Administration / Legal Assistant**

EDUCATION

POST GRADUATE EDUCATION

College of Law Professional Program 2007

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Macquarie University
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws (Hons) 2002 - 2006

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Newington College 1996 – 2001

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Awarded honours with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, 2006
- Member of the Macquarie University Jessup International Law Moot team, 2006
- Runner-up in the Macquarie University Negotiation Competition, 2006
- Semi-finalist in the Macquarie University Negotiation Competition, 2005
- Member of the Golden Key International Honour Society (membership no. 3006030), 2004