

JAMES NORTON

Barrister

12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers
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ADMISSIONS

2025	New South Wales Bar Barrister
2017	Supreme Court of New South Wales Solicitor

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025 – present	12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers Barrister
2023–25	Allens Associate, Disputes and Investigations
2017–24 (intermittent)	University of Sydney Lecturer/Tutor in Contracts, Torts and Foundations of Law
2022–23	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (NSW) Solicitor
2021–22	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Qld) Solicitor
2018	Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of New South Wales Tipstaff to the Hon Ronald Sackville AO KC
2017	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Intern, Australian Embassy Berlin
2015–16	(Variously) Allens; Linklaters; Australian Government Solicitor Law Clerk/Paralegal

EDUCATION

2020	Master of Public Policy University of Oxford
2019	Bachelor of Civil Law University of Oxford
2017	Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice Australian National University
2017	Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of International Studies UNSW

Awards, scholarships and extracurriculars

- Rhodes Scholarship (New South Wales and Magdalen, 2018)
- Executive Editor (2015); Editorial Board Member (2012–16) of the *UNSW Law Journal*
- Prizes for best performance in Stages 1 and 3 of UNSW LLB program (2013, 2011)
- Goethe Prize for best performance in German Studies at UNSW (2012)
- Dux of Wagga Wagga High School (2010)

SELECTED MATTERS

Commercial/equity

- ***Cantali v Cantali*** (NSWSC judgment reserved; led by AC Harding SC and NJ Condylis) – *trusts, fiduciary duties*
- ***Gratory Pty Ltd (re cs and mgrs apptd) v Pastrello*** (led by DA Lloyd SC and A Avery-Williams) – *fiduciary duties, directors' duties*
 - [2026] NSWSC 769 – advance ruling on use of documents against party claiming privilege against self-incrimination
- ***Koh v Chhoeu*** (led by AC Harding SC) – *real property, contract (sale of land)*
 - [2026] NSWSC 769 – substantive judgment
 - [2026] NSWSC 928 – costs judgment
- ***Secover Pty Ltd v Graham*** [2026] FCA 260 (led by AC Harding SC) – *bankruptcy*
- ***Smith v Clayton*** [2026] NSWDC 119 (unled) – *contract (loan agreement)*

Professional negligence

- ***Fussell v Hanrahan*** [2025] NSWCA 173 (led by AC Harding SC) – *negligence of legal practitioner*
- ***Victorian X-ray Group (Dandenong) Pty Ltd v Malouf*** [2026] NSWCA 5 (led by A Avery-Williams) – *negligence of legal practitioner*

Criminal

- ***Engstrom v The King*** [2026] NSWCCA 30 (led by G Huxley) – *Liberato direction, proviso*

Public

- ***Mitchell v Roads and Maritime Services (now known as Transport for New South Wales)*** (led by AC Harding SC) – *compulsory acquisition of property*
 - [2026] NSWSC 989 – judgment on substitution of representative party

Inquiries

- **ICAC Operation Wyvern** (counsel assisting, led by R Ranken SC and Gráinne Marsden)

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- 'Treating Chance Consistently: Recasting the Approach to Causation and Damage in Negligence' (2019) 42 *Melbourne University Law Review* 954

LANGUAGES

English; German (fluent); Spanish (intermediate); Polish (novice); Russian (novice)