JAMES NORTON

Barrister

12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers 180 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000 jnorton@12thfloor.com.au | +61 2 8029 6251

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

Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of International Studies

UNSW

2010 Higher School Certificate

Wagga Wagga High School

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

- Fussell v Hanrahan [2025] NSWCA 173 professional negligence, led by AH Harding SC
- Victorian X-ray Group (Dandenong) Pty Ltd v Malouf (NSWCA, judgment reserved) professional negligence, led by A Avery-Williams
- Koh v Chhoeu (NSWSC, judgment reserved) real property, led by AH Harding SC

Criminal

- Summary hearings, sentences, bail applications and appeals across the Local and District Courts of New South Wales (in prosecution) and the Magistrates and District Courts of Queensland (in defence).
- Instructing solicitor in trials in the District Court of New South Wales.

Inquiries

• Counsel assisting the Independent Commission against Corruption – Operation Wyvern (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 – C2); Spanish (intermediate – B1); Polish (novice – A2)