

MARA LEJINS

Barrister

12 Wentworth Selborne Chambers
180 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000
mara.lejins@12thfloor.com.au | (02) 8029 6370

ADMISSIONS

- 2026 **New South Wales Bar**
Barrister
- 2019 **High Court of Australia and Supreme Court of New South Wales**
Solicitor

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023 - 2025 **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions**
Senior Solicitor
- 2020 - 2023 **Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions**
Federal Prosecutor
Human Exploitation and Border Protection
Serious Financial and Corporate Crime
- 2019 - 2020 **MinterEllison**
Solicitor
Managed Funds
Administrative Law
- September 2019 - March 2020 **Public Interest Advocacy Centre
(now the Justice and Equity Centre)**
Seconded Solicitor
Homeless Persons' Legal Service

EDUCATION

- 2022 - 2023 **Columbia University, New York, United States**
Master of Laws (Highest Honors)
Graduated with Highest Honors – top 2% of graduating class
Parker Certificate for Achievement in International and Comparative Law
- 2014 - 2018 **Australian National University**
Bachelor of Laws (Honours)
Bachelor of International Relations
Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice
- 2018 - 2020 **University of New England**
Diploma of Modern Languages
Specialisation in French

SELECTED MATTERS AS A SOLICITOR

Appeared as solicitor advocate in Local Court and Children's Court proceedings, including hearings, sentencing, and bail applications; District Court appearances in sentencing and severity and conviction appeals; and Supreme Court bail applications. Matters included:

- *R v Prospero* [2022] NSWDC 26 – District Court sentence for importation of a commercial quantity of a border prohibited drug, cross-examination of expert witness
- *R v MD* – District Court conviction appeal for a Children's Court conviction for assault occasioning actual bodily harm
- *R v Benjamin Sproule* – District Court conviction appeal for dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm
- *R v Gavin Jones; R v Kevin Samphier; R v Azael Fernandez; R v TT* – Local Court and Children's Court hearings for child sexual abuse offences
- *R v Joseph Kaci; Leilani Webster; Mar-Tuvonnono; Cakaunitabua* – five-day special fixture Local Court hearing against four co-accused for firearm supply offences

Instructed counsel for District Court trials, sentences, and Supreme Court trials, sentences, and bail applications, including:

- *R v Youseff* – Supreme Court murder trial and sentence, including *R v Youseff (No 2)* [2024] NSWSC 1260 (an application to admit movement data from an iPhone)
- *R v Rene De Hesselle* – District Court trial for the importation of over 500kg of cocaine hidden inside banana pulp

OTHER

2025

Bond University Law Review

“Come and Live Like This: An Examination of Australia's Enforcement of Child Sex Tourism in Southeast Asia and The Pacific”

2022 - Present

The Chase Australia

“Chaser”

Ongoing television role on Channel 7 show