



Admissions & Qualifications

Barrister: 2018

Solicitor: 2010

Bachelor of Laws, University of Technology Sydney, 2010

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Arts), University of Wollongong, 2010

Core Competencies

- Multi party litigation, acting for major insurers and government agencies
- Managing complex and highly sensitive litigation that is subject to media exposure
- Effective client communication and expectation management
- Forensic legal analysis of expert evidence, including drafting letters of instruction, and wrangling joint expert reports

Key Practice Areas

- Commercial & Insurance Litigation
- Employment & Discrimination Law
- Inquiries & Public Law
- Tortious Claims, Medical Negligence & Professional Regulatory

Commercial & Insurance Litigation

As a barrister, Sarah advises and appears (led and unled) in a variety of commercial disputes including breaches of contract and deeds of release, equitable property disputes, and debt recovery, as well as a range of civil and commercial interlocutory matters.

As a commercial litigation solicitor, Sarah had considerable experience with commercial disputes including contract disputes, property disputes, and franchisee disputes for major telecommunications companies. Sarah managed substantial insurance litigation caseloads for the NSW State Government and in the private sector. Sarah's insurance experience encompassed product liability claims against manufacturers, claims against construction risk insurance policies, and acting for insurers in medical negligence cases.

Inquiries & Public Law

As a barrister, advise private insurer on case studies for the Royal Commission into Aged Care. Advise medical practitioners and Government departments in respect of coronial inquiries. Advise the Crown Solicitor of New South Wales on applications under the *Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990* and *Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006*.

Extensive experience as a solicitor representing government and private insured clients in coronial inquests. Government clients include the Department of Family and Community

Services and Roads and Maritime Services. Included directly liaising with department heads and ministerial offices, and managing privacy, GIPA and public access to information issues.

Two years' experience with the Crown Solicitor's Office directly supporting the NSW State Coroner and instructing Counsel Assisting. Liaising with NSW Police with respect to forensic investigations, co-ordinating responses from families of the deceased, document management, and engaging experts including medical practitioners, as well as a broad range of other experts ranging from ornithologists to meteorologists.

Employment & Discrimination Law

As a barrister, advising and appearing on discrimination law matters (including sexual and disability discrimination) for Legal Aid, Government and private clients. Advising and appearing on unfair dismissals and adverse action claims (including claims involving sexual harassment and discrimination).

As a solicitor, defended wrongful dismissal and adverse action claims, drafted employment contracts, drafted workplace policies (such as parent leave, discrimination and harassment policies), and conducted company transfer due diligence.

As a Senior Industrial Relations Advisor, represented the State Government in industrial disputes heard in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission (both as advocate and instructing counsel). Provided strategic advice with respect to corporate restructures, change management, and industrial instrument variations. Negotiated award wage increases with employees and union representatives.

Tortious Claims, Medical Negligence & Professional regulatory

As a barrister, advise government clients with respect to historical sexual assault claims. Advise private clients with respect to medical negligence cases and issues surrounding vicarious liability of major public institutions.

As a senior solicitor, managed a high-volume government litigation claims practice (covered under the NSW Treasury Managed Fund), defending a variety of tortious and catastrophic motor vehicle accident claims.

As a solicitor, daily carriage of busy practice defending medical negligence claims in the District and Supreme Court on behalf of NSW Health (and TMF), Avant, and smaller providers, arising out of public hospital and private clinic procedures.

Working in London for Capsticks LLP, the United Kingdom's premier full-service health industry law firm, I represented numerous regulators, including the Nursing and Midwifery Council and the General Dental Council, conducting fitness to practice prosecutions.

Employment history

Roles held as solicitor

Sydney

- Senior Lawyer, General Litigation & Dispute Resolution, *Department of Family & Community Services*
- Senior Lawyer, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, *Roads and Maritime Services* (secondment)
- Lawyer, Commercial Litigation & Employment, *TrumanHoyle Lawyers (now Bird&Bird)*
- Lawyer, Commercial Litigation (Health), *TressCox Lawyers*

London

- Lawyer, Dispute Resolution
Capsticks LLP

Other roles

- Senior Industrial Relations Advisor, the Department of Finance Services & Innovation
- Paralegal & Acting/Solicitor, Criminal & Coronial, Crown Solicitor's Office

Volunteer roles

- Volunteer Solicitor, Kingsford Legal Centre
- Mock Trial Judge, Law Society of NSW
- Mock Trial Coach, Law Society of NSW
- Participant, Law Society of NSW Women's Mentoring Program
- Mentor, Freehills/UNSW Women's Mentoring Program

Other Professional Education and Associations

- Diversity & Equality Committee, Bar Association of NSW (2019-2020)
- Wellbeing Committee, Bar Association of NSW (2019-2020)
- Advanced Diploma, Screenwriting, Australian, Film Television & Radio School
- Certificate III in Aboriginal Cultural Education, TAFE NSW
- Understanding Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, University of Sydney, Centre for Continued Education
- Advanced Forensic Psychology, University of Sydney, Centre for Continued Education
- Forensic Psychology, University of Sydney, Centre for Continued Education