

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Senior litigation practitioner with **14+ years' experience in the legal industry (over 10 years PAE)** in complex, high-value estate and civil disputes across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory, and international jurisdictions. Known for **advanced litigation strategy**, persuasive written and oral advocacy, high-level evidence analysis, and the capacity to **lead and supervise** the direction of matters involving family provision applications, solemn form proceedings, validity and capacity disputes, executor removal, trust and equitable claims and trustee disputes in multi-jurisdictional matters.

Demonstrated capability in **leadership**, mentoring junior lawyers, implementing workflow and precedent improvements, supervising complex evidence preparation, and supporting firm-wide strategy through **media engagement, including appearances as a guest on radio, community and firm-wide presentations, legal commentary, and stakeholder engagement**. Consistently acknowledged for professional excellence, including multiple finalist nominations for **Senior Associate of the Year** and **Regional Lawyer of the Year**.

Highly experienced in **autonomous carriage** of contested proceedings from initial instruction through to final resolution, including strategic planning, Counsel briefing, negotiation, mediation and advocacy with and without Counsel (when appropriate). Significant expertise in **cross-border disputes** involving international assets, foreign legal systems and multi-party proceedings.

Brings a leadership-aligned, commercially minded approach suitable for **Senior Associate, Special Counsel, Partner-track or In-House positions** in firms, superannuation trustee companies, public trustee organisations, or financial institutions managing vulnerable clients and/or litigation matters.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Admitted to the Register of Practitioners of the High Court of Australia | 2018

Admitted as a Solicitor in the Supreme Court of Queensland | 2014

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Master of Taxation (2 subjects) Curtin University | 2024 – 2025

- o Capital Gains Taxation; and
- o Taxation of Trusts.

Master of Laws (Corporate & Commercial Law) Bond University | 2014 | GPA: 75%

Achievements:

- o Clerkship with Dillon Legal.

Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice (PLT) Bond University | 2012 | GPA: 78%

Achievements:

- o PLT Placement at Dillon Legal.

Bachelor of Law (Honours) Bond University | 2009 | GPA: 71%

Achievements:

- o Faculty of Law Scholarship Recipient; and
- o Internships: Buckland Allen Criminal Lawyers & Jones Mitchell Lawyers.

MICROCREDENTIALS

- **AI For Everyone** Coursera | 2025 – 2026
- **The Breakthrough Lawyer: GenAI & Productivity** Bond University | 2024
- **Mastering Presentation and Confidence** Speakers Institute | 2024
- **Queensland Human Rights Commission Training – Discrimination, Human Rights Act & Obligations of Public Entities** | 2020

AWARDS

- **Finalist Senior Associate of the Year 2024** Australian Lawyers Weekly | 2024
- **Finalist Senior Associate of the Year 2022** Australian Lawyers Weekly | 2022
- **Finalist Regional Lawyer of the Year 2021** Australian Lawyers Weekly | 2021

MEMBERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

- **Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) – Affiliate**
- **Queensland Law Society**
- **My Community Legal Inc**

- **Pride in Law**

PROFESSIONAL SKILL

Core Technical Expertise

- Estate Litigation (FPA, validity, executor disputes, solemn form, equitable claims and trustee disputes);
- Civil Disputes;
- Multi-jurisdictional litigation (QLD, NSW & VIC);
- Advanced evidence strategy and drafting submissions;
- Testamentary capacity, undue influence and suspicious circumstances;
- Elder Abuse, fiduciary breaches and POA misuse;
- Equitable claims; and
- Regulatory interpretation, risk assessment and compliance disputes.

Special Counsel/ Partner Level Competencies

- Leadership of litigation strategy & practice direction;
- Supervising and mentoring junior lawyers & paralegals;
- Managing cross-functional stakeholder relationships;
- High-level negotiation, advocacy & mediation direction;
- Conflict resolution frameworks and settlement strategy;
- Business development, client retention & practice growth;
- Workflow optimisation and departmental process enhancement;

Personal Strengths

- Clear and persuasive communication;
- High emotional intelligence particularly in conflict-heavy matters;
- Strategic problem-solving and commercial acumen; and
- Ability to lead, supervise, influence and support legal teams

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Special Counsel | Tusk Lawyers, Gold Coast | 2026 – 2026

Senior litigation practitioner advising executors, beneficiaries, trustees and attorneys on complex, high value estate and succession disputes in Queensland and New South Wales.

Estate Litigation Senior Associate | Attwood Marshall Lawyers, Gold Coast | 2020 – 2025

Senior practitioner within a specialist estate litigation team, leading complex high-value disputes across multiple states and international jurisdictions. Recognised internally as one of the experienced technical skilled lawyer in the team for contested succession matters.

Key Leadership & Technical Contributions:

- Assumed **primary carriage and strategic oversight** of matters involving:
 - o Family provision applications (contesting and defending);
 - o Summary dismissal applications;
 - o Validity disputes (capacity, knowledge and approval, undue influence, suspicious circumstances);
 - o Complex cross border and international estates;
 - o Executor removal and co-executor conflicts;
 - o Constructive trust, resulting trust, estoppel & fiduciary breach claims;
 - o Custody/disposal of body disputes;
 - o AFCA superannuation complaints;
 - o Tribunal matters involving capacity and guardianship;
 - o Powers of attorney litigation and estate compensation; and
 - o Public Trustee disputes across multiple jurisdictions.

- **Led litigation strategy**, including evidence theory, risk assessment, negotiation frameworks and mediation preparation;
- Drafted complex affidavit material, submissions, pleadings, and applications demonstrating high level legal analysis;
- Directed negotiations, mediations, and Counsel conferences with a commercially-focused, resolution-driven mindset;
- **Mentored and supervised junior lawyers and legal support staff**, providing training on drafting, strategic thinking and client management;
- **Piloted artificial intelligence software** and tools to boost productivity including testing and presenting at internal firm meetings;
- Contributed to departmental leadership improving workflow systems and matter management practices;
- Actively contributed to **business development** through participation in networking events, industry functions, and relationship-building with referrers and stakeholders connected to estate disputes and other practice areas;
- Regularly produced **articles, legal updates and/or commentary** for the firm's marketing distribution channels, strengthening firm visibility and reinforcing their position as a specialist estate litigation practice;
- Guest **radio interviews and public information campaigns**, enhancing the firm's public profile and trust with vulnerable client communities;
- Ran a public-facing campaign for election to the **Queensland Law Society Future Leaders Committee**, demonstrating professional visibility, leadership aspiration and industry engagement; and
- Developed the **"Smarty Marty"** personal brand while at the firm, using accessible legal education delivery, community engagement and social storytelling techniques to generate organic attention and position the firm as a relatable, client-centered organisation.

Litigation Solicitor (Will & Estate Disputes) | Maurice Blackburn Lawyers, Brisbane | 2018 – 2020

Handled a wide range of contested estate matters, demonstrating strong autonomy and the ability to manage multiple high-conflict disputes simultaneously.

Key Responsibilities

- Conducted family provision applications, validity proceedings, executor disputes, EPOA disputes, equitable claims, trustee disputes and solemn form proceedings;
- Provided strategic written advice, drafted complex submissions and Court material, and compiled compelling evidence;
- Appeared in the District and Supreme Courts with and without Counsel;
- Administered deceased estates in Queensland and NSW, including reseals and international asset realisation;
- Provided advice about estate planning matters, including drafting Wills, Enduring Power of Attorneys and Advanced Health Directives;
- Mentored junior staff;
- Attended and represented the firm at **QLS functions, seminars and networking events**, strengthening cross-industry contacts;
- Participated in **business development initiatives** including **presenting at public events (Queensland Labor town meetings), internal firm presentations**, and relationship expansion with referrers and advocacy groups; and
- Involved in the firm's internal **Pride Network** as a committee member and secretary, strengthening community trust and firm visibility at such events as **Brisbane Pride**.

Solicitor (Litigation & Dispute Resolution –Commercial & Estate Litigation) | Bennett & Philp Lawyers, Brisbane | 2018 –2018

Managed commercial and estate litigation matters in the District and Supreme Court.

Key Responsibilities

- Drafted associated Court material including claims, interim applications, statement of claims, defences, replies, list of documents, affidavit and submissions;
- Prepared evidence, drafted formal offers and resolved matters at an early stage by way of negotiation;
- Appeared at mediations, settlement conferences, and Court applications (with and without Counsel); and
- Provided advice on general commercial litigation and insurance matters.

Associate Solicitor (Litigation, Insurance & Commercial Law) | Southside Legal, Gold Coast | 2014 –2018

Carriage over commercial and estate litigation, insurance, professional negligence, WorkCover and personal injury matters.

Key Responsibilities

- Provided advice on disputed estates on behalf of executors and beneficiaries;
- Filed family provision applications, drafted affidavit material, prepared evidence, drafted formal offers and instructed Counsel at mediation and Trial, notably a successful defence of a claim on quantum of damages on behalf of a large insurer at Trial;
- Drafted claims, statement of claims, PIPA notices, defences, replies, list of documents, statement of loss and damage and affidavits;
- Prepared evidence, discovery, instructed experts, appeared at compulsory settlement conferences and instructed Counsel at Trial; and

- Drafted and provided advice on a wide range of commercial legal documents, including joint venture, loan, leases, franchise and other agreements, international trademark applications and terms and conditions.

Graduate Lawyer (Commercial & Estate Litigation) | Dillon Legal, Gold Coast | 2014 –2014

Carriage over commercial and estate litigation matters.

Key Responsibilities

- Drafted Court material, conducted research, negotiated outcomes, and supported senior lawyers on litigation files.

LEGAL PLACEMENT

PLT Placement/Law Clerk (Commercial & Estate Litigation) | Dillon Legal, Gold Coast | 2012 –2012

- Assisted in commercial and estate litigation matters, undertaking PLT placement for three months; and
- Conducted client interviews, drafted advice, legal documents and Court materials, and developed strong legal research and writing capability.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Strategic thinker with strong commercial judgment;
- Highly developed interpersonal and communication skills;
- Adaptable and steady under pressure;
- Strong team collaborator and mentor; and
- Client-centred, empathetic and solutions-focused.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Volunteer Solicitor My Community Legal Inc | 2015 – 2018, 2020 – 2024 & 2026 – current

Board Member My Community Legal Inc | 2020 – 2022

Volunteer Solicitor Caxton Legal Centre | 2018 – 2020

Volunteer Solicitor LGBTI Legal Service Inc | 2019 – 2020

Committee Member LGBTI Legal Service Inc | 2019

Secretary My Community Legal Inc | 2016 – 2017

REFEREE

Available upon request