

John Larkings

Barrister



Practice summary

In 2003 John was admitted as a legal practitioner in NSW and he practiced as a solicitor in commercial law until 2017 when John was called to the ACT Bar. John is a member of Blackburn Chambers and serves as member of its Board.

John has been listed in the Doyle's Guide list of Leading Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Barristers in the ACT in 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

John's practice as a barrister is focussed on trial litigation in commercial causes about contracts, real property, leasing, equity, trusts, corporate and personal insolvency, professional liability, and administrative law.

John's practice for 14 years of practice as a solicitor focussed on the resolution and litigation of complex commercial disputes. He was a NSW Law Society Accredited Specialist in Commercial Litigation Law. As a solicitor, John was listed in Doyle's Guide as a recommended Canberra commercial litigation and dispute resolution lawyer in 2016 and 2017.

John applies a strategic and team-based approach to commercial litigation from an early stage of a matter. John is well-experienced in the formulation and implementation a collaborative case theory approach to commercial litigation, with ongoing input from the client and his instructing solicitors.

John is an experienced and proven counsel for the conduct of trials. John knows from his own experience as a litigation solicitor the importance of effective communication between members of the legal team in commercial disputes and in litigated matters.

Practice areas

Property
Leasing
Corporations
Insolvency and bankruptcy

Administrative law
Professional liability
Contracts and commercial disputes
Equity and trusts

Admissions and qualifications

Called to the Bar	2017
Admitted as legal practitioner	2003
Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Laws, Macquarie University	2003
Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, The College of Law	2003

Recent Cases

- *Caruso v Newington Road Developments Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2024] ACTSC 108
- *Caruso v Newington Road Developments Pty Ltd* [2024] ACTSC 22
- *Manny v David Lardner Lawyers (No 4)* [2024] ACTCA 12 (with Mark Walsh SC)
- *Elvin v Vuleta* [2024] ACTSC 84
- *Diethelm & Ors v ACT Planning and Land Authority* [2024] ACAT 25
- *Elbashir v Canberra Institute of Technology* [2024] ACAT 10
- *Ivankovic v Construction Occupations Registrar & Anor* [2023] ACAT 45
- *Block 27 Pty Ltd v Qursa Pty Ltd* [2023] ACTSC 139
- *EJV GRN No.1 Pty Ltd v Geocon Aspen JV Pty Ltd* [2023] ACTSC 104 (with Philip Walker SC)
- *Elite Bricklaying Services Pty Ltd v Kelly (No 2)* [2022] ACTSC 257
- *Gindy v Capital Lawyers Pty Ltd* [2022] ACTCA 66 (with Mark Walsh SC)
- *Manny v David Lardner Lawyers (No 2)* [2022] ACTCA 13
- *Manny v David Lardner Lawyers* [2022] ACTCA 8
- *Supabarn Supermarkets Pty Ltd v Cotrell Pty Ltd* [2021] ACTCA 2 (with Philip Walker SC)
- *Manny v David Lardner Lawyers (No 2)* [2021] ACTSC 289 (with Mark Walsh SC)
- *Higgins v Australian Capital Territory* [2020] ACTSC 19; 15 ACTLR 31 (with Philip Walker SC)

Publications

- “It’s not (just) my fault: Proportionate liability provisions in the ACT.” ACT Law Society, October 2018.
- “Designated Responsibility: The supervisory duties of a law firm principal”, Ethos (Law Society of the ACT Journal), Issue 243, March 2017, pp.20-24.
- “Beware: The Pitfalls of Reaching Settlement”, Ethos (Law Society of the ACT Journal), Issue 235, March 2015, pp.24-26.

Contact

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