

CLARE LANGFORD

Barrister

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ADMISSION

2021 Joined the New South Wales Bar

2014 Admitted to the Supreme Court of New South Wales

SELECTED MATTERS AS A BARRISTER

Public law

Commissioner of Police v Davies [2025] NSWCATAP 36 (Hennessy ADCJ and Andelman SM) – appeal from administrative review decision in respect of firearms licence. Unled.

GWJ v Commissioner of Police [2025] NSWCATAD 41 (Mobbs SM) – administrative review in respect of decision to revoke firearms licence. Unled.

Blairgrove Pty Ltd v Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority [2024] NSWSC 1525 (Coleman J) – judicial review in respect of application to increase number of gaming machines permitted in licensed venue. Unled.

GGG v University of Sydney [2024] NSWCATAD 264 (Sullivan SM) – application for summary dismissal of privacy proceedings brought by University academic. Unled.

Commissioner of Police, NSW Police Force v Hogan [2024] NSWCATAP 77 (Seiden SC PM and Robertson SM) – appeal from administrative review decision regarding firearms licence. Unled.

FCZ v Commissioner of Police [2024] NSWCATAD 16 (Ziegler SM) – administrative review in respect of application to access government information. Unled.

North Eastern Forest Alliance Inc v Commonwealth of Australia [2024] FCA 5 (Perry J) – application for judicial review challenging validity of regional forest agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW. Led by S Robertson (now SC) for the State of NSW.

Calvary Health Care ACT Ltd v Australian Capital Territory [2023] ACTSCFC 1 (McCallum CJ, Mossop and Baker JJ) – constitutional challenge to validity of Territory statute

authorising government takeover of hospital based on acquisition of property otherwise than on just terms. Led by D Williams SC and B Kaplan for plaintiff healthcare company.

Malgioglio v Commissioner of Police [2023] NSWCATAD 328 (Walker SM) – administrative review in respect of decision to revoke firearms licence. Unled.

Green v Minister for Mining and Industry [2023] NTSC 18 (Kelly J) – application for judicial review of decisions to approve mining management plan, security amount and mining authorisation. Led by O Jones for the plaintiffs and by N Sharp SC and O Jones in appeal proceedings (discontinued).

Metlife Insurance Limited v Australian Financial Complaints Authority (No 3) (2022) 411 ALR 163; (2022) 162 ACSR 366; [2022] FCA 849 (Colvin J) – costs; application of *Hardiman* principle to financial complaints authority. Led by S Robertson (now SC).

Property and trusts

Catholic Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust v Attorney General of New South Wales (2024) 422 ALR 33; [2024] NSWCA 30 (Bell CJ, Ward P and Leeming JA) – application for declaration that land set apart as Catholic burial ground at Rookwood Cemetery held on charitable trust. Led by H El-Hage SC for the Attorney General of NSW.

Clough v Breen (No 5) [2024] NSWSC 337 (Slattery J) – assessment of damages for trespass to land and nuisance. Led by D O'Connor for the plaintiff landowner.

Clough v Breen (No 4) (2023) 413 ALR 248; [2023] NSWSC 1155 (Slattery J) – claim in trespass and nuisance and for declaratory relief in respect of easements. Led by D O'Connor for the plaintiff landowner.

Ellie Barikhan v Vincenzo Cagnoni [2023] NSWSC 745 (Williams J) – application for declaration of resulting trust and judgment in respect of mortgage debt, with orders for judicial sale. Led by M Young SC for the plaintiff creditors.

Kimberley Developments v Beale [2023] NSWCA 25 (Leeming, Kirk JJA and Griffiths AJA) – appeal from judgment setting aside transfer of land and declaring constructive trust following unconscionable bargain. Led by D O'Connor for the respondent.

Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Land Manager v Attorney-General NSW [2022] NSWSC 1763 (Parker J) – judicial advice; determination whether proceeds of Anglican burial ground at Rookwood Cemetery held on charitable trust. Led by P Herzfeld SC for the Attorney General of NSW.

Contracts

Bentancur v Mammoliti [2024] NSWDC 201 (Abadee DCJ) – claim for damages in contract and trespass to goods in respect of oral agreement to rebuild vintage car. Unled.

Hobhouse v Macarthur-Onslow (2022) 409 ALR 187; [2022] NSWCA 158 (Ward P, Macfarlan and White JJA) – appeal and cross-appeal concerning existence of implied term in option agreement and relief against forfeiture. Led by B Coles QC (now KC) and M Keene for the appellant.

Intentional torts

Reyes-Carrion v State of New South Wales [2025] NSWDC 28 (Newlinds SC DCJ) – claims for damages for false imprisonment, assault and battery and trespass to goods in respect of person searches by police officers. Unled.

Representative proceedings

Meredith v State of New South Wales (NSWSC No 2022/214157 and NSWCA No 2024/435300) – class action in respect of strip searches by police officers at music festivals. Led by J Sexton SC, M Hutchings and N Oreb for the State of NSW.

- *Meredith v State of New South Wales* [2023] NSWSC 1546 (Garling J) – declassing application under *Civil Procedure Act 2005* (NSW), s 166. Led by N Oreb.
- *Meredith v State of New South Wales (No 3)* [2024] NSWSC 1499 (Garling J) – application to set aside subpoena. Led by M Hutchings.
- *State of New South Wales v Meredith* [2024] NSWCA 287 (Ward P and Griffiths AJA) – application for leave to appeal from subpoena decision. Led by M Hutchings.
- *Meredith v State of New South Wales (No 4)* [2025] NSWSC 13 (Garling J) – application to strike out pleadings. Led by M Hutchings.

Building and construction

The Owners Strata Plan 99960 v SPS Building Contractors Pty Ltd [2024] NSWSC 687 (Nixon J) – claim for damages for breach of *Home Building Act 1989* (NSW) warranties. Led by S Docker SC for the builder.

Maincom Services Pty Ltd v Raptis Pty Ltd [2024] NSWSC 305 (Weinstein J) – appeal from Local Court decision refusing summary dismissal of security of payment proceedings in light of concluded settlement agreement. Led by M Keene for appellant.

Bankruptcy and insolvency

Di Gregorio v Lumi Financial Pty Ltd [2022] FCA 165 (Murphy J) – application for stay of orders pending appeal from decision refusing to set aside bankruptcy notice. Unled.

Di Gregorio v Lumi Financial Pty Ltd [2022] FCA 94 (Rofe J) – application to set aside bankruptcy notice; power of Court to set aside bankruptcy notice and/or to extend time for filing application to set aside bankruptcy notice. Unled.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO THE BAR

2016 to 2021	NSW Crown Solicitor's Office Solicitor and Senior Solicitor, Constitutional and Administrative Law
2019	University of Technology Sydney Casual Academic, Foundations of Law
2014 to 2016	Jones Day Associate, Global Disputes
2014 to 2017	Australian Law Journal Assistant General Editor and Personalia Editor
2013	Supreme Court of New South Wales Equity Researcher; Acting Tipstaff to Darke J and Young AJA

EDUCATION

2022	Master of Public and International Law, University of Melbourne
2013	Bachelor of Laws (Hons I), University of Sydney <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walter Reid Memorial Prize• NSW Justices Association Prize in Administrative Law• Pitt Cobbett Prize in Administrative Law
2013	Bachelor of International Studies, University of Sydney

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Chapter 5, "Security Interests in Personal Property covered by the PPSA", in Tyler, Young and Croft, *Fisher & Lightwood's Law of Mortgages* (2013)

"The prerogative writs and the origins of English administrative law" (2014) 88 ALJ 567