

Vanessa Barros Goncalves

Nine Wentworth Chambers, 9/180 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000

T: (02) 8815 9254

E: vbg@ninewentworth.com.au

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023- Present **Nine Wentworth Chambers**
Barrister
Accepting briefs in all areas of law with a particular focus on crime (prosecution and defence briefs) and proceeds of crime.
- 2022- 2023 **Australian Federal Police (AFP)**
Criminal Assets Litigation Lawyer
Experience litigating applications pursuant to the *Proceeds of Crime 2002* (Cth) for the restraint and forfeiture of property suspected to be proceeds of crime in the NSW Supreme Court as well as registration of foreign confiscation orders pursuant to the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987* (Cth). Assessed referrals and prepared restraint applications. Prepared evidence in support of forfeiture hearings, as well as evidence to oppose revocation or exclusion applications. Instructed Counsel in compulsory examinations and appeared in interlocutory applications.
- 2019- 2022 **Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions**
A/Senior Federal Prosecutor, Federal Prosecutor in the Illegal Imports and Exports and Human Exploitation Branch
Conducted Federal prosecutions involving primarily drug importations, cybercrime, money laundering and child abuse material offences. Maintained a largely strictly indictable practice, which included preparing advice for charge certification, engaging in case conferencing and plea negotiations, drafting of key documents such as Crown Facts as well as preparing of matters for sentence. Where resolution was unsuccessful, prepared matters for trial.

Appeared regularly as a solicitor advocate in sentences, bail applications and severity appeals, as well as conducting a Local Court hearing. Instructed Counsel in trials in the District Court of NSW, and in appeals to the Court of Criminal Appeal.
- 2017-2019 **Hanna Legal**
Defence Solicitor, Law Graduate
Extensive involvement and support to solicitor with carriage in the preparation of the defence of a conspiracy matter arising from an ICAC investigation (*R v Edward Obeid*; *R v Moses Obeid*) and in the urgent non-publication applications in a related Federal Court proceeding. Regularly appeared in routine matters in the Local, District and Supreme Courts. Assessed briefs of evidence and drafted representations to NSW Police, engaged in fact negotiations with prosecuting agencies, conferenced potential witnesses for the preparation of witness statements and instructed Counsel in District Court trials and Local Court hearings.

ADMISSIONS AND EDUCATION

2023 Called to the New South Wales Bar and admitted to the High Court of Australia

2018 Admitted as a lawyer of the Supreme Court of New South Wales

2018 College of Law: Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice

2012-2017 Macquarie University: Bachelor of Laws (Hons) & Bachelor of International Studies

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

2023 Senior Manager, Crime and Social Justice Portfolio – Diverse Women in Law

2016-2017 Aboriginal Legal Service Volunteer
