

**David Stewart**  
**Barrister**  
**Curriculum vitae - March 2024**

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Level 9 Wentworth Chambers  
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From 5 May  
2008 to date

**Barrister**

Experience:

*Jones v Hamilton Island Enterprises Limited* [2024] FedCFamC2G 6

Industrial law - alleged contraventions of a modern award in breach of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth) – alleged underpayment of award entitlements to overtime, penalty rates and meal allowance – whether the correct job classification under the award was “Cook (tradesperson)” or “Managerial staff”

*Knox Farms Pty Limited v Upper Lachlan Shire Council & Ors* [2023] NSWSC 1601

Real property - costs – party/party —no hearing on the merits —claims against particular party discontinued —effective discontinuance of claims against other parties — whether capitulation on dismissed cross-claim and notice of motion

*Tutzling Pty Ltd v Upper Lachlan Shire Council & Ors* [2021] NSWSC 1221

Real property - parties – joinder – proceedings for specific performance of a Deed – application by third parties to become defendants – whether applicants are necessary parties to the proceedings – order sought by plaintiff would require defendant Council to proceed to close a public road that adjoins land owned by applicants

*Re Estate Miletic; Strbik v Strbik* [2023] NSWSC 371

Succession & Probate - construction of a deceased testator's will and the determination of competing entitlements of members of his family (a daughter and her children, his grandchildren) to property consequent upon a determination of the proper construction of the will

*John Patrick Bracken v OFX (OzForex Limited)* [2023] FWCFB 174

*John Bracken v OzForex Limited* [2022] FWCFB 95

*John Patrick Bracken v OzForex Limited* [2022] FWCFB 172

Employment & Industrial - appeals – unfair dismissal – serious misconduct - remittal

*Heffernan v Law Society Northern Territory* [2023] NTCA 10

Legal practitioners – cancellation of unrestricted practising certificate – whether appellant fit and proper person – failure to disclose suitability matters – good fame and character

*Walker v Walker* [2022] NSWSC 1104

Contracts – construction – interpretation – deed of settlement

*Last v Lewis* [2022] NSWSC 791

Succession & Probate - deed of family arrangement - family provision – claim by adult daughter

*Bachman & Donohoe* [2021] FedCFamC1F 240

Family law – de facto relationship – binding financial agreement - independent legal advice in executing the financial agreement – mandatory conditions of the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth) s 90UJ(1)(b) were not satisfied –unjust or inequitable on either party to render the agreement not binding

*Bachman & Donohoe (No. 2)* [2021] FedCFamC1F 286

Family law – de facto relationship – stamp duty

*Bachman & Donohoe (No 3)* [2022] FedCFamC1F 185

Family law – costs

*Colburn & Cleese* [2022] FedCFamC1A 147

Family law – de facto relationship – property - jurisdiction – declaration of de facto relationship – where judgment was entered between the parties by consent pursuant to the *Property (Relationships) Act 1984* (NSW) - where the primary judge declared the de facto relationship existed during a period covered by the Supreme Court judgment – estoppel – remittal

*Cleese & Colburn* [2022] FedCFamC1F 282

Family law – de facto relationship – property - jurisdiction – applicant seeks a declaration pursuant to s 90RD of the *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth)

*Colburn & Cleese* (No 2) [2022] FedCFamC1F 426

Family law – costs

*Colburn & Cleese* [2021] FamCAFC 12

Family law – de facto relationship – property - jurisdiction – costs

*Colburn & Cleese* [2020] FamCAFC 278

Family law – de facto relationship – property - jurisdiction – declaration was made which was not based on agreed or found facts – hypothetical or advisory opinion

*Cleese & Colburn* [2020] FamCA 516

Family law – de facto relationship – property - jurisdiction – whether the Family Court has the jurisdiction to determine whether an Agreement as to Judgment at the Supreme Court, made pursuant to *Property (Relationships) Act* (NSW) should be set aside

Jurisdiction - de facto relationships – declaration sought pursuant to s 90RD *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth) – jurisdiction to set aside or vary Agreement as to Judgment of a State Court

*Cummins v Petterd* [2021] FCA 646

Financial services – superannuation trustee exercise of powers – *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)s 1055

*Re Estate Bohar, Bockos v Bohar* [2021] NSWSC 1177

Succession - family provision – claim by adult granddaughter - costs

*Kabbara & Ors v Australian National Sports Club Incorporated*  
[2021] NSWSC 738

Associations and clubs – domestic and private tribunals – procedural fairness

*Roderick v Washington H Soul Pattinson & Company Limited* [2020] NSWSC 1223

*Roderick v Washington H Soul Pattinson & Company Limited (No 2)* [2020] NSWSC 1224

Employment and industrial law — contract — termination without notice — whether original written contract applied or had been varied or discharged in ongoing relationship of employment — objective assessment of parties' mutual intention — necessity for implied term as to reasonable notice in new contract — determination of reasonable notice period

*Dawson v Secretary, Minister of Health* [2020] NSWCCPD 16

Deemed worker – volunteers – Workplace Injury Management and Workers compensation Act 1998 (NSW) Sch 16, Cl 1

*In the matter of A Twins Spare Parts Pty Ltd* [2020] NSWSC 156

Corporations – external administration – whether appropriate to wind up company on the just and equitable ground – *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) s 461(1)(k)

*In the matter of Norwest Legal Services Pty Limited* [2019] NSWSC 1896

Corporations – application to set aside creditor's statutory demand – where debt purported to be due and payable to beneficiary of trust – where evidence of debt appears to be sourced from financial accounts that have not been prepared – whether debt is due and payable

*HME Services Pty Ltd v Ortado* [2019] NSWSC 1325

Freezing order – judgment for the plaintiff following grant of a freezing order

*Cordina Chicken Farms Pty Ltd v Dharun Prasad* [2019] FWCFB 8661

Employment – appeal from decision of the Fair Work Commission –  
Work Health & Safety

*Alison Bleyerveen v Uniting Mission and Education* [2019] FWC 4818

Employment – genuine redundancy – appeal lodged. Settled

*Croft v Sanders* [2019] NSWCA 303

Succession — contested probate — testamentary capacity —  
application of test in *Banks v Goodfellow* — where will apparent and  
rational on its face — where evidence of hallucinations or delusions

*Re Estates Croft, deceased* [2018] NSWSC 1303

Succession – Contested probate – Testamentary capacity – Joint hearing  
of challenges to respective wills of a married couple – Where each will-  
maker suffered some form of mental illness

*Secretary, Ministry of Health v Dawson* [2019] NSWCCPD 30

Workers compensation – appeal – deemed worker – ambulance  
volunteer

*State of NSW Wales v Abdul* [2018] NSWCCPD 41

Workers compensation – appeal – CPI indexation of benefits

*UP Australia Pty Ltd v McDonald & Anor* [2018] NSWSC 218

Equity - interlocutory injunctions - serious question to be tried - balance  
of convenience - interests associated with the first defendant to sell a  
gym business to the plaintiff - second defendant is employed as a  
mentor within the gym business from the time of the sale

*Marathon Group Pty Ltd v Latrobe Valley Building Services Pty Ltd* [2018]  
NSWSC 194

Appeal – appeal of decision of the Local Court of NSW

*Giles & Giles & Anor* [2018] FCCA 294

Family law – express trust – resulting trust – presumption of advancement

*Young v Cooke* [2018] NSWSC 588

Costs – application for security for costs – principles – r 50.8 of the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* – whether or not special circumstances demonstrated – discretionary factors – prospects of success – impecuniosity – question of bona fides – conduct in litigation – risk of stultification – special circumstances established

*Young v Cooke* [2017] FCA 26

*Young v Cooke* [2016] FCA 1215

Bankruptcy and insolvency – application for extension of time to appeal from a decision of a single judge of this Court – whether proposed appeal has merit – application refused

*Kallin Pty Ltd v ACN 107 851 847 Pty Ltd* [2018] NSWSC 124

Consumer law — Misleading or deceptive conduct — Whether statement misleading — Reliance upon misleading statements — Causation — Damage

*Kohari v NSW Trustee & Guardian (No 3)* [2017] NSWSC 1431

Costs – party/party – offer of compromise – judgment for plaintiff no more favourable than offer – effect of notice disputing a fact where fact subsequently admitted – *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* (NSW), rr 42.8, 42.15

*Kohari v NSW Trustee & Guardian (No 2)* [2017] NSWSC 1080

Succession – family provision

*Kohari v NSW Trustee & Guardian* [2016] NSWSC 1372

Succession – parentage testing – *Status of Children Act 1996* (NSW) - DNA test ordered

*Watson v Uniting Care* [2017] FCCA 126

Employment – adverse action

*Two Italian Boys Holdings Pty Ltd v The Winery Pty Ltd* [2017] NSWSC 67

*Two Italian Boys Holdings Pty Ltd v The Winery Pty Ltd* [2016] NSWSC 1163

Costs – security for costs – where plaintiffs are arguably impecunious – whether plaintiffs’ financial position caused by the defendant – where defendant has filed no defence to the statement of claim – where strength of the plaintiffs’ case cannot be judged before a defence has been filed

*PND Civil Group Pty Ltd v Bastow Civil Constructions Pty Ltd* [2017] NSWCA 159

Appeal – new issues raised for first time on appeal – whether entitled to recover management time as a result of defective works - whether primary judge’s discretion miscarried with respect to costs

*Sadiq v NSW Trustee & Guardian* [2016] NSWCA 62

Succession – de facto partner of the deceased

*The Estate of Roger Christopher Currie, late of Balmain* [2015] NSWSC 1098

Succession - informal computer Will

*Bibby Financial Services Australia Pty Ltd v Sharma* [2014] NSWCA 37

Contract – employment - construction of a written contractual clause of good faith - sexual harassment and serious misconduct

*Sharma v Bibby Financial Services Australia Pty Ltd* [2012] NSWSC 1157

Contract – employment - construction of a written contractual clause of good faith - sexual harassment and serious misconduct

*Toth v Graham* [2014] NSWSC 393

Succession – family provision

*Michael Zannetides v Tracey Spence* [2013] NSWSC 2032

Succession – family provision – extension of time

*Gana Holdings v Renshaw* [2013] NSWSC 381

Application for injunction to restrain alleged breach of partnership deed

*Bindaree Beef Pty Ltd v Riley* [2013] NSWCA 305

Employment - injured employee provisions under the *Workers Compensation Act 1987* (NSW) and their interaction with workplace health and safety legislation - special Leave Application refused

*Britten-Norman Pty Ltd v Analysis & Technology Australia Pty Ltd* [2013] NSWCA 344

Corporations - construction and application of s.459G of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)

*Grace v Grace* - [2010] NSWSC 1513; [2010] NSWSC 1514; [2010] NSWSC 1526; [2010] NSWSC 1527; [2012] NSWSC 976; (No 2) [2012] NSWSC 1321; (No 3) [2012] NSWSC 1623; (No 4) [2013] NSWSC 385; (No 5) [2013] NSWSC 601; (No 6) [2013] NSWSC 897; (No 7) [2013] NSWSC 1745; (No 8) [2014] NSWSC 419; [2014] NSWCA 86

Corporations - undue influence and unconscionable conduct - administration of estates - *Family Law Act 1975* (Cth) - oppression - *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) – valuation experts property and shares

*Australian Meat Industries Employees' Union v Wingham Beef Exports Pty Ltd* [2013] FWCFB 909

Employment - construction of an Enterprise Agreement

*The Owners-Strata Plan 62658 v Mestrez Pty Ltd & Ors* [2012] NSWSC 1259; *The Owners-Strata Plan 62658 v Black No Sugar Pty Ltd* [2010] NSWSC 408

Corporations - professional indemnity insurance - flood



*Malaarachchi v UnitingCare NSW.ACT* [2014] FWC 7944

Employment - allegations of misconduct

*Hanson v Johnston & Ors* [2011] NSWSC 621

Court of Disputed Returns - email

*Jones v Pearson & Anor* [2015] NSWSC 1324

Court of Disputed returns – NSW elections

*Do Rozario v French Accent* [2011] FWA 3003

*Jiang Shen Cai trading as French Accent v Do Rozario* [2011] FWAFB 8307

Employment – contractor or employee

*Atlas Copco Australia Pty Ltd v Max Smith Enterprises Pty Ltd* [2009] FCA 1054

Corporations – application for leave to proceed against a corporation in liquidation – no prospect of recovering a money judgment – public interest in pursuing errant entities – prospect of making declarations sufficient to justify leave being granted – leave to proceed granted

Also, appearing for examinees pursuant to Chapter 5, Part 5.9 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)

Advising on Church trust property and applicable legislation

Advising, drafting and appearing in matters involving partnership disputes; restraint of trade; confidential information; distributorships; directors' duties; lent workers; shareholder agreements; employment contracts; dismissal; termination; total and permanent disablement; discrimination and harassment; workplace health and safety; importation of heavy equipment; and prosecutions under Chapter 4 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth)

Confidential matters – complaints to medical tribunals and with respect to training programmes – complaints with respect to legal practitioners

January 2001 to 21 December 2007 **Harmers Workplace Lawyers**  
Team Leader and Partner

Experience:

- Advising and acting in corporate and commercial matters, constitutional law, contract, trade practices, administrative law, directors' duties, corporate governance, restraints, confidential information, share schemes, employment and industrial law, discrimination and human rights, and occupational health & safety.
- For clients including Australian Bankers' Association, Choice, CMC Markets, Coca-Cola, Egis, Elizabeth Arden, EnergyAustralia, Gough & Gilmour, Hawker Pacific, Mayne Group, McDonalds, RailCorp, Ricoh, Roche Pharmaceuticals, State Transit Authority, State Water, Spruson & Ferguson, Talent2, Tennis NSW, and a number of law firms as well as individuals.

Examples:

- advising Mayne Group Limited on demerger
- advising on impact of new IFRS/AASB standards on share options and bonus schemes
- Federal and Supreme Court proceedings involving *Corporations Act* and directors' and fiduciary duties and winding up
- submissions to the Federal Remuneration Tribunal for the Judges and Judicial Registrars of the Family Court of Australia
- acting in the first case testing the meaning of "constitutional corporation" in relation to the *Workplace Relations Act* and the State unfair contracts jurisdiction
- acting for a developmentally disabled man in employment proceedings against Australia Post
- acting for Gough & Gilmour in unfair contract proceedings against Caterpillar
- acting for an individual in unfair contract proceedings involving share options
- advised on industrial strategy for RailCorp
- acted in federal and state industrial actions including strikes, boycotts and award and agreement negotiations
- acted for labour hire provider in Mobil dispute in South Australia
- acted for CSR in truck contractor matter

- involved in industrial strategy for brick and tile manufacturer in New South Wales
- advised on strategy and entitlements for redundancy programme for computer manufacturer
- advice on a range of outsourcing matters
- advising on implementation of redundancy programmes for clients, including dotcom companies, a consultancy company and an advertising company
- advising a number of senior executives in the banking & finance and the media & music industries
- occupational health and safety and injured employee compliance advice for Amalgamated Holdings
- defending McDonalds against occupational health and safety prosecution for a fatality
- defending Kosciusko Thredbo against occupational health and safety prosecution
- acted for individual and corporate clients in state and federal discrimination and human rights matters including sexual harassment
- development and implementation of compliance programmes

December  
1999 to July  
2000

**Freshfields**

Manager and Solicitor, London office.

Corporate and commercial work on large scale multi-jurisdictional transactions.

The main types of work involved:

- corporate transaction work primarily on behalf of the bidder in acquisitions
- corporate work on mergers, joint ventures and IPOs
- specialist due diligence and reporting on liabilities arising from transactions, including executive service contracts and share option schemes
- drafting sections on employment and share schemes for offer documents and listing particulars
- the establishment of employee share option schemes for companies
- undertaking negotiations and drafting the termination of executive contracts and drafting letters to option holders under share schemes

Experience:

- proposed joint venture between EMI and Time Warner
- subscription by Soros in a listed company
- purchase by Pearson of Dorling Kindersley
- proposed purchase of a soup business by Campbells
- purchase of a number of newspapers by Gannett
- purchase of a steel making business by Henkel
- setting up schemes for Caradon, Anglian Water, Hewlett Packard, First Leisure and RJB Mining
- potential purchase of Welsh Water by Nomura
- purchase of a manufacturing business by Jefferson Smurfit

Negotiated approval of schemes with the Inland Revenue, where required. Involved in drafting documentation to establish trusts for the satisfaction of shares under schemes. Involved in the provision of related general advice at Board level, particularly on financial assistance for employees to buy company shares.

July 1998 to  
October 1999      **Michael Harmer & Associates**  
Team Leader

Experience:

- advised Coca Cola on their employment and industrial arrangements for the Sydney 2000 Olympics
- advised the State Transit Authority in relation to an enterprise agreement with their ferry staff
- acted for senior executives including the editor of a major daily newspaper, editor of a fashion magazine, the CEO of a publicly listed internet company, senior executives of a leading music company and executives in the financial and mining industries
- advising a food manufacturing company on injured employee issues
- defending occupational health and safety prosecutions for Coca Cola, Smiths Snack Vending and McDonalds
- involved in occupational health and safety compliance programme for aluminium manufacturing company
- assisted Kosciusko Thredbo in the inquest arising from the landslip
- advising and providing training seminars for clients on sexual harassment

- acted for a sixteen year old boy on a pro bono basis who was physically abused on a work site
- acted for a woman who was held against her will by her manager
- advising a large financial institution on employee entitlements on a takeover
- advising a manufacturing company on the restructuring of their plant
- conducting a due diligence programme for a prospective purchaser in the shipping industry

August 1993 to **Moray & Agnew**  
June 1998 Solicitor

Experience:

- commercial and corporate advice
- commercial litigation including in relation to an aeroplane crash
- advising and drafting of awards, enterprise agreements, Australian Workplace Agreements, and the establishment of an Industrial Committee
- drafting and negotiating specific executive employment contracts, as well as drafting standard letters of appointment
- providing advice on the legitimate grounds for termination and the proper handling of dismissals
- conducting litigation with an emphasis on unlawful terminations, unfair dismissals, unfair contracts and workers' compensation.
- assisting clients with apprenticeship matters before the Vocational Training Board
- experience in defence of prosecutions under occupational health & safety legislation
- experience in anti-discrimination law, including defending harassment and equal opportunity claims
- defending a variety of personal injury claims

**Other related work experience**

**Sydney University Law Library**, Assistant, March 1992 - July 1993

**Norton Smith & Co**, Summer Clerk, December 1991 - January 1992 - included arresting a ship, dealing with a stowaway and preparing the document list in *Baltic Shipping v Dillon*

## **Publications and papers**

Presented papers and seminars and published articles on issues ranging from change management to effective performance appraisal systems and interviewing.

## **Other positions and memberships**

Member, NSW Bar Association

Member, Costs and Fees Committee, NSW Bar Association

Former Member of the New South Wales Netball Appeals Panel

## **Qualifications**

**Masters** University of Sydney, Master of Labour Law and Relations

**Tertiary** University of Sydney, Bachelor of Arts, conferred 1991  
University of Sydney, Bachelor of Laws, conferred 1993  
University of Technology, College of Law, Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, completed June 1993

**Secondary** James Ruse Agricultural High School  
Higher School Certificate, conferred 1986

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