

Peace Decle

LLB (Hons) BSc MAL

Barrister, Commercial Bank Chambers
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Education & Professional Qualifications

2025	Accredited Mediator by Australian Institute of Family Law Arbitrators and Mediators
2019	Practising Certificate issued by NSW Bar Association
2017	Accredited as Specialist in Children's Law (Child Representation) – NSW Law Society
2015	Accredited as Specialist in Family Law – NSW Law Society
2014	Masters of Applied Law (Family Law) – College of Law
2011	Accredited as Independent Children's Lawyer
2005	Practising Certificate issued by NSW Law Society
2003	Practising Certificate issued by Law Institute of Victoria
2003	Admitted to practise as a Barrister and Solicitor in the High Court of Australia and all federal courts
2003	Admitted to practise as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria
2002	Admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of New South Wales
2002	Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice – College of Law
1995 – 1999	Bachelor of Laws (Honours) – Griffith University Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) majoring in social policy and development – Griffith University

Employment History

2024 - present Senior Member (part-time), NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal

Role includes:

- Presiding over in person and online hearings including directions hearings, interim hearings and final hearings in administrative review proceedings in a wide range of subject areas.
- Delivering written judgments using NSW Caselaw database.

2023 Sessional Academic, Southern Cross University

Role included:

- Delivering tutorials for students in the subject Family Law in Practice.

2019 - present Barrister, Commercial Bank Chambers

Role includes:

- Providing advice and representing client's interests at court events, mediations and trials in the areas of family law, child welfare law, adoption, civil litigation, administrative law (including tenancy, guardianship, financial management, WWCC appeals and review of government decisions), domestic violence and criminal law.
- Appearances at mentions, interim hearings and final hearings before the Local Court of NSW, Children's Court of NSW, District Court of NSW, Supreme Court of NSW, NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal (including Appeal Panel), Federal Circuit & Family Court of Australia (Divisions 1 and 2 including Appeals).
- Since 2025, offering mediation for participants in the family law system.

2013 – 2019 Family Law Solicitor Randall Legal

Duties included:

- All aspects of family law practice and litigation including children, property, child support, divorce, child welfare and child representation; in addition civil litigation and administrative law.
- Appearances before the NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal, Local Court of NSW, Children's Court of NSW, District Court of NSW, Supreme Court of NSW, Federal Circuit Court and Family Court of Australia including mentions, interim hearings and final hearings.

- 2005 – 2013 Family Law/Care & Protection Solicitor – Legal Aid Commission NSW**
- Duties included:
- All aspects of family law practice and litigation including children, property, child support, divorce, child welfare and child representation.
 - Appearances before the Local Court of NSW, Children’s Court of NSW, District Court of NSW, Supreme Court of NSW, Federal Circuit Court and Family Court of Australia including mentions, interim hearings, final hearings and appeals.
- 2003 – 2004 Litigation Solicitor – Arnold Bloch Leibler Lawyers & Advisors**
- Duties included:
- Practice in administrative law and general civil litigation.
 - Appearances before the County Court of Victoria, the Federal Magistrates Service and the Federal Court of Australia.
- 2002 – 2003 Associate to the Honourable Justice North – Federal Court of Australia, Melbourne**
- Duties included:
- Management of Justice North’s docket involving liaison with solicitors and counsel and a comprehensive knowledge of litigation documents, practice and procedures.
- 2000 – 2002 Legal Research Officer – Cape York Land Council**
- Duties included:
- Preparation of native title determination applications and lodgement and appearances with the Federal Court of Australia in compliance with the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).
 - Research for Noel Pearson (Special Advisor to Cape York Land Council) and organisation of associated workshop “The Legal Concept of Native Title”.
 - Coordination of a major research project with the National Native Title Tribunal examining the legal and practical issues involved in establishing prescribed bodies corporate in Cape York (published as “Title Holding and Land Management in Cape York”).
- 1999 – 2000 Research Officer – National Native Title Tribunal**
(Casual)
- Duties included:
- Development of procedures for administering the registration test contained in the Native Title Act on Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

- Administering the registration test on native title determination applications.

1998 – 1999

Research Assistant – Cape York Land Council

(Casual)

Duties included:

- Assisting in the development of procedures for the implementation of the 1998 amendments to the Native Title Act.
- Legal research.

Professional Associations

2025 -	Member of the Professional Conduct Committee for NSW Bar Association
2023 –	Member of the Family, Adoption & Care Committee for NSW Bar Association
2019 –	Member of the Family Law Section, Australian Law Council
2018 - 2023	Committee Member/Treasurer, Northern Star Hockey Club
2017 - 2019	Member of Judiciary Committee, Far North Coast Hockey Association
2012 - 2017	Committee Member/Treasurer, Family Support Network (runs a range of family support services including early intervention parenting services)
2011	Committee Member, Northern Rivers Women & Children's Services (at the time ran Lismore Womens' Refuge, Aboriginal Womens' Refuge and Lismore Womens' Health & Resource Centre)
2007-2008	Committee Member/Treasurer, Community Connections (ran a range of Youth Services in Lismore)

Professional Publications

2002	"Courts and Immigration Detention: 'Once a Jolly Swagman Camped by a Billabong'" (2002) 10(1) <i>Australian Journal of Administrative Law</i> 5 (co-authored with the Honourable Justice North)
1998	"The Stolen Generation" (1998) 23(4) <i>Alternative Law Journal</i> 168

Unpublished Papers / Presentations

May 2025	<i>The meaning of family violence in the Family Law Act 1975</i> Presented to Northern Rivers Family Law Pathways Conference
Nov 2024	<i>Invisible Chains: Intimate Terrorism</i> Presented to Northern NSW Local Health District
July 2024	<i>Community Forum: New Coercive Control Laws in NSW</i> Presentation and discussion of new coercive control laws, Lennox Head
Jun 2024	<i>Contravention Applications in Parenting Matters</i> Co-presented with Senior Judicial Registrar Flintoff at Hunter Valley Family Law Conference
May 2024	<i>Northern Rivers Family Law Practitioners Association family violence training day – Panel Member</i>
April 2024	<i>Coercive Control: Intimate Terrorism</i> (new coercive control laws) Presented with Sophie Anderson, Barrister and Michelle England, Deputy Senior Crown Prosecutor, ODPP on behalf of the NSW Bar Association (Webinar)
Mar 2024	<i>Coercive Control: Intimate Terrorism</i> (new coercive control laws) Presented to Legal Aid Northern Rivers Criminal Law Day, Ballina
Mar 2024	<i>Kennon cases</i> Presented to the Coffs Harbour Law Society Conference, Coffs Harbour
Feb 2024	<i>Kennon cases</i> Presented to North Coast Law Society Conference, Lennox Head
Aug 2023	<i>Unacceptable risk cases and the intersection of family and criminal law</i> Presented to the Legal Aid Criminal Law Conference, Sydney
May 2023	<i>Unacceptable risk cases and the intersection of family and criminal law</i> Presented to the Far North Coast Family Law Practitioners Association Workshop
Mar 2023	<i>Unacceptable risk cases and the intersection of family and criminal law</i> Presented to the NSW Bar Association Regional Conference, Ballina
2019	<i>Section 256A Applications: The Death Knell of Natural Justice or supporting the Paramountcy Principle</i>

Presented with Robert McLachlan at the Legal Aid Care and Protection Conference, Sydney

2019 *Family law / Child Protection implications of ADVOs*

Presented with Ben Cochrane, Barrister at the Criminal Law CPD Day, Byron Bay

1999 *"Certainty in Native Title: The Role for Indigenous Land Use Agreements"*

Circulated within the National Native Title Tribunal.

Academic Achievements

1999 Griffith Award for Academic Excellence

1999 Australian representative in the International Negotiation Competition, University of Westminster, London

1999 Winner of the Inaugural Australian Negotiation Competition, Wollongong University, Wollongong

1999 Top Student, Cross-Cultural Justice in Australia

1998 Griffith Award for Academic Excellence

1994 TJ Ryan Prize Finalist for Leadership, Academic Achievement and Commitment to Community Service

1994 Caltex Best Allrounder Award