

Ashleigh Best
Barrister
0405 856 670
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Practice at the Victorian Bar

Signed Bar Roll: 4 May 2023

Areas of practice:

- Environment and planning law
- Public and administrative law
- General commercial law
- Corporate law
- Equity and trusts
- Property law
- Inquiries and inquests
- Criminal law

Jurisdictions acted in (as Counsel):

- High Court of Australia (led)
- Federal Court of Australia (led)
- Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (led)
- Supreme Court of Victoria (unled)
- Supreme Court of Tasmania (led)
- Coroners Court of Victoria (led)
- Magistrates' Court of Victoria (unled)
- Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (unled)

Previous Experience

Legal Officer and Acting Senior Legal Officer, NSW Environment Protection Authority January-June 2019

- Legislation & Advice team within the Legal Services Branch
- Advised on the administration of environment protection legislation, including the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997*
- Advised on legislative reform projects and internal corporate governance matters

Law Graduate and Lawyer, Allens February 2017-January 2019

- Disputes & Investigations and Environment & Planning teams
- Assisted in advising on matters concerning corporate law, civil practice, evidence, equity, administrative law, torts, environmental and planning law and international human rights law
- Took carriage of small commercial and pro bono matters, which included court appearances in the Supreme Court and acting as an instructing solicitor in the High Court of Australia in *EMP144 v Republic of Nauru* [2018] HCA 21

Summer Clerk and Senior Paralegal, Allens November 2015-January 2017

- Undertook legal research in corporate law, civil practice and media law

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Law, Melbourne Law School and Centre for Resources, Energy and Environmental Law (in progress) supervised by Professors Christine Parker and Lee Godden, and Associate Professor Olivia Barr July 2019-July 2023 (expected)

- Melbourne Research Scholarship (Research Training Program) (2019-2023)
- Melbourne Law School Teaching Fellowship (2020-2021)
- Melbourne Law School Competitive Additional Funding Award (2022)

- MJIL Prize for Outstanding International Law Scholarship (2023)
- AALTRA Research Prize (2022)
- GADMC Best New Emerging Researcher Award (2021)
- Sybil Emslie Scholarship (2020)

Graduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching for Higher Education, University of Notre Dame Australia	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Dean's Letter of Commendation 	
Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, Australian National University	2017
Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal), University of Technology Sydney	2011-2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ranked First in Graduating Class with High Distinction Average · Hon. Helen Sham-Ho Prize for the most academically outstanding student who has graduated or is eligible to graduate from the UTS LLB or JD (2017) · King & Wood Mallesons Prize for the best performance in all core UTS law subjects (2017) · David Toolan Memorial Prize for the best performance in International Human Rights Law (2017) · Veronica Pike Prize for the best performance by a female student in Evidence and Criminal Procedure (2017) · Blackstone Waterhouse Lawyers Prize for the best performance in Environmental Law (2016) · UTS Law Valedictorian for academic excellence and commitment to social justice (2016) · UTS Law High Achievers' Mentoring Program (2015) · Associate Dean's letter for first place in Equity and Trusts (2014) · LexisNexis Prize for the best performance in Perspectives on Law (2012) 	
Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Social Inquiry), University of Technology Sydney	2011-2015

Teaching Experience

Guest Lecturer (Disaster Law, Animal Law), Melbourne Law School	2019-present
Teaching Fellow (Comparative Law, Human Rights), Melbourne Law School	2020-2021
Tutor (Constitutional Law), University of Technology Sydney	March-July 2019
Coach of the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, University of Technology Sydney	October 2016-February 2017

Research Assistant Experience

Research Assistant, Melbourne Law School	2020-2021
Research Assistant, University of Technology Sydney	2014- 2016