



William Thomas

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Profile

William Thomas specialises in commercial law. His practice includes arbitration, corporate, construction, insurance, shipping and other commercial disputes.

Before coming to the Bar, Will was a solicitor at Allens in the commercial litigation group. He was also an Associate at the Federal Court of Australia. He is a reporter for the Federal Court Reports and the Federal Law Reports.

Will holds a Bachelor of Laws with first class honours from the University of Melbourne, as well as a Bachelor of Arts and a Diploma in Modern Languages in Japanese. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb).

Admissions

Signed the Victorian Bar Roll on 5 May 2016

Admitted to practice as an Australian Lawyer on 12 November 2013

Entitled to practise in all Australian jurisdictions

Qualifications

Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours), University of Melbourne

Bachelor of Arts, University of Melbourne

Diploma in Modern Languages (Japanese), University of Melbourne

Professional Experience

Allens

Solicitor, Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution
February 2013 to February 2015

Federal Court of Australia

Judge's Associate
February 2015 to March 2016





Areas of Practice

- Building and Construction
- Class Actions
- Commercial Arbitration
- Competition
- Consumer Law
- Contractual Disputes
- Directors' Duties
- Equity and Trusts
- Insurance
- Professional Liability
- Real Property
- Shipping
- Statutory Interpretation
- Torts

Selected Appearances

- *UDP Holdings Pty Ltd v Ironshore Corporate Capital Ltd* (2016) 51 VR 60; [2016] VSC 400 (Supreme Court of Victoria, 2016)
Application to stay a proceeding in the Supreme Court of Victoria pending the outcome of a related arbitration. (Led by Wendy Harris QC, instructed by Norton Rose Fulbright Australia)
- *Swan Hill Chemicals Pty Ltd v MA & J Tripodi Pty Ltd* [2016] VSCA 264 (Supreme Court of Victoria, Court of Appeal, 2016)
Appeal from a discretionary decision by a judge granting leave to amend a statement of claim at the end of a trial. (Led by Tim Margetts QC, instructed by Wotton + Kearney)
- *Falaras v Gouletsas* [2017] VSC 495 (Supreme Court of Victoria, 2017)
Application for leave to appeal from a decision of VCAT seeking to set aside a consent order on jurisdictional grounds. (Unled, instructed by Aitken Partners)
- *Morad v El-Ashey* [2017] FCA 1136 (Federal Court of Australia, 2017)
Application for relief in relation to alleged breaches of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979 (Cth). (Unled, instructed by Pearsons Lawyers)
- *M A & J Tripodi Pty Ltd v Swan Hill Chemicals Pty Ltd* [2018] VCC 526 (County Court of Victoria, 2016-18)
Trial of claims concerning product liability, professional negligence and damages for loss of opportunity. (Led by Tim Margetts QC, instructed by Wotton + Kearney)
- *Arbitration under the Rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre* (Singapore, 2017)
Commercial arbitration in Singapore in relation to liability arising from a recall of defective products. (Led by Tim Margetts QC, instructed by Wotton + Kearney)





Selected Appearances

- *Flash Lighting Company Ltd v Australian Kunqian International Energy Co Ltd* (Supreme Court of Victoria, 2017-18)
Dispute in relation to alleged breaches of directors' duties, accessorial liability, breach of trust and knowing receipt under *Barnes v Addy*. Judgment reserved. (Led by Tim Margetts QC, instructed by Baker McKenzie)
- *Country Fire Authority v Hmood Al Ali Al Khalaf Trading* (Federal Court of Australia, 2017-18)
Dispute concerning statutory charges levied against a shipowner for attending to extinguish a fire on a vessel. Settled before trial. (Led by Matthew Harvey, instructed by AusShip Lawyers)
- *Director of Public Prosecutions (Tas) v LD Shipping Pty Ltd* (Magistrates' Court of Tasmania, 2017-18)
Ongoing regulatory prosecution alleging contraventions of the Animal Welfare Act 1993 (Tas) arising from the alleged death of livestock during a sea voyage across Bass Strait. (Unled, instructed by HFW)
- *Victorian Workcover Authority v Braid Logistics Australia Pty Ltd* (Supreme Court of Victoria, 2016-18)
Ongoing claim for workers' compensation and related claim for statutory indemnity arising out of injury allegedly sustained in handling shipping containers. (Led by Michael Thompson QC and Matthew Harvey, instructed by Norton White)
- *Owners Corporation No 1 PS613436T v L U Simon Builders Pty Ltd* (Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, 2018)
Ongoing dispute concerning claims arising from the cladding fire at the Lacrosse Building in November 2014. (Led by David Curtain QC, instructed by Wotton + Kearney)

Professional Associations

- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Commercial Bar Association
- Maritime Law Association of Australia and New Zealand (Chair, Victoria)
- Melbourne Marine Insurance Forum
- Singapore Chamber of Maritime Arbitration

Contact Details

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