

**DR ANDREW HANAK QC**  
Barrister, arbitrator and mediator



**LIST A**  
BARRISTERS

**List A Barristers**

Owen Dixon Chambers West  
205 William Street  
Melbourne 3000 DX 90  
Australia  
T +61 3 9225 8444  
F +61 3 9225 8395

**Contact**

Aickin Chambers  
Level 28  
200 Queen Street  
Melbourne Vic 3000  
T (03) 9225 8864  
F (03) 9670 7086  
E [hanak@vicbar.com.au](mailto:hanak@vicbar.com.au)

**Profile**

Dr Andrew Hanak QC is a member of the Victorian Bar practicing in commercial law. He has substantial experience in providing advice and appearing in matters at both trial and appellate level in Superior Courts and before statutory and arbitral tribunals. He is a qualified arbitrator and accepts briefs in both international and domestic commercial arbitration disputes.

Dr Hanak QC is frequently briefed in matters arising in a complex factual or legal setting. He understands the importance of developing a thorough understanding of the issues in dispute.

He is as an advocate who works well with the client and other members of the legal team. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a Fellow of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration, a nationally accredited mediator and practises in all Australian jurisdictions.

**Areas of Practice**

Dr Hanak QC practises in all aspects of commercial law. He has been briefed in a wide range of commercial matters including disputes in the following areas: contract, corporations and securities, fiduciary duties, equity and trusts, insolvency, insurance and re-insurance, professional liability, property, mortgages and securities, superannuation, torts, technology and trade practices. He has been briefed in a number of appeals in the Victorian Court of Appeal and in the High Court of Australia.

**Education**

PhD (Monash) BA, LLB (Hons) (Monash).  
Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration (UNSW).

**Professional**

Signed Victorian Bar Roll as Counsel (2000).  
Appointed Queen's Counsel for the State of Victoria (2018).  
Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, Supreme Court of Queensland and the High Court of Australia. Reciprocal rights to appear in all other Australian jurisdictions.

(Professional, cont.)

Fellow Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2019).

Fellow, Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (2019).

Recognised in *Best Lawyers Australia* (2013 - 2019) and *Doyle's Guide* (2016 - 2019).

Accredited advocacy coach by Australian Advocacy Institute (2013).

Accredited Mediator under the Australian National Mediator Accreditation System (2008).

Member, List Committee – List A (2009 - 2018).

Director, List A Barristers Pty Ltd (2009 - 2018).

Assistant General Editor *Australian Property Law Journal* (2003 - current).

Member Victorian Bar Council Readers' Course Committee (2015 - 2017).

Member Victorian Bar Council Human Rights Committee (2015 - 2016).

Member Victorian Bar Council Pro Bono Committee (2018).

Member of Victorian Bar Pro Bono Scheme and the Pro Bono Scheme conducted by the Registrar of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (current).

Consultant *CCH Victorian Conveyancing Law & Practice* (2003 - 2013).

Member, Law Council of Australia (**LCA**) (2001 - 2011).

Member, LCA Corporations Committee (2007 - 2008).

Assistant Secretary, Commercial Bar Association, Insolvency Law Section (2002 - 2007).

Member, LCA, Insolvency and Reconstruction Committee (2001 - 2002).

Member, Insolvency Practitioners Association of Australia (1999).

### **Selected cases**

Appeared as Counsel or Junior Counsel in cases in the Superior Courts and Statutory Tribunals including the following.

- *Yap v Lee & Ors* [2019] VSC – application to remove trustee or appoint receiver to trust assets – family discretionary trust – breaches of duties by trustee alleged. Leading Mr D Diaz.
- *Basslink Pty Ltd v State of Tasmania* – arbitration under modified UNCITRAL Rules before the Hon R A French AC. With Mr J D Delany QC, leading Mr R Chaile.
- *MCH Australia Pty Ltd v Doery & Ors* [2019] VSC – claim alleging breaches of directors' and officers' duties and duties owed as employees of company involving international sales of home brewing equipment. Leading Mr A McRobert.
- *Peter Urban v Junior Academy ELC Pty Ltd* [2018] VSC 192 – application to bring derivative proceeding on behalf of trustee company. Junior to Mr T J North QC.
- *Braham v ACN 101 482 580 Pty Ltd & Ors* [2018] VSC 575 – investment in managed investment scheme – claim against firm of solicitors regarding advice – whether solicitor retained – whether duty of care owed to investor – whether misleading conduct by firm. Appeal leading Mr N Walter.
- *Kanyon Pty Ltd v Hartwig; Hunter v Berkley Capital Partners & Ors* [2018] VSC – joint venture dispute relating to a number of property developments – oppression claim and derivative proceeding – breach of director's duty claim. Leading Ms G S J Berlic.

(Selected cases, cont.)

- *Jia v Lee* [2018] VSC 164 – application to strike out defences – destruction of discovered documents – whether order striking out defences is appropriate.
- *Braham Investments Pty Ltd v Sovereign MF Limited* [2017] VSC 801 – trust and trustees – whether express trust settled – legal profession – holding and disbursing of trust money – breach of statutory duty. Appeal [2018] VSCA 291.
- *Metricon Homes Pty Ltd v Great Lakes Insurance SE* [2017] VSC 749 – builders' liability insurance – scope of insuring clause – professional services exclusion – products liability insurance exclusion – whether house a 'product'. Junior to Mr C Caleo QC.
- *Gee Dee Nominees Pty Ltd v Ecosse Property Holdings Pty Ltd* (2017) 91 ALJR 486 – appeal against decision of Victorian Court of Appeal on construction of the terms of a lease. Appeared in High Court of Australia as junior to Mr Noel Hutley QC and in the special leave application ([2016] HCATrans 231) and Victorian Court of Appeal ([2016] VSCA 23).
- *Bower v BC Coatings (Vic) Pty Ltd* [2017] VSC 712 – defamation – interlocutory injunction – adequacy of damages.
- *Archibald v Powlett* [2017] VSCA 259 – appeal against award of damages for loss of opportunity, distress, anxiety and inconvenience. Issue estoppel arising from separate trials against defendants.
- *Fuji Xerox Australia Pty Ltd v Xtream Pty Ltd* [2017] VSC 333 – enforcement and specific performance of deed of settlement. Whether deed created penalty.
- *Middendorp Electric Co Pty Ltd v Garrisson & Ors* [2017] VSC – claim against solicitors and accountants in connection with the purchase of shares in a national company selling solar panels.
- *Sino Iron Pty Ltd v World Wide Wagering Pty Ltd* [2017] VSC 101 – claim involving restitution, money had and received, knowing receipt, knowing assistance and fraud allegations. Leading Mr J L M Leung.
- *Fuji Xerox Australia Pty Ltd v Xtream Pty Ltd* [2016] VSC – claim by supplier arising out of nine separate equipment rental contracts involving allegations of breach of contract and misleading and deceptive conduct.
- *Trust Company Nominees Ltd v Mulqueen Griffin Rogers Pty Ltd* [2016] VSC – negligence and breach of statutory duty claim brought against auditor of substantial lending and investment institution arising out of the collapse of the Banksia Group and part of the Banksia class action proceeding. Junior to Mr D Collins QC.
- *Braham Investments Pty Ltd v Wantrup* [2016] VSC – dispute concerning ownership of funds in a trust account of legal practice.
- *Chin Dai Industrial Co Ltd v Australian Pipe & Tube Pty Ltd* [2016] VSC – commercial dispute between manufacturer and purchaser of steel products involving allegations of fraud, misleading conduct, breach of terms of trade and damages for loss of opportunity. Leading Ms K Brazenor.
- *Bill Express v Pitcher Partners* [2015] VSC – substantial claim involving alleged negligence of auditor of listed public company. Quantum in excess of \$230m. Junior to Mr P Crutchfield QC, leading Ms C Excel.
- *Re Sportsbet Pty Ltd* [2014] – dispute involving sale of shares – whether misleading statements made to minority shareholder. Junior to Mr P Crutchfield QC.

(Selected cases, cont.)

- *Glenvue Nominees Pty Ltd v Trumble Szanto* [2015] VSC – professional negligence – solicitors – whether duty to consider and advise on deficiencies in valuation of land.
- *Kyriackou & Ors v Edwards* [2015] VSC – professional negligence – solicitors – whether solicitor acted for parties to joint venture – causation – whether breaches of duty caused loss arising from ASIC investigation and litigation.
- *Pacific Brands Ltd v PD Enterprise Pty Ltd* [2014] VSC – dispute between manufacturers and distributor relating to long term supply agreement.
- *Unger v Vision Group Ltd* [2014] VSC – whether company engaged in misleading conduct and whether company breached ASX Listing Rules relating to continuous disclosure.
- *Re Environinvest Ltd* [2013] FCA – claim against directors of failed investment scheme – duties of CFO of company. Junior to Mr S Marks QC.
- *Dale v Clayton Utz* [2013] VSC – partnership dispute – application to restrain senior counsel from acting. Junior to Mr A Archibald QC and Mr R Macaw QC.
- *Metropolitan Waste Management Group v CGU Insurance Ltd* [2012] FCA – claim by waste management body under professional indemnity insurance policy – construction of pollution exclusion clause. Junior to Mr J Elliot QC.
- *Newtronics Pty Ltd (In Liq) v Russell Kennedy* [2012] VCS – professional negligence – solicitors – conduct of litigation – whether claim bound to fail – duty of solicitor to recommend settlement of claim. Junior to Mr P Santamaria QC.
- *South Eastern Secured Investments Ltd v Birch Ross and Barlow & Ors* [2012] VSC – claim by liquidator against former directors of finance company. Junior to Mr S Marks QC.
- *Richard Kirby v Centro & Ors* [2011] FCA – liability of directors, officers and auditors of Centro Group. Junior to Mr T Woodward QC.
- *AED Oil Ltd v Back & Ors* [2011] VSC – professional negligence – solicitors – drafting of agreement for charter of oil production vessel – duties of loyalty owed to client. Junior to Mr P Jopling AM QC.
- *APN Funds Management Limited v Chapel Developments Pty Ltd & Ors* [2011] VSC – joint venture dispute for development of luxury apartment complex. Junior to Mr P Jopling AM QC.
- *Brickland Nominees Pty Ltd & Anor v Ballarat City Council* [2011] VSC – contaminated land – land previously used for deposit of rubbish – liability of local council. Junior to Mr J Gleeson QC.
- *Catholic Church Insurance Ltd v QBE Insurance Ltd* [2010] VSC – reinsurance agreement – management of hundreds of primary claims concerning sexual abuse within Catholic church – whether primary claims fall within terms of reinsurance agreement. Junior to Mr S Marks QC.
- *Watson v Ebsworth & Ebsworth* [2010] VSCA 335 – professional negligence – solicitors – solicitor acting for several parties – whether duties of loyalty and good faith were owed – causation and equitable compensation. Application for special leave refused [2011] HCA Trans 246. Junior to Mr C Macaulay QC and Mr P Jopling AM QC.
- *ASIC v Lindberg* [2009] VSC – corporations – breach of director's duties – civil penalty proceedings involving directors and officers of AWB Ltd. Junior to Mr N O'Bryan QC.
- *Premier Building and Consulting Pty Ltd v Spotless Group Ltd* [2007] VSC 377; [2005] VSC 19; [2004] VSC 522 – long multiparty trial involving apartment development on

contaminated land – duty of municipal authority when rezoning – duties of authority when granting planning approval. Junior to Mr C Macaulay QC.

### **Reports, investigations and inquiries**

Andrew has been involved in the following investigations, determinations, commissions and reviews.

- *Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry* (2018) Retained on behalf of an international superannuation fund manager in the superannuation round of hearings. With Mr S Anderson QC, leading Mr N Walter.
- *Proceeds of crime* (2017). Retained on behalf of Commonwealth Agency to conduct examinations under the *Proceeds of Crimes Act 2002* (Cth) in connection with money laundering and related offences.
- *Expert Determination* (2016). Appointed by the President of the Victorian Bar to act as expert to determine dispute between parties to a commercial lease. Dispute concerned liability for outgoings and repair obligations under lease and related claims. Nominated by the President of the Victorian Bar to act as expert.
- *Review of Prime Safe Performance* (2015). Appointed by a Victorian statutory authority as part of a three member panel to conduct a review commissioned by the board of a statutory authority into the dealings of the authority with licensees, industry representatives and other stakeholders. With Mr A Myers AO QC and Mr M Hosking.
- *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sex Abuse* (2015). Retained to assist with the preparation of submissions and witnesses on behalf of a body required to appear before the Royal Commission. With Mr S Marks QC.

### **Mediations**

Andrew is regularly appointed to act as mediator in a substantial range of commercial disputes including several complex multi-party disputes.

### **Publications, papers and seminars**

- *Managing Your Day in Court* A seminar presented to the Victorian Bar Junior Barristers Conference, Melbourne, February 2016. With the Honourable Justice Macaulay, Supreme Court of Victoria.
- *An Update on Professional Liability* A paper presented as part of the Victorian Bar Continuous Professional Development program, November 2015. With Mr J Gleeson QC.
- The Interaction of the Company Director's Duty of Care and the Director's Obligations Relating to Insolvent Trading and Financial Reporting (2007) 25 *C&SLJ* 180.
- *A defence of the company director's duty of care, skill and diligence* (PhD thesis, 2006).
- Repudiation of Leases and the Tenant's Proprietary Interest in the Land - Case Note; *Apriaden Pty Ltd v Seacrest Pty Ltd* (2005) 12 *APLJ* 85.
- Does the Bankruptcy Act provide excessive protection for a debtor's interest in a Superannuation Fund (1999) *New Directions in Bankruptcy*.
- The Wife's Special Equity Survives the High Court (1998) 6 *InsolvLJ* 202.