

Damon Booth

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OVERVIEW

- Senior disputes lawyer with experience in a broad spectrum of commercial and civil litigation and disputes, including class actions, major *Corporations Act* claims and Royal and Special Commissions.
- Finalist for Rising Star of the Year (Australian Law Awards) 2016 and 2018.

QUALIFICATIONS

Admitted as a legal practitioner May 2014
New South Wales

Bachelor of Laws / Bachelor of Science (Psychology) 2008 – 2013
University of New South Wales (WAM 74.5)

EMPLOYMENT

Gilbert + Tobin September 2020 - Present
Senior Lawyer (Dispute Resolution)

- *Williams & Anor v Toyota Motor Corporation Australia Limited* [2022] FCA 344 (~\$2 billion judgment delivered) – acting for the class in a major product liability class action in the Federal Court of Australia. Responsible for leading expert evidence streams in relation to quantification of class damages, trial preparation (including preparation of submissions) and instructing Counsel at trial.
- *Hutson & Ors v New Hope Corporation Limited & Ors* (ongoing proceedings) – acting for an Australian public mining company defending proceedings commenced by liquidators of two subsidiaries alleging insolvent trading and various breaches of director duties. Responsible for drafting defence, leading expert evidence streams in relation to solvency, tenement valuation and share valuation and lay evidence streams in relation to accounting and taxation issues and general case management.
- *Australian Competition & Consumer Commission v BlueScope Steel Limited & Anor* (awaiting judgment) – acting for BlueScope in relation to proceedings commenced by the ACCC alleging attempts to induce cartel conduct. Responsible for leading team of disputes lawyers assisting competition team in preparation of voluminous lay evidence, trial preparation (including preparation of submissions and cross-examination) and instructing Counsel at trial.
- *Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions v Citigroup & Ors* (resolved before trial) – acting for JP Morgan in relation to the ACCC's criminal cartel prosecution against ANZ, Citigroup, Deutsche Bank and various individuals arising from a \$2.5 billion capital raising by ANZ.

Dentons July 2018 – September 2020
Senior Associate (Dispute Resolution) May 2015 – June 2018
Solicitor (Dispute Resolution)

- *In the matter of Scientific Management Associates Pty Ltd* [2019] NSWSC 1643 (judgment delivered) – acting for the plaintiffs in a \$65 million shareholder oppression claim. Responsible for trial preparation and instructing Counsel at trial.
- *Smith & Ors v Commonwealth of Australia* [2020] FCA 837 (~\$90 million settlement; distribution scheme approved) – acting for the class in a major tort class action against the Department of Defence in the Federal Court of Australia. Responsible for leading expert evidence streams in relation to quantification of class damages and general case management.

- *Zhu v Keco City Development Group (Australia) Pty Ltd* (resolved before trial) – acting for the defendants in a \$65 million shareholder oppression claim. Responsible for drafting pleadings, drafting lay evidence and general case management.
- *Special Commission of Investigation into Greyhound Racing (NSW)* – acting for the statutory regulator in a Special Commission and various Supreme Court of NSW proceedings.
- Secondments: NSW Department of Industry (Liquor & Gaming), Veolia (Australia and New Zealand) and Greyhound Racing NSW.

Maurice Blackburn

Solicitor / Graduate Solicitor (Civil Litigation)
Paralegal (Civil Litigation)

December 2013 – May 2015
 July 2013 – December 2013

- Practice including high-value civil claims and coronial inquests. High level of involvement in all stages of litigation including claims investigation, drafting pleadings and evidence, court appearances, alternative dispute resolution processes and trial.

Hunt Partners

Law Clerk (Commercial and Civil Litigation)

November 2012 – August 2013

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND PRO BONO EXPERIENCE

- Volunteer Solicitor, Seniors' Rights Service: 2020
- Mentor, Law Society of NSW (Graduate Mentoring Program): 2017 and 2019
- Volunteer Solicitor, Kingsford Legal Centre: September – December 2019
- Volunteer Solicitor, Inner City Legal Centre: June 2016 – December 2017

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

- Finalist – Rising Star of the Year (Australian Law Awards): 2016 and 2018
- Finalist – Dispute Resolution Team of the Year (Australian Law Awards): 2015 and 2017

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, UNSW Law Society Panel - 'Possibilities' (October 2018)
- 'Supreme Court provides guidance on new protections for NSW off-the-plan purchasers' (April 2018)
- 'Cyber breach reporting in Australia: the new normal' (February 2018)
- 'Purpose, privilege and duty – surviving the breakdown' (August 2017)
- 'High Court allows freezing order in respect of prospective foreign judgment: *PT Bayan Resources TBK v BCBC Singapore Pte Ltd* [2015] HCA 36' (October 2015)
- 'High Court limits applicability of proportionate liability' (May 2015)

REFEREES

Available upon request.