

Christopher Hibbard



Christopher has a broad practice in commercial and public law.

QUALIFICATIONS

Master of Laws (Dist) (University College London)
Bachelor of Laws (Hons) (Melbourne)
Bachelor of Arts (Melbourne)

CORRESPONDENCE

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CHAMBERS

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COMMERCIAL LAW

Appellate | Aviation | Banking & Finance | Bankruptcy | Class Actions | Commercial Arbitration |
Competition | Contractual Disputes | Corporate Insolvency | Corporations & Securities | Energy &
Resources | Equity & Trusts | Private International Law

PUBLIC LAW

Administrative Law | Appellate | Civil & Human Rights | Commissions & Inquiries | Constitutional Law |
Immigration | Judicial Review | Public International Law | White Collar Crime

He advises and appears, led and unled, in a wide range of areas, including corporate insolvency, equity and trusts, class actions, land law and judicial review.

Before coming to the bar, Christopher was a senior associate at Clayton Utz. In that role he worked on complex commercial and public law matters, primarily in relation to corporate insolvency, trusts, contractual disputes and judicial review.

Christopher holds a Master of Laws with distinction from University College London, where he specialised in comparative law. His undergraduate degrees are from the University of Melbourne, where he was an editor of the Melbourne Journal of International Law. Christopher holds an Advanced Certificate in Insolvency from the Australian Restructuring, Insolvency and Turnaround Association. He is a reporter for the Victorian Reports.

Christopher is also a Senior Fellow at the Melbourne Law School, where he recently taught in the subject "Administrative Law in Tax Matters".

Christopher read with Robert Craig KC. His senior mentor is Chris Horan KC.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under the Professional Standards Legislation

Recent Cases

GENERAL COMMERCIAL LAW

[*Bolitho v Banksia Securities Ltd* \[2021\] VSC 666](#): acting for one of the "lawyer parties" in relation to alleged breaches of the *Civil Procedure Act 2010* (Vic) (led by Robert Craig KC)

Geko Pit Pty Ltd v Raftery (VID422/2021) acting for the defendants in a claim regarding allegations of a breach of directors' duties and PPSR issues (led by Michael Hodge KC)

[*Re Blockchain Tech Pty Ltd* \[2021\] VSC 640](#): acting for the plaintiff in a claim involving oppressive conduct and related issues (unled)

Steller Continental Development Pty Ltd (in liq) (receivers and managers apptd) v Gerner (S ECI 2020 4542): acting for the defendant in a dispute about a guarantee (unled)

Northern RV Pty Ltd v DCJ Plumbing Pty Ltd (S ECI 2022 01979): acting for the plaintiff in a contractual dispute (unled)

Vantage PI Management Pty Ltd v Twinkle Investments Pty Ltd (S ECI 2021 03981): acting for the defendant in a dispute regarding principles of contract and agency (led by Robert Craig KC)

Streicholz Fabrik Pty Ltd v Taylor (S ECI 2022 00619): acting for the plaintiffs in a contractual dispute regarding implied terms and abandonment (led by Sandro Goubran KC)

Advising a major financial institution in relation to "conflicted remuneration" issues and the construction of a contract (led by Michael Borsky KC and Premala Thiagarajan)

Advising a major university in relation to a services contract (led by Robert Heath KC)

INSOLVENCY

[*Re Energy Brix Australia Corporation Pty Ltd \(in liq\)* \[2022\] VSC 700](#): acting for the State of Victoria in a novel application for a vesting order regarding disclaimed land and the doctrine of escheatment (unled)

[*Re Bankrupt Estate of Mr Jones Senior \(Deceased\)* \[2022\] FCA 1470](#): acting for a litigation funder in a contested application by bankruptcy trustees for approval to enter into a funding agreement (led by Michael Galvin KC)

[*Re Straightline Construction Co Pty Ltd* \[2022\] VSC 708](#): acting for the defendant in an application to set aside a statutory demand (unled)

Re AXF Group Pty Ltd (S ECI 2020 01957): acting for a litigation funder in a dispute about a funding agreement and priorities (led by Robert Craig KC)

Re iRexchange Ltd (in liq) (S ECI 2020 1454): acting for liquidators seeking a pooling order (unled)

Numerous other insolvency-related and other applications under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and *Personal Property Securities Act 2009* (Cth)

PUBLIC LAW

[*Independent Contractors of Australia Inc v Victorian WorkCover Authority* \[2022\] VSC 743](#) and [\[2022\] VSC 804](#): acting for the defendant in a novel mandamus application (led by Georgina Costello KC and Robert Craig KC)

[*Safari v Australian Information Commissioner* \[2022\] FCA 1016](#): acting for the Commissioner in an application for judicial review (unled)

Advising the Victorian government in relation to tortious liability and constitutional issues (led by Liam Brown, Crown Counsel)

Numerous migration-related judicial review proceedings, including:

[*Khalil v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* \[2022\] FCAFC 26](#) (unled)

[*Kwatra v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* \[2022\] FCA 680](#) and [\[2022\] FCAFC 194](#) (unled)

[*EXT20 v Minister for Home Affairs* \[2022\] HCATrans 223](#) (led by Graeme Hill SC)

[*Roberts \(a pseudonym\) v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* \[2022\] FedCFamC2G 370](#) (unled)

[*ATB20 v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* \[2020\] FCCA 1176](#) (unled)

Various matters in the Court of Appeal of Nauru concerning international refugee obligations

LAND AND PROPERTY

[Brompton Lodge Pty Ltd \(in admin\) v Head, Transport for Victoria \[2020\] VSC 797, \[2020\] VSC 881 and \[2021\] VSCA 302](#): acting for Head, Transport for Victoria in an application for compensation following the reservation of land (led by Sandro Goubran KC)

Hermal Timber Nominees Pty Ltd v Head, Transport for Victoria (S ECI 2020 4594): acting for Head, Transport for Victoria in an application for compensation following the compulsory acquisition of land (led by Susan Brennan SC, Jason Pizer KC and Barnaby Chessell)

Vella v Vella (S ECI 2019 5450): acting for the defendant in a dispute about the ownership and development of land (led by Peter Wallis KC)

Murray River Land Pty Ltd v Schwarz (S ECI 2021 04216): acting for the plaintiff in relation to the construction of a contract for the sale of land and related contracts (led by Sandro Goubran KC)

Grand Ridge Plantations Pty Ltd v Valuer-General Victoria (S ECI 2021 04209): acting for the plaintiff in a proceeding regarding the assessment of the capital improved value of land used for forestry (led by Sandro Goubran KC)