LIST G
BARRISTERS

Georgina Costello KC



Georgina Costello KC is a leading advocate in trials, appeals and judicial review matters in state and federal courts.

QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Laws (Hons)(Melb)

CORRESPONDENCE

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CHAMBERS

Aickin Chambers
Level 31 Room 1
200 Queen Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

COMMERCIAL LAW

Appellate | Building & Construction | Contractual Disputes | Corporations & Securities | Equity & Trusts | Insurance | Real Property | Superannuation

TORT LAW

Class Actions | Negligence | Professional Negligence

PUBLIC LAW

Administrative Law | Appellate | Freedom of Information | Immigration | Judicial Review

Georgina Costello KC has a broad practice, with specialist expertise in:

- public law
- property law
- class actions
- regulatory matters and civil penalties
- fraud cases
- proceeds of crime

2026 Best Lawyers – Ranked in Best Lawyers in the areas of Litigation - Victoria

2026 Best Lawyers - Ranked in Best Lawyers in the area of Immigration Law – Victoria

2026 Doyle's Guide – Ranked as Leading Class Actions Senior Counsel - Australia.

2026 Doyle's Guide – Ranked as Leading Administrative & Public Law Senior Counsel – Victoria.

Georgina is Chair of the Migration Bar Association of the Victorian Bar, an executive member of the Federal Litigation Section of the Law Council of Australia and a member of the Victorian Bar Council.

Georgina is a graduate of Melbourne University Law School (LLB Hons 1999) and was a property lawyer at Mallesons Stephen Jaques before coming to the Bar in 2003. She was appointed Silk in Victoria in 2019.

Admitted to the New York Bar, she has worked as a commercial litigator at US law firm Fried Frank Harris Shriver and Jacobson LLP in 2006/2007. She has also worked at the World Bank in Washington DC and at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Italy, on matters related to fraud, misconduct and corruption investigations.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards legislation

Recent Cases

APPEALS

Davidson v Official Receiver [2026] FCAFC 15, for the respondent.

Giggle for Girls Pty Ltd v Tickle [2026] FCAFC 64, for the respondent.

National Disability Insurance Agency v Lampard [2025] FCAFC 139, for the appellant.

Plaintiff M19A/2024 v Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs [2025] HCA 17, for the appellant, appeal allowed on the papers.

Po'oi v Minister for Immigration and Citizenship [2025] FCAFC 192

Ross v Victoria Legal Aid [2025] VSCA 107

National Disability Insurance Agency v Deayton [2025] FCA 562

Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs v Su [2024] FCAFC 68 (2024) 303 FCR 342

Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs v Nuuamoa [2024] FCAFC 13

Mapa Pearls Pty Ltd v Haliotis Fisheries Pty Ltd [2023] VSCA 108; (2023) 71 VR 581

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne v RWQ (a pseudonym) [2023] VSCA 197

Russell v City of Melbourne [2023] VSCA 97

Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs v Lieu [2023] FCAFC 57 (2023) 297 FCR 162

H & Q Café Pty Ltd v Melbourne Café Pty Ltd [2023] VSCA 200; (2023) 72 VR 53

Century Legend Pty Ltd v Ripani [2022] FCAFC 191

Chen v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs [2022] FCAFC 41 (2022) 288 FCR 218

Chetcuti v Commonwealth of Australia [2021] HCA 25

C & F Nominees Mortgage Securities Ltd v Karbotli [2021] VSCA 134

Minister for Home Affairs v DUA16 [2020] HCA 46 (2020) 271 CLR 550

Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs v BTW17 [2020] FCAFC 159 294 FCR 150

EAC16 v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs [2020] FCA 1657

Singh v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs [2020] FCAFC 197

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection v CPA16 [2019] FCAFC 40 (2019) 268 FCR 379

CSZ16 v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs [2020] FCAFC 156

AQM18 v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2019] FCAFC 27 (2019) 268 FCR 424

MZAOL v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2019] FCAFC 68

Shrestha v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2018] HCA 35 (2018) 264 CLR 151

BXK15 v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2018] FCAFC 76 (2018) 261 FCR 515

Lam v Lam [2017] VSCA 173

BRF038 v Republic of Nauru [2017] HCA 44 349 ALR 67

Klein v National Australia Bank Ltd [2016] VSCA 144

ARG15 v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2016] FCAFC 174 (2016) 250 FCR 109

Jarrold v Registrar of Titles & Anor [2015] VSCA 45

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection v Dhillon [2014] FCAFC 157 (2014) 227 FCR 525

H v Minister for Immigration and Citizenship [2010] FCAFC 119 (2010) 188 FCR 393

R v Hildebrandt [2008] VSCA 142

Law Institute of Victoria Ltd v Maric [2008] VSCA 46; (2008) 21 VR 1

Regulatory: *Clean Energy Regulator v Emerging Energy Solutions Group P/L (In liq) (No2)* [2026] FCA 12 and *Clean Energy Regulator v Emerging Energy Solutions Group Pty Ltd* [2024] FCA 1310, proceedings regarding alleged contraventions of civil penalties in the context of emissions trading in the clean energy sector (for the Regulator).

Commercial and property law: *Peninsula Kingswood Country Golf Club Ltd v AS Residential Property No. 1 Pty Ltd* [2025] VSC 736, case regarding rezoning of golf club land and a contract of sale of land (for the defendant).

Commercial law: case regarding minging rights for a gold mine *Barfuss Corporation Pty Ltd v King & Anor* [2025] VSC 487 and *Barfuss Corporation Pty Ltd v King & Anor* [2023] VSC 763 (for the party wanting to mine the land).

Commercial and property law: *Jiang v E Scaunich Nominees Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2025] VSC 698, case regarding property law/ commercial sale of an office building in CBD Melbourne (for the plaintiff, purchaser of property).

Bankruptcy law: *Davidson v Official Receiver (No 2)* [2024] FedCFamC2G 429 litigation regarding whether a notice should be set aside (for the Official Receiver).

Proceeds of crime: *Perfect Choice Travel Australia Pty Ltd & Ors v DPP* [2024] VCC 714 application for exclusion from forfeiture (for the asset holders).

Property law: *Melbourne Yifang Group Pty Ltd v Guangao A Group Pty Ltd & Ors* (Costs Ruling) [2024] VSC 131, *Melbourne Yifang Group Pty Ltd v Guangao A Group Pty Ltd & Ors* [2023] VSC 428) and *Melbourne Yifang Group Pty Ltd v Guangao A Group Pty Ltd & Ors* [2023] VSC 577 - trial and interlocutory matters regarding a dispute over the sale of land.

Commercial law: *H & Q Cafe P/L v Melbourne Cafe P/L* [2023] VSCA 200, appeal from judgment concerning misleading and deceptive conduct in the sale of a business (for the appellant).

Commercial law: *Endless Solar Corporation Limited v ASIC*, *in the matter of Speedpanel Australia Ltd* [2023] FCA 720 (regarding an application for reinstatement of a company).

Property law: *MAPA Pearls P/L v Haliotis Fisheries P/L* [2023] VSCA 108, appeal regarding Crown leases and indefeasibility (for MAPA).

Property and consumer law: *Century Legend Pty Ltd v Ripani* [2022] FCAFC 191, appeal from a trial about a misleading render of an off the plan luxury apartment (for Century Legend).

Property law: *Heng Yang Developments Pty Ltd v Red Earth Developments (Aust) Pty Ltd* [2022] VSC 231, appeal from VCAT in the context of a building contract dispute (for Heng Yang Developments P/L).

Property law: *BD78 Pty Ltd v FGK3GEN Pty Ltd* [2022] VSC 361, caveat removal matter in the context of a mortgage against real property (for BD78 P/L).

Consumer law: *Director, Consumer Affairs Victoria v Vic Solar Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2021] FCA 26, consumer law case in the context of door to door sales of solar panels and inverters (for the Director of Consumer Affairs).

Property law: *C & F Nominees Mortgage Securities Ltd v Karbotli* [2021] VSCA 134, property law appeal involving a fraudulent mortgage and indefeasibility provisions (for the Registrar of Titles).

PUBLIC, DISCRIMINATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

Public law: Various appeal and judicial review cases regarding Legal Aid funding, *Ross v Victoria Legal Aid* [2025] VSCA 207, *Ross v Victoria Legal* Aid [2025] VSCA 107 and *Ross v Victoria Legal Aid Office* [2022] VSC 473 (for Victoria Legal Aid).

Public law (NDIS cases): *National Disability Insurance Agency v Lampard* [2025] FCAFC 139 and *National Disability Insurance Agency v Deayton* [2025] FCA 562, cases regarding reviews of decisions regarding eligibility for the payments under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (for the NDIA).

Discrimination law: *Tickle v Giggle for Girls Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2024] FCA 960 and *Tickle v Giggle For Girls Pty Ltd* [2023] FCA 553 (for Ms Tickle) regarding discrimination on the basis of gender identity.

Public law: *Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs v Su* [2024] FCAFC 68 appeal from a Tribunal's citizenship decision (for Ms Su).

Public law: *Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs v Nuuamoa* [2024] FCAFC 13 judicial review migration case (for Mr Nuuamoa).

Public law: *Plaintiff M19A/2024 & Ors v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs* [2024] HCASJ 39 judicial review migration case (for the plaintiffs).

Human rights: *Tickle v Giggle For Girls Pty Ltd* [2023] FCA 553, applications for extension of time, costs capping orders, security for costs and objections to competency (for Ms Tickle).

Public Law: *DGT17 v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs* [2023] FCA 552 appeal from judicial review judgement (for the appellant).

Public law: *SBI Landfill Pty Ltd v Environment Protection Authority* [2023] VCAT 417, case regarding a landfill licence suspension (for the EPA).

Public law: *Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs v Lieu, by her Litigation Representative Nguyen* [2023] FCAFC 57, appeal regarding evidence of parentage in a citizenship case (for Miss Lieu).

Public law: *Independent Contractors of Australia Inc v Victorian Workcover Authority* [2022] VSC 743, case about a challenge to WorkSafe's investigation into Victoria's Hotel Quarantine Program (for WorkSafe).

Public law: *Steiner v Victoria Legal Aid* [2022] VSC 445, judicial review case regarding removal of a legal practitioner from Victoria Legal Aid panels (for Victoria Legal Aid).

Public law: *MNX v TNV* [2022] VSC 592, judicial review case concerning applications for family violence orders (for a respondent).

Public law: *Chen v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* [2022] FCAFC 41, Full Court appeal regarding apprehended bias affecting a Tribunal decision (for Mr Chen).

Public law: *Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs v CRS20* [2022] FCA 579, appeal regarding apprehended bias and illogical reasoning in an IAA decision (for the visa applicant).

Public law: *Mamatta v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs* [2022] FCA 637, judicial review from a Tribunal decision regarding character cancellation (for Mr Mamatta).

Public law: *Fire Rescue Commissioner v Building Appeals Board* [2021] VSC 217, judicial review of a fire safety decision (for the Commissioner).

Public law: *Chetcuti v Commonwealth of Australia* [2021] HCA 25, Constitutional case regarding the aliens power

(for Mr Chetcuti).

Public law: *DVO16 v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection; BNB17 v Minister for Immigration and Border Protection* [2021] HCA 12, High Court appeal regarding impact of interpreter errors in a migration case (for BNB17).

CLASS ACTIONS, TORT AND COMMON LW

Class action: *Holmes v Knowmore Legal Service Limited* [2025] VSC 561 declassing arguments in a class action in the Victorian Supreme Court regarding allegations of negligence by a legal service in acting for clients under-settling historical sex abuse claims (for the representative plaintiff).

Class action: *Hassan v State of Victoria* [2023] VSC 478 (North Melbourne and Flemington Towers COVID-19 group proceeding (for Victoria) (settlement approved).

Tort: *Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne v RWX (a pseudonym)* [2023] VSCA 197, case re statutory construction regarding liability for nervous shock claims brought by indirect victims of child sex abuse (for the Archdiocese).

Class action: *Lombardo v Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery Services P/L* [2023] VSC 463, group proceeding re cosmetic surgery - allegations include negligence and misleading and deceptive conduct (for the plaintiffs).

Common law: *Russell v City of Melbourne* [2023] VSCA 97, common law appeal re trip and fall claim (for Mr Russell).

Common law: *Uren v Bald Hills Wind Farm Pty Ltd* [2022] VSC 145, common law nuisance case regarding sleep disturbance from a wind farm (for the Plaintiffs).

Memberships

Victorian Bar - Commercial Bar Association

Victorian Bar - Common Law Bar Association

Victorian Bar - Migration Law Bar Association

Victorian Bar - Criminal Law Bar Association