

Since coming to the bar, Hernan has sought to build upon his broad experience in government and private practice. This experience helps him to better advise his clients in relation to the legal, technical and practical issues they face.

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Hernan has a diverse class actions practice: he has acted in bushfire, investor, personal injury and human rights class actions. Since about 2014, he has been briefed in various bushfire cases and inquiries. He also has a commercial practice involving negligence, contract and consumer law claims, as well as building and construction disputes.

In addition to his work in royal commissions and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Hernan appears regularly in coronial inquiries and inquests.

Hernan works closely with solicitors in conferencing with witnesses and preparing cases for mediation and trial. He has a demonstrated ability to quickly master new and complex subject matter areas. For example, in the Ruby Princess class action, Hernan appeared for the respondents in relation to the medico-legal and damages aspects of the case, which included advising on evidence in relation to novel Long COVID claims.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours and University Medal for Law, UNSW)
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours, ANU)

### **SPECIALISATIONS**

- Class Actions
- Commercial and Corporate Litigation
- Negligence
- Building and Construction
- Bushfire Litigation
- Equity
- Family Law
- Inquiries (Royal Commissions, ICAC, and Coronial Inquests and Inquiries)

### **Professional Awards**

## Various awards and prizes including:

- The Sir Gerard Brennan Public International Law Essay Prize (2009)
- Harmers Workplace Lawyers Award in Employment Law (2008)
- LexisNexis Australia Prize for Undergraduate Litigation 1 (2008)
- The Sir Alan Taylor Graduate Prize (2007, shared)
- Grand finalist and 7th best oralist in Jessup International Law Moot, International Rounds, Washington DC (2008)

### **Publications**

"High Court Determines the Standard of Reasons Required from Arbitral Tribunals: Westport Insurance Corporation v Gordian Runoff Limited [2011] HCA 37" (2011) Australian Construction Law Newsletter, no 141,46.

"Enemies Foreign and Domestic: Thomas v Mowbray and the New Scope of the Defence Power" (2008) 27(1) University of Tasmania Law Review 83 (with George Williams).

### **Notable Cases**

**Special Commission of Inquiry into Healthcare Funding** (for the Ministry of Health, led by Richard Cheney SC)

**Creary v Essential Energy** (Supreme Court of NSW, for Essential Energy, led by Richard Cheney SC)

**Karpik v Carnival plc (Ruby Princess class action)** (Federal Court of Australia, for the respondents, led by David McLure SC)

Parkview Constructions Pty Ltd v Futuroscop Enterprises Pty Ltd (Supreme Court of NSW, for Futuroscop, led by Ian G Roberts SC)

**Strata Plan 92450 v JKN Para 1 Pty Ltd** (Supreme Court of NSW and NSW Court of Appeal, for the defendants, led by Richard Cheney SC)

**Woodhouse v Fitzgerald** (Supreme Court of NSW and NSW Court of Appeal, for the defendants, led by Richard Cheney SC)

Hastie Group Limited (in liq) v Multiplex Constructions Pty Ltd (Federal Court of Australia, for the applicants, led by Michael Wyles QC)

**Coronial Inquiries into the 2019-2020 Bushfires** (NSW Coroners Court, for Essential Energy in relation to the Creewah and Darawank fires, unled)

**Coronial Inquiry into the Tathra Bushfire** (NSW Coroners Court, for Essential Energy, led by Richard Cheney SC)

Col Crawford Pty Ltd v Nissan Motor Co (Australia) Pty Ltd (Supreme Court of NSW, for the plaintiff, unled)

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Raymond Boutros Azizi v Council of The City of Ryde (Land and Environment Court of NSW, for the Valuer-General of NSW, unled)

**ET-china.com International Holdings Ltd v Cheung** (Supreme Court of NSW, for the fourth to seventh defendants, led by Franco Corsaro SC)

Angelis atf the Angelis Family Trust v Pemba Capital Partners Fund I Partnership, LP (Supreme Court of NSW, for the plaintiffs, led by Franco Corsaro SC)

**Independent Commission Against Corruption Public Inquiry - Operation Keppel** (ICAC, for Ms Cartwright, unled)

**Built Development (Manly) Pty Ltd v Northern Beaches Council** (Supreme Court of NSW, for Northern Beaches Council, led by Richard Cheney SC)

The Owners Strata Plan SP 90047 v BBC Developments Pty Ltd (Federal Court of Australia, for Cumberland Council, led by Richard Cheney SC)

**Lawrence James Rose v Essential Energy** (Federal Court of Australia, for Essential Energy, unled)

**David John Quinane v Water Administration Ministerial Corporation** (Supreme Court of NSW, for WAMC, unled)

**Eades v Endeavour Energy** (Supreme Court of NSW, for Endeavour Energy, led by Andrew Bell SC)

**Johnston v Endeavour Energy** (Supreme Court of NSW, for Endeavour Energy, led by Andrew Bell SC)

**More & More v Endeavour Energy** (Supreme Court of NSW, for Endeavour Energy, led by Andrew Bell SC)

Cummins Generator Technologies Germany Gmbh v Johnson Controls Australia Pty Limited (Supreme Court of NSW and NSW Court of Appeal, for Cummins, led by Michael Christie SC)

In the Matter of Macquarie Americas Holdings Pty Limited (Supreme Court of NSW, for Macquarie Americas Holdings, unled)

**Independent Commission Against Corruption Public Inquiry - Operation Credo** (Australian Water Holdings Inquiry) (for Mr MacGregor-Fraser, led by Kate Williams)

New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council v Minister Administering Crown Lands Act (Newcastle Post Office Claim) (Land and Environment Court of NSW, for NSWALC, led by Sarah Pritchard SC)

# **Memberships**

**NSW Bar Association** 

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