**Dr Jacoba Brasch QC**

**Barrister-at-Law | Arbitrator**

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| **Brisbane**  Level 18, Inns of Court  107 North Quay  Brisbane Q 4000 | **Cairns**  Macrossan Chambers  14 Spence St  Cairns Q 4870 | **Melbourne**  Macrossan Chambers  Level 4, 488 Bourke St  Melbourne Vic 3000 |

**CURRENT**

**2000- Barrister-at-Law**

**2014 - Queen’s Counsel**

Jacoba’s areas of speciality include:

* Family law, in particular: difficult children’s matters (especially where sexual abuse is alleged); international and intranational relocation applications; complex property matters; child support and general FLA appeals; third party corporate representation in “big money cases”; and, international child abductions;
* Domestic violence;
* Child protection;
* Mental Health;
* Alternative Dispute Resolution (mediation and arbitration); and
* Customs and Excise.

Jacoba has appeared in both Territories of Australia and all but one State, and often appears in the Full Court of the Family Court of Australia. Jacoba has also appeared in the High Court of Australia with those appearances concerning Customs and Excise, as well as Family Law matters and *The Hague Convention (Child Abduction)*.

**Relevant Organisations/Committees**

Australian Bar Association

2018 - **Inaugural** **Chair**, National Family Law Committee

2017 - **Member**, ABA National Conference 2018 Steering Committee

2016-18 **Chair,** National Access to Justice Committee

Law Council of Australia

2017 – **Alternate** **Director, then Director**, Law Council of Australia

2017 - **Observer, then Member**, LCA Finance & Risk Committee

2014 - **Member (elected),** Family Law Section Executive

2015 - **Chair,** National Domestic & Family Violence Taskforce

2015-16 **Member,** Productivity Commission Report Working Group

2014 **Law Council’s representative** at roundtable held by the Royal Commission

Into Institution Responses to Child Sex Abuse.

2005 -Member**,** Law Council of Australia

* **Executive Sub-Committee member**, Customs & Excise Executive Sub-Committee, Business Law Section
* **Member**, Family Law Section

Bar Association of Queensland

2015-2017 **Hon. Treasurer (elected by Council) and Member of Executive,**

**Bar Council, Bar Association of Queensland**

2015 **Corporate Governance Committee** (one-off)

2014 - **Bar’s nominee**, Federal Circuit Court Stakeholder’s Reference Group

2014 - **Chair, Family Law Committee** (was Secretary then Chair of previous

incantation from 2006)

2014-17 **Member,** Annual State Conference Organising Committee

2014-17 **Bar’s nominee**, Legal Aid of Queensland Industry Reference Group

2014 **Bar’s Nominee** to the Law Council’s participation in private roundtables held by

the Royal Commission into Institution Responses to Child Sex Abuse.

2014- **Bar’s Nominee**, on invitation to speak at the Premier’s DV Task Force Summit,

and consequent Implementation Council

2014-16 **Member, CPD Committee**

2013–2017 **Member (Elected), Bar Council**

2006-2012& 2013-14

**Bar’s Nominee,** Family Law Residential Conference Organising Committee

2006 - **Bar’s nominee**, Family Court of Australia, ad hoc Stakeholder’s Group

2000 - **Member**, Bar Association of Queensland

Other

2017 - **Chair**, Queensland Rugby League ASADA Anti-Doping Tribunal

2017- **Treasurer**, Boarder Support Executive, Clayfield College P&F

2014 -  **Member,** Curriculum Advisory Committee,College of Laws

(For the College’s Master of Applied Law (Family Law) and LLM)

2013 **Delegate,** Australian Bar Association’s Advocacy Delegation to Vanuatu

2012  **Delegate,** Australian Bar Association’s Advocacy Delegation to Bangladesh

2004 - **Member and Pro Bono Counse**l, QPILCH

2003 - **Secretary and then Director**, Barristers’ Chambers Ltd (BCL)

“BCL” is the entity which owns the building ‘Inns of Court’.

**Previous Positions/Memberships of note**

2006-2014 **Secretary,** Family Law Standing Committee, Bar Association of Queensland

(Became the Family Law Committee in 2014, of which Jacoba is Chair)

2005-2010 **State Judge,** Fulbright Commission

The Fulbright Scholarship is, effectively, the United States equivalent of the Rhodes Scholarship. It enables and funds the national recipient/s to study in the United States at post-graduate or post-doctoral level.

2006-2010 **Board Member,** QUT Law Founder’s Scholarship Committee

2005  **Volunteer Counsel**, Disability Discrimination Telephone Support Service

2002 **Member**, Quinquennial Curricula Review Committee, Bachelor of Laws, QUT

2000-2008 **Federal Court of Australia** (Nthern Registry) Panel of pro bono Barristers

1992-1995 **Press Secretary,** Attorney General of Queensland

1990-1992 **Press Secretary,** Electoral and Administrative Review Commission.

EARC was one of the two commissions created out of the Fitzgerald Inquiry

1999-2000 **Fulbright Scholar & NYU Graduate Merit Scholar,** studied at New York

University - LLM

1997-1999 **Member, then Chair**, Management Committee, Mental Health Association (Q)

**EDUCATION**

**PhD LAW FACULTY, UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES,** 2011

Awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship. Thesis: “*More martial than Court: from exceptionalism to fair trial convergence in Australia Courts Martial*”

A central component of this thesis was to identify the indicia of an independent and impartial trial, in Australian domestic law, comparative law and international law. Those indicia were then applied to Australian courts martial.

**LLM NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW,** New York, NY, 2000

Attended as Fulbright Scholar and NYU Graduate Merit Scholar, studying human rights law, comparative family law, and medical/psychiatric law.

**UCLA, Berkeley and Davis Campuses, “Introduction to US Law”,** 1999

Attended as recipient of USA State Department grant

**LLB (Hons) QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY**, Queensland, Australia,

Graduated with First Class Honours, 1999

**M. Pub Ad. UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND**, Queensland, Australia, 1994

Masters of Public Administration Thesis: “Sex Roles in Local Government”

**B.A. UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND**, Queensland, Australia**,** 1989

**SPEECHES**

Over the last few years alone, Jacoba has spoken on the following topics (with many speeches also given earlier than these):

* + Speech, February 2018, Launceston & Hobart, Family Law Association of Tasmania, “*Thorne & Kennedy: what now, and, the use of comparables to guide discretion*”
  + Speech, November 2017, Wollongong, FLS Intensive, “*Kennedy & Thorne, 2 days after the High Court*”;
  + Introduction to Keynote Speaker, Australia’s Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Ambassador Richard Andrews, July 2017, Dublin, Australian Bar Association Conference;
  + Chair, June 2017, Brisbane, BAQ CPD, “*When to withdraw; when to abandon allegations*”;
  + Facilitator, July 2017, Dublin, Australian Bar Association Conference, “*Alternative thinking: Access to Justice*”;
  + Speech, May 2017, Launceston, Family Law Association of Tasmania, Annual Conference**, “***There is no magic in a family report*”;
  + Speech, May 2017, Launceston, Family Law Association of Tasmania, Annual Conference**, “***To BFA or Not*”;
  + Speech, May 2017, Brisbane, Magistrates Court of Queensland In-house Domestic Violence Conference, “*Cross-examination of**vulnerable witnesses*”
  + Speech, April 2017, Cairns, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*Latest & Greatest*”;
  + Speech, February 2017, Sydney, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*DV Intensive*”;
  + Speech, February 2017, Brisbane, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*DV Intensive*”;
  + Speech, August 2016, Gold Coast, QLS Family Law Residential, “*Redacted Child Protection notes – what to do and how to get around it*”;
  + Speech, August 2016, Brisbane, Australian Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Conferences, “*Domestic and family violence and self-represented litigants: Can we address the power imbalances?”;*
  + Panellist, August 2016, Brisbane, Australian Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Conferences, “*A Case Scenario*”*?;*
  + Speech, June 2016, Darwin, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*Legal Professional Privilege – waving not drowning*”;
  + Facilitation/leadership for certificate program, March 2016, Brisbane, Australian College of Law, “*Advocacy*”;
  + Speech, March 2016, Perth, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*Legal Professional Privilege – waving not drowning*”;
  + Speech, March 2016, Brisbane, Queensland Law Society, Annual Symposium, “*Advocacy 202*”;
  + Speech, February 2016, Sydney, Law Council of Australia, FLS Intensive, “*Legal Professional Privilege – waving not drowning*”;
  + Speech, Sept. 2015: Legalwise Seminars 5th International Family Law Conference, “*Allegations of Abuse and Violence: Triaging Family Law Cases*”;
  + Panellist, Sept. 2015, Legalwise Seminars 5th International Family Law Conference, “*Ethics Hypothetical*”;
  + Facilitator, July 2015, Family Law Residential 2015: “*Ethics Plenary*”;
  + Chair, July 2015 UQ’s, Judicial Independence in Australia: Contemporary Challenges Future Directions conference, “*Session Three: Institutional Integrity”;*
  + Speeches, June 2015, Seniors Legal and Support Service, “*Capacity – it’s a grey area*”;
  + Speech, Child Protection Practitioners Association Qld Practice Paper Series No 1 of 2015, “*Limits of Report Writing – it is ok for the expert to say no*”;
  + Speech, QLS Symposium 2015, “*The top 10 do’s and don’ts with evidence*”;
  + Chair, BAQ Annual; Conference 2015, Family Law Masterclass: “*Show Me the Money - tax, trusts and your future income in family law*”;
  + Speaker, Law Council of Australia, Family Law Section, 2015 Family Law Intensive Sydney & Melbourne, “*A voice in the wilderness - what to do when the ICL and Single Expert are Against you*”;
  + Chair, Accountability and the Law: Safeguarding Queensland Against Corruption, 2015, chair of session three: “*Integrity Institutions and Their Independence - safeguarding the integrity and independence of Queensland’s institutions”;*
  + Speech, BAQ ADR Conference 2014, “*Power imbalances in mediations*”;
  + Co-Facilitator/Chair of Closing Plenary, 16th National Family Law Conference 2014, “***The unpopular, unspeakable and downright seditious*”;**
  + Facilitator at Family Law Residential 2014: “*Ethics Plenary*”;
  + Paper and speech at Family Law Residential 2014: “*There is no magic in a Family Report*”; session chaired by the Cronin J, Family Court of Australia, Melbourne Registry, with Rackemann DCJ, also speaking on expert evidence;
  + Debater at QLS Annual Symposium 2014: “*You do not need a barrister to win the case”,* chaired by Demack J;
  + Chair, Bar Association CPD 2014 “*Meet the Judges*” with Daubney J, Rackemann DCJ, Hogan J;
  + Bar Association of Queensland Annual Conference 2013: “*The Future of the Bar*”;
  + Facilitator at Family Law National Residential 2013: “*Ethics Plenary*”;
  + Paper and speech at Legal Wise Family Law Intensive 2013: “*Family Law essential update*”;
  + Paper and speech at QLS Central Queensland Conference 2013, Rockhampton: “*Realistic parenting orders*”;
  + Queensland Faculty Child, Adolescent Psychiatry, Annual Weekend Intensive 2013, where I ran a mock trial, with Hogan J as judge and Dr Scott Harden as the expert, demonstrating various kinds of cross-examinations of experts;
  + Presenter TV Education Inaugural Webinar 2013, “*The content of parenting orders*”;
  + Paper and speech at QLS Annual Symposium 2013: “*Being realistic with your parenting orders: conflict, social media and psychiatry”* chaired by Baumann J;
  + Paper and speech at Worrells Annual Conference 2012, “*Where two worlds collide: bankruptcy and Family Law*”;
  + Chair of TV Education Family Law Intensive 2012, including sessions on forensic accounting, valuations, domestic violence;
  + Paper and speech for Legal Wise Family Law Intensive 2012: “*Add backs in family law – wanton, reckless or negligent dissipation of assets*”;
  + Chair, Bar Association CPD 2012, “*Ask the Judges*” with Daubney J, Murphy J, Rackemann DCJ;
  + Speech for TV Ed Gold Coast National Conference 2012: “*The Content of Parenting Orders*”;
  + Paper, speech and Q&A session, Seniors’ Legal & Support Services, Caxton Legal Centre Conference 2012: “*QCAT: procedural fairness is a human right*”;
  + Facilitator at Family Law National Residential 2012: “*Ethics Plenary*”;
  + Paper and speech at Family Law National Residential 2012: “*How to stop a runaway judge*” chaired by Jenny Hogan, as her Honour then was;
  + Paper and speech at BAQ Mediation Conference 2012, “*Mediating the flip-side of love*”, chaired by Hangar QC;
  + trainer and presenter for long weekend National Independent Children’s Lawyer (ICL) Training 2012 (only held in Brisbane every 7 years);
  + Paper and speech, LAQ In-house series 2012, “*Advocacy at interim hearings*”;
  + Paper and speech, LAQ In-house series 2012, “*The Civil Partnership Act 2011”;*
  + Presentation, The Advocacy & Support Centre Inc. Toowoomba (TASC), with USQ, “*Family Law Clinic, 2012”*;
  + Paper and speech, 4th Annual National Family Law Conference 2010 (TV Ed), “*Case Guardians: Roles and responsibilities*”.

As at February 2018