



Cathryn Palfrey

Senior Associate

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OVERVIEW

Cathryn Palfrey has eight years of experience in commercial litigation, four of those years as a lawyer. She has instructed on cases which have proceeded to trials and contested hearings, on matters involving fraud, negligence, breach of contract, breach of directors' duties, prosecutions and corruption.

Cathryn is well versed in providing tailored advice to clients in a range of industries, including mining services, engineering, construction, sport, insurance and real estate. She has a particular interest in representing individuals and companies in relation to investigations, crisis management and prosecutions, both criminal and regulatory.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm in September 2017, Cathryn was a lawyer at a specialist commercial litigation firm in Perth.

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Law Society of WA member
- Women Lawyers of WA member
- Pro-bono work for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- Involved in various community-based organisations focused on crisis management and emergency services
- Overseas assignment with Australian Volunteers International

EDUCATION

- B.A., University of Western Australia, 2012
- LL.B., University of Western Australia, 2012

ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of Western Australia

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Assisting a client company to obtain urgent injunctive relief against a former employee to prevent the dissemination of confidential information.
- Representing a client company in the Federal Circuit Court in relation to a human rights and equal opportunity claim, involving allegations of disability discrimination.
- Acting for an Aboriginal Corporation in relation to a Federal Court application.
- Acting for clients in a multi-party construction and engineering matter.
- Acting for a construction company against a local government authority in relation to a contractual dispute.
- Representing a construction company at an arbitration against a gas company in relation to a contractual dispute, involving environmental law issues, misleading and deceptive conduct and workplace safety issues.
- Obtaining judgment for a real estate agent at a trial in the District Court of Western Australia against a seller in relation to a contractual dispute.
- Acting for clients in relation to investigations from, and prosecutions by, various government departments, including the Department of Commerce, and in proceedings in the State Administrative Tribunal.
- Representing a client in relation to a criminal charge of official corruption.
- Representing a mining exploration company at a trial in the Supreme Court of Western Australia and an appeal in the Court of Appeal against a US-based manufacturer and distributor, in relation to trade practices and tort issues.
- Obtaining summary judgment for a director of a distribution company in the Federal Court.
- Recovering damages from the State of Western Australia at a trial in the Supreme Court of Western Australia in relation to property fraud.
- Acting for a company director issued with a Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) notice to produce documents and summons for examination, including representing the company director in the Federal Court.
- Acting for a construction client in relation to a large scale response to a major industrial incident.
- Representing a mining client in relation to a contractual dispute following an inclement weather event.

- Representing a mining client in respect of goods supplied which were not fit for purpose.
- Obtaining a favourable judgment and costs on an urgent application for an injunction on behalf of Avis Budget Group.
- Assisting an indigenous land council in relation a native title compensation claim.
- Representing a client in relation to allegations of misleading and deceptive conduct.
- Representing a client in the aged care sector in recovering unpaid contractual sums in proceedings out of South Australia.
- Providing assistance to an aged care client in relation to the Royal Commission in Aged Care Quality and Safety.