



## Natalie Hazzard

### Special Counsel

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## OVERVIEW

Natalie Hazzard is a special counsel in the firm's Real Estate practice. She focuses on construction law. Natalie has more than 18 years of experience advising and acting for clients in a range of commercial and construction transactions and disputes including:

- contract drafting and negotiation
- contract administration and project management
- litigation and alternative dispute resolution such as arbitration, expert determination and mediation.

Natalie is particularly adept at working closely with businesses to resolve complex contracting issues that arise in the construction industry. Her extensive experience in disputes allows her to identify risks and advise on strategies to maximize outcomes for clients.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Natalie was a principal and owner of a law practice for a period of six years advising on all aspects of commercial transactions and disputes, with particular expertise in the building and construction industry. She also spent six years as the General Counsel for a smartphone software developer and publisher as well as consultant General Counsel for a research institute with global operations in the optometric field.

Between 2008 and 2016, Natalie was a Commercial Litigation (Building and Construction) specialist accredited by the Law Society of New South Wales. Her background in disputes helps her identify risks and apply strategies to negotiate best available outcomes in commercial and construction contracts.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Security of Payment: What do Adjudicators Look For?", UNSW Edge Constructive Law Intensive, 10 March 2022
- "Limitations of Enforcement of Security of Payments and Challenging Determinations", Legal Wise, 15 September 2021

## EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Economics, University of Newcastle
- LL.B., University of Newcastle

## ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of New South Wales

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 3 October 2023, WA Regulation of Performance Security in Contracts
- 27 March 2023, Legislative Corrosion of Time Bars in Construction Contracts
- 1 August 2022, Western Australia Set for Commencement of New Progress Payment Regime Under the Building and Construction Industry (Security of Payment) Act 2021 (WA)

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 11 March 2022 , Security of Payments - What Does an Adjudicator Look for? Hosted by Legalwise

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Real Estate
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Construction and Infrastructure Dispute Resolution
- Government and Public Procurement
- Rail and Roads

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advising and acting for a developer of a high-rise residential building with respect to damage caused by a burst water main adjacent to the development site, including the conduct of Supreme Court proceedings involving the responsible government statutory-owned corporation.
- Acting for a large telecommunications infrastructure owner with respect to recovery of costs incurred to rectify damage to underground infrastructure.

- Advising and acting for a publicly listed coal mining company with respect to a dispute involving a contract for the construction and installation of a conveyor, including successfully responding to the engineer contractor's payment claim and adjudication application for approximately AUD3 million.
- Acting for builder / head contractor clients in a range of legal proceedings for commercial and residential building disputes involving issues of payment of the contract sum, delay, variations and defects before NSW Local, District and Supreme Courts as well as the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (formerly Consumer, Trading and Tenancy Tribunal).
- Advising and acting for developer and head contractor clients with respect to the impact of development and/or construction works on land adjacent to the development site, to address issues including access to neighbouring land (such as by tower cranes or ground anchors), encroachment by building works, damage to adjacent buildings, noise and water emission.
- Advising and acting for small and large head contractor and builder clients with respect to defect claims by owners and owners corporations of high-rise residential buildings.
- Advising and acting for principal, head contractor and subcontractor clients, including preparation of relevant documents, with respect to payment claims, payment schedules, adjudication applications and adjudication responses made under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 1999 (NSW) and equivalent legislation in other States.
- Advising principals, head contractors, subcontractors with respect to risk, defects, variations and delays on private and government construction contracts, including projects involving the construction, refurbishment or upgrade of hospitals, commercial buildings, department stores, detention centres, roads, schools, aged care facilities and residential buildings.