

# BROOKE LOUISE HUTCHINS

## PERSONAL DETAILS

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Admitted to practice: March 2009

Signed the Victorian Bar Roll: October 2014

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## PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

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### January 2014 – August 2014

#### VICTORIAN COMMISSION FOR LIQUOR AND GAMBLING REGULATION – Lawyer

- Appearing as Counsel Assisting at hearings of contested applications before the Commission.
- Drafting Reasons for Decision on behalf of the Commission.
- Providing advice to the Commissioners and delegates on administrative law issues.
- Appearing at the Magistrates' Court to prosecute offences under the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* (Vic).

### April 2013 – November 2013

#### VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT SOLICITOR'S OFFICE – Lawyer

Acting for the State of Victoria in a major class action in the Supreme Court - *Regent Holdings Pty Ltd v State of Victoria* [2013] VSC 601.

#### Key Tasks

- Instructing Queen's Counsel and two Junior Counsel at mediation, interlocutory applications and six week trial.
- Drafting advices to client, briefs to experts and counsel, court documents and daily transcript summaries for counsel during trial.
- Interviewing lay and expert witnesses and preparing witnesses for trial.
- Discovery related tasks (utilising Ringtail) including identification of documents for tender, undertaking research queries for counsel, preparing court books and overseeing the paralegal team on management of documents.
- Presenting advice and updates on the proceeding to the client and insurer at weekly case management meetings.

## **September 2011 – February 2013**

### **FRESHFIELDS BRUCKHAUS DERRINGER LLP – Lawyer (London)**

Working in a client-facing role within the firm's Dispute Resolution practice, specialising in regulatory compliance work for high profile Fortune 500 listed clients.

#### **Key Projects**

- Drafting a number of major advocacy papers and submissions to governments and international regulatory bodies in opposition of proposed regulatory changes likely to impact upon the client's commercial interests.
- Providing strategic advice to multiple consumer product companies on product launches in both established and emerging markets. These advices also covered issues such as rolling out of re-branded products and global standardisation of existing product packaging.
- Ongoing project for a consumer product company involving instructing, coordinating and maintaining a network of local lawyers in 160 jurisdictions in order to provide tailored advice, systematic client reporting and on-going monitoring across all markets in which the client operates.
- Providing strategic advice to multiple consumer product companies on worldwide product recalls.
- Member of a core team assisting a client develop standardised international advocacy papers and consistent global positioning on key issues. Involved attendance at regular client strategy meetings, multi-jurisdictional legal research, negotiating with affiliates, analysing expert evidence and drafting final reports and precedent documents.
- Involved in the firm's Pro Bono Programme, volunteering at Fair Trials International – an organisation working against human rights abuses in the criminal justice context. Tasks included reviewing case files and drafting and presenting advice on whether to pursue a particular case.

## **February 2008 – December 2010**

### **LOGIE-SMITH LANYON LAWYERS – Articled Clerk and Lawyer**

- Care and conduct of several Magistrates' Court, County Court, Supreme Court and Federal Court matters, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants, in relation to breaches of contract and fiduciary duties, partnership disputes, breaches of trade practices and consumer protection legislation. Undertaking all aspects of running a matter (subject to the supervision of my managing Partner).
- Care and conduct of a Federal Court Application acting for an individual seeking leave to act as a director of a multi-billion dollar construction company after being disqualified under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth). Involved research and provision of detailed advice, liaising with ASIC, interviewing witnesses, drafting court documents, briefing Senior and Junior Counsel and instructing the same at the hearing of the Application.
- Care and conduct of a multi-million dollar Federal Court proceeding,

acting for a major mining company pertaining to breach of contract and contraventions of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth).

- Defence of proceedings commenced by ASIC against a financial planning firm for an alleged breach of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) in relation to Westpoint Group products.
- Working as part of the team acting for a construction company in a multi-million dollar dispute in the Building and Construction List of the VCAT. This matter involved prosecuting a claim for breach of contract in addition to defending a counterclaim (along with 5 other parties to the counterclaim). Tasks included managing large-scale discovery, analysing documents, drafting chronologies, drafting letters and court documents and briefing counsel.

### **2005 to 2007**

#### **MILLS OAKLEY LAWYERS (Melbourne)**

Library Assistant / Legal Assistant (part time) and Seasonal clerkship in the Taxation.

### **EDUCATION/QUALIFICATIONS**

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- **2014 (October) – Signed the Victorian Bar Roll**
- **2009 (March) – Admitted to the Supreme Court of Victoria as an Australian Lawyer**
- **2007 – Bachelor of Laws** Deakin University Australia
- **2007 – Bachelor of Commerce** Deakin University Australia

Majors in Finance and Financial Planning