GREENWAY CHAMBERS

Sarah Woodland

Barrister 2018

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Professional Background

2018 to date: Barrister

2012 to 2018: Senior Associate at Balazs, Lazanas & Welch LLP, Sydney

2000 to 2012: Senior Associate at MinterEllison, Sydney

Qualifications

Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (Australian National University, 1998)

Bachelor of Laws (Australian National University, 1998)

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) (Australian National University, 1995)

Memberships and Accreditations

New South Wales Bar Association, Member.

Asia Pacific Coroners Society, Member.

Inquests and Inquiries Committee Member, New South Wales Bar Association - 2024 to present.

Selected Publications

- 'An Inspector Calls' Interview with Gail Furness SC, Inspector of the National Anti-Corruption Commission and the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (2025) Bar News, Journal of the NSW Bar Association.
- 'Hurdles Anyone? Setting Aside Judgments in the Commissioner's Favour' Taxation in Australia, Volume 51(1) (2016).
- Co-author of the Australian Commercial Litigation chapter of the UK publication, European Lawyer (2011).
- Co-contributor to the submission to the Australian Law Reform Commission Inquiry into Discovery in Federal Courts on behalf of large law firms (2011).

Areas of Expertise

Inquiries and Inquests | Common Law | Regulatory Disputes | Commercial and Equity Disputes

Inquiries and Inquests

Inquest into the death of AO (a pseudonym) (2026)

Infant death caused by memory lapse resulting in child being accidentally left in motor vehicle – acted for parents (unled).

Inquest into the deaths of Ljubisa Vugec and Diane Gai Smith in the 2022 Eugowra floods (2025)

Acting for NSW State Emergency Service (unled).

Inquest into the death of OA (a pseudonym) (2024)

Death as a result of police operations, including review of hospital discharge procedures – acted for widow of deceased (unled).

Inquests and inquiries into the 2019/2020 NSW Black Summer Bushfires (2021 – 2023)

78 sitting days, 25 inquests and 41 fire inquiries – acted for NSW Rural Fire Service (led by S Free SC and N Newton).

Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality & Safety (2019)

Assisted in the preparation of responses by an insurer to a service provider survey (unled).

Common Law

State of NSW ats Zey (2026)

Acted on instructions from NSW Police Force in NSW Supreme Court of Appeal proceedings and on High Court special leave application concerning issues of the trespass, false imprisonment and misfeasance in public office (unled).

State of NSW ats Ziggy Tregonning bht Katie Valentine (2026)

Acted on instructions from NSW Police Force in NSW District Court dispute concerning claim of false imprisonment, assault and battery, trespass to the person and malicious prosecution (unled).

Regulatory

Dr Allan Laughlin v Medical Council of NSW (2026)

Acted for general practitioner in proceedings convened under s. 150 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law 2009 (NSW).

Pfizer Australia Pty Ltd v Minister for Health and Aged Care (2024)

Acted for the Therapeutic Goods Administration in relation to an AAT application for review of a decision made by the Minister not to enter a product on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (led by M O'Meara SC).

Fausto Martin v Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (2020)

Acted for the Commonwealth in NSW Supreme Court proceedings relating to the validity of the engagement of assessment panels under the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme Rules (led by D Hogan-Doran SC)

Commercial and Equity

Taouk v Taouk (ongoing)

NSW Supreme Court dispute concerning content of estate (led by P Newton SC)

Central West Group Pty Ltd & KWN Rural Pty Ltd v Peter Crown

NSW Supreme Court dispute concerning recovery of agent's commission (led by V Kerr SC).

Doma ACT Pty Ltd v LN Sydney Pty Ltd [2024] ACTSC 270

Application for rectification of company resolution due to clearly identifiable mistake (led by M O'Meara SC).

Ramsay v Gatland [2022] NSWSC 1514

Contractual claim for recovery of professional costs involving issues arising from costs assessment determinations (unled at first instance and on appeal).

Joye Group Pty Ltd v Cemco Projects Pty Ltd [2021] NSWCA 211 and [2021]NSWDC 151

Dispute arising from the meaning of 'payment schedule' under the Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 1999 (NSW) (unled at first instance, by N Simpson on appeal).

West Asset Holdings Pty Ltd v Sara Investments (NSW) Pty Ltd & anor[2020] NSWSC 1841

Commercial lease dispute including an application for an interlocutory injunction (led by J Morris SC).