

DR SEAN A. BARON LEVI
BARRISTER

Called to the Bar in 2010, Sean has an extensive practice in commercial law and equity, corporations law, insolvency, insurance and property law. He also has extensive experience in international and criminal matters.

He has advised and appeared in numerous matters involving conflict of laws, recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments and awards, public international law and international arbitrations.

Sean's experience in criminal matters includes white collar crime, complex financial and corporate crime, work, health & safety and regulatory matters, international criminal matters and international extradition. He has appeared in numerous jury trials and appeals.

Given his extensive range of commercial and criminal experience, Sean has developed highly refined advocacy skills. He regularly appears unled in superior Courts, including the Supreme Courts of New South Wales and other States and Territories and the Federal Court of Australia, and appears in appellate jurisdictions both unled and with some of Australia's most esteemed Senior Counsel.

Sean is a member of the New South Wales and New York Bars, and is an academic in the field of public international law, with specialisations in the law of armed conflict and international humanitarian and criminal law. Since 2022 he has acted as adjunct and visiting lecturer in international law at the University of New England School of Law.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Sean practised in the Public International Law Group of New York based law firm Dewey & LeBoeuf, during which time he acted for and advised Sovereign States and corporations in matters involving treaty-based international arbitrations, international trade, oil and gas disputes, human rights, use of force, state and diplomatic immunities, international extradition and international criminal law. Sean was also instrumental in establishing the Global Investigations & Defense Practice Group at the firm. He has advised prime ministers, foreign ministers, attorneys general and justice ministers of a number of countries.

Sean was a winner of the Chevening Scholarship from the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office. He holds a Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours from Macquarie University where he was awarded the prize for graduating first place in the final year. He also holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Public International Law, and a Master of Laws with Distinction in Public International Law, from the University of Edinburgh, where he was also a tutor and sessional lecturer in public international and criminal law.

ADMISSIONS TO PRACTICE

- 2012 Admitted to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York
- 2010 Admitted to the Bar of New South Wales
- 2010 Admitted as a Solicitor of the High Court of Australia
- 2008 Admitted to the Supreme Court of England and Wales
- 1999 Admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- 2005 PhD, Public International Law: University of Edinburgh Law School
- 2000 Master of Laws – Public International Law (with Distinction): University of Edinburgh
- 1997 Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours): Macquarie University
- 1997 Bachelor of Economics: Macquarie University

PRINCIPAL AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Commercial and equity
- Public and private international law and arbitration
- White collar, complex and international crime
- Insolvency

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016 – present Barrister, State Chambers
- 2022 – present Lecturer in Public International Law, University of New England
- 2010 – 2015 Barrister, 13 Wentworth Selborne Chambers
- 2006 – 2009 Attorney, Dewey LeBoeuf (London)
- 2004 – 2005 Lawyer, Legal Aid Commission of NSW
- 2001 – 2004 Sessional Lecturer and Tutor, Public International Law and Criminal Law, University of Edinburgh

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Enforcement of Australian Judgments Overseas – presented to Australian Lawyers Alliance, November 2021

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the NSW Bar Association
- Member of the International Committee of the NSW Bar Association

SELECT MATTERS

***Law Society of New South Wales v Attorney-General of New South Wales; ABC Insurance Pty Ltd v Law Society of New South Wales* [2024] New South Wales Court of Appeal:** Appeared for ABC Insurance Pty Ltd before the Court of Appeal at first instance (led by Craig Lenehan SC). Concerned a question of statutory interpretation, as to whether a policy of professional indemnity insurance for solicitors in NSW requires approval of the Attorney-General to be an “approved insurance policy” within the meaning of s 210 of the *Legal Profession Uniform Law*. Proceedings arose out of advice drafted by Mr Bret Walker SC and Dr Sean Baron Levi for ABC Insurance and provided to the Law Society and Attorney General.

***In the Matter of Sunnya Pty Ltd* [2024] Supreme Court of New South Wales:** Appeared (unled) for defendants in \$48 million claim alleging breaches of fiduciary and statutory duties as directors in relation to use of trademarks.

***Taraneh Nasserri v Wellington Builders Pty Ltd* [2024] Supreme Court of Victoria:** Appeared (unled) in an application for judicial review on jurisdictional grounds of an Adjudication Determination made under the *Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 2002*.

***Accuracy Middle East Advisory Ltd v Anabel Debelak* [2024] Supreme Court of New South Wales:** Appeared (unled) in application for recognition and enforcement at common law of a judgment of the Dubai International Financial Centre Courts.

***Guangzhou Hauda Venture Capital No 1 Investment Enterprise* [2024] Federal Court of Australia:** Appeared (unled) in application for recognition and enforcement of international arbitral award made by a CIETAC tribunal under the *International Arbitration Act 1974*.

***D&L Events Pty Ltd v Jai Opetaiia* [2024] Supreme Court of Queensland:** Appeared for world title boxing champion in defence of proceedings brought by the champion’s former promoter alleging repudiation of contract and seeking specific performance or damages in lieu (led by Greg Sirtes SC).

***PAR Recycling Services Pty Ltd v Shoebill Pty Ltd* [2024] Supreme Court of New South Wales:** Appeared (unled) for defendants in proceedings alleging repudiation of agreement to lease for the purposes of operating a recycling plant and misleading or deceptive conduct.

***Ashwood v Ashwood* [2024] Federal Circuit and Family Court:** Appeared (unled) on behalf of creditors to obtain a sequestration order on a creditor’s petition. Appeared (led by Steven Golledge SC) on the review application brought by the debtor following the granting of the sequestration order.

***Ashwood v Ashwood* [2023] Supreme Court of New South Wales:** Appeared in expedited trial for possession of land containing equestrian facilities (led by Greg Sirtes SC).

***Adelaide Concrete Cutting & Drilling Pty Ltd v Marino* [2023] Supreme Court of New South Wales:** Appeared (unled) for plaintiffs in proceedings alleging breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duties and professional negligence against asset manager and solicitors in relation to a fraudulent investment scheme.

Drive My Car Rentals Pty Ltd v Gabriel [2021] NSWCA 73 (led by Bret Walker SC)

Yunghanns v Colquhoun-Denvers [2021] VSCA 15 (led by Bret Walker SC)

Secure Parking Pty Ltd v Woollahra Municipal Council, NSW Court of Appeal (led by Bret Walker SC)

Eify Systems Pty Ltd v 3D Safety Services Pty Ltd, Federal Court of Australia (Appellate Jurisdiction)

Eify Systems Pty Ltd v 3D Safety Services Pty Ltd, New South Wales Supreme Court

G1PC Pty Ltd v Petstock Pty Ltd, Federal Court of Australia

Australian Fifty Leaders Pty Ltd v LawCover, Federal Court of Australia

Gabriel v Grech, Supreme Court of New South Wales

Hanna v Uther, Webster & Evans, Supreme Court of New South Wales

Alfasi Equipment Hire Pty Ltd v Miklichenko, Supreme Court of New South Wales

DCE Global Pty Ltd v Port Botany Operations Pty Ltd, Supreme Court of New South Wales

In the Matter of Passion Projects Pty Ltd, Supreme Court of New South Wales

Arora Markets Pty Ltd v Workers Compensation Nominal Insurer, Supreme Court of NSW

Onik New Energy Australia Pty Ltd v Henderson, Supreme Court of New South Wales

Byrne Lewis Group Pty Ltd v ANZ Banking Group Pty Ltd, Supreme Court of New South Wales

MM International Pty Ltd v Workers Compensation Nominal Insurer, Supreme Court of NSW

Nazoner Pty Ltd v Vow Financial Pty Ltd, Supreme Court of New South Wales

Australia Sunrise Development Pty Ltd v Haiyan Zeng, Supreme Court of Queensland

Hi-Tech Pty Ltd v NEC, Supreme Court of Victoria

United Cinemas Australia Pty Ltd v Gungahlin Lifestyle Pty Ltd, ACT Supreme Court

Chamarro v P&O, Supreme Court of NSW (Application of the laws of the French Republic)

LexisNexis, Supreme Court of New South Wales (Exception to State Immunity)

Jaffarie v Director General of Security, Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia

Jaffarie v Director General of Security, High Court of Australia (Special Leave)