

Admissions Barrister, 2020
 Solicitor, 2000

Qualifications BCL (Oxon), 2006
 BA/LLB (Hons) (Auckland), 2000
 Senior Prize in Law; winner Stout Shield Mooting Competition; winner Gary Davis Memorial Prize and Geoffrey Powell Prize for best mooter and best team

**Professional
experience** 2020 – present Barrister, Alinea Chambers
 2017 – 2018 Senior Associate, SBA Lawyers
 2015 – 2016 Senior Legal Counsel, Commonwealth Bank of Australia
 2012 – 2014 Senior Associate, Arnold Bloch Leibler
 2001 – 2011 Senior Associate (2006 – 2011)
 Solicitor (2001 – 2005)
 Freehills (now Herbert Smith Freehills)
 2000 – 2001 Solicitor and Law Clerk
 Rudd Watts & Stone, New Zealand (now MinterEllisonRuddWatts)

Areas of practice Banking & financial services
 Commercial
 Corporations & directors' duties
 Competition & consumer
 Equity & trusts
 Inquiries
 Professional discipline



ELIZABETH STEER
Barrister

Liz acts in a wide range of complex commercial litigation and arbitration matters, as well as regulatory investigations and related proceedings. Her clients include public and private companies as well individuals, across a range of industry sectors. She appears both lead and unled.

The following is a selection of matters in which Liz has been briefed:

Regulatory proceedings

ASIC v Nuix Limited & Ors (judgment pending) appearing for a non-executive director in relation to alleged breaches of directors' duties in relation to Nuix's continuous disclosure obligations. Led by Patrick Knowles SC and instructed by Mangioni Biggs + Co.

ASIC v Insurance Australia Limited appearing for IAL in civil penalty proceedings in relation to pricing representations. A copy of the Federal Court's decision is [here](#). Led by John Sheahan KC and Sera Mirzabegian SC. Instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills.

Olive Financial Markets Pty Limited v ASIC appearing for Olive Financial Markets on appeal to the AAT against ASIC's cancellation of Olive's AFSL. The AAT's decision is [here](#). Led by Michael Henry SC. Instructed by Arnold Bloch Leibler.

Banking & finance

Commonwealth Bank of Australia v Kyriacou (ongoing) appearing for CBA in contested enforcement proceedings in the NSW Supreme Court. Led by Patrick Knowles SC. Instructed by Dentons Australia.

National Australia Bank v Sun & Chen (ongoing) appearing from NAB in contested enforcement proceedings in the NSW Supreme Court. Unled. Instructed by Dentons Australia.

Class actions

Lay & Batchelor v Nuix Limited and Ors appearing for a non-executive director in relation to alleged breaches of directors' duties. Led by Patrick Knowles SC. Instructed by Mangioni Biggs + Co.

General commercial

Rauland Australia Pty Limited v Law & Hills Limited (settled), appearing for Hills and Mr Law in Federal Court proceedings about alleged misuse of confidential information, breach of copyright, and breach of s 183 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth). Led by Tom Brennan SC. Instructed by Norton White.

Food For Love Pty Limited & Ors v Papparich Australia Pty Limited & Anor (settled at mediation), appearing for the Papparich respondents in Federal Court proceedings in respect of allegations of misleading and deceptive conduct in the course of a franchise arrangement. Unled. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.



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Sydney, NSW 2000
02 9165 1400
www.alineachambers.com.au

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Cranitch v Lachcran Pty Limited & Ors (dismissed), appearing for the third defendant in NSW Supreme Court proceedings regarding alleged breaches of trust, proprietary estoppel and undue influence. Led by Michael Henry SC. Instructed by Arnold Bloch Leibler.

Harris Farm Markets Byron Bay Pty Limited & Anor v 156 Jonson Street Pty Limited (ongoing), appearing for the Harris Farm Markets in NSW Supreme Court proceedings regarding an agreement to lease. Led by Michael Henry SC. Instructed by Herro Solicitors.

Mawson v AVET Health Pty Limited & Anor; Chrysopoulos v AVET Health Pty Limited & Anor (settled at mediation), appearing for an individual in Federal Court proceedings regarding alleged oppression under s 232 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and breaches of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth). Unled. Instructed by HR Legal.

AA Crown Holdings Pty Limited v A.W. Edwards Pty Limited (ongoing), appearing for the sixth cross-respondent, McKenzie Group Consulting Pty Limited, in NSW Supreme Court proceedings regarding the construction of the Wollongong Private Hospital and the use of combustible cladding. Unled. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.

Apostle Holdings Pty Ltd v Frawley Design Services Pty Ltd (settled), appearing for the defendant in NSW District Court proceedings in respect of alleged breaches of contract, duty of care, and s 18 of the *Australian Consumer Law*. Unled. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.

Insurance

Hakea Holdings Pty Limited v McGrath & Anor, appearing for the underwriting members of Lloyds Syndicate 2468 in Federal Court proceedings involving allegations of breach of directors' duties and a claim for indemnity under the relevant D&O policy. The Federal Court's decision on Hakea Holding's application to reopen its case is [here](#); the final judgment at first instance is [here](#); and the Full Court's judgment, dismissing Hakea Holdings' appeal, is [here](#). Led by Stuart Lawrance SC. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.

Argo Managing Agency Limited v Quintis Limited appearing for Argo (for the underwriting members of Lloyds Syndicate 1200) on appeal to the Full Federal Court. The Full Court's decision is [here](#). Led by Michael Elliott SC. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.

Sphere Healthcare Pty Limited & Anor v Allianz Australia (ongoing) appearing for Sphere Healthcare in proceedings seeking declaratory relief as to indemnity under the policy for insurance. Led by Michael Jones SC. Instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills.

Various expert determinations. Led by Michael Elliott SC. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.



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Professional disciplinary proceedings

Advising and appearing in various disciplinary and related proceedings for legal practitioners. Both led and unled. Instructed by Collin Biggers & Paisley.

Aviation

Applications to ground aircraft (resolved). Preparing various urgent *ex parte* applications for freezing orders in relation to foreign owned and leased commercial aircraft. Led by Tom Brennan SC. Instructed by various firms including MinterEllison and Clifford Chance.

Almslmawi v Qantas Airways Limited appearing for Qantas in respect of a claim arising from damaged luggage. Successful invocation of the Montreal Convention 1999. Unled. Instructed by Norton White.

Various applications

BJP1 v Salesian Society (VIC) Inc appearing for the Salesian Society in an application for declaratory relief on the question of whether the parties had reached a binding settlement at mediation. The NSW Supreme Court's decision is [here](#). Led by Stuart Lawrance. Instructed by Makinson d'Apice.

Singh v Harrowell & Ors on a successful application for strike out/dismissal/permanent stay of proceedings. The NSW Supreme Court's decision is [here](#). Unled. Instructed by Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Preliminary discovery (successful). Applications for and against financial institutions.



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As a solicitor, Liz acted in a wide range of matters, including:

- Various ICAC investigations, including Operation Jasper into the conduct of Eddie Obeid and Ian Macdonald in relation to coal exploration licences.
- Various ASIC, ACCC and professional disciplinary investigations.
- Oppression proceedings in the Supreme Court of NSW for a majority shareholder of a Hunter Valley coal mine.
- Inquest into the death of Mrs Dianne Brimble, acting for Carnival Australia.
- *Seven Network Ltd & C7 v News Limited & Ors*, at first instance before Sackville J, acting for the Seven Network parties.



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