

Liz has a broad commercial practice. She appears in complex commercial litigation and arbitrations, as well as regulatory investigations and related proceedings. Her clients include public and private companies and individuals, across a range of industry sectors. She appears both led and unled.

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 individual mooter and best team
Professional experience	2020 – present Alinea Chambers, Barrister 2017 – 2018 SBA Lawyers, Senior Associate 2015 – 2016 Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Senior Legal Counsel 2012 – 2014 Arnold Bloch Leibler, Senior Associate 2001 – 2011 Freehills (now Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer) Senior Associate (2006 – 2011) Solicitor (2001 – 2005) 2000 – 2001 Rudd Watts & Stone, New Zealand Solicitor and Law Clerk
Areas of practice	Commercial Corporations & directors' duties Banking & financial services Competition & consumer Equity & trusts Regulatory Professional discipline



ELIZABETH STEER
Barrister

The following is a selection of matters in which Liz has been briefed as Counsel.

Regulatory

ASIC v Nuix Limited & Ors (2023), appearing for a non-executive director in relation to alleged breaches of directors' duties in relation to Nuix's continuous disclosure obligations. A copy of the Federal Court's decision dismissing ASIC's case is [here](#). Led by Patrick Knowles SC and instructed by Mangioni Biggs + Co.

ASIC v Insurance Australia Limited (2023), 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 (2021), 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.

Class actions

Lay & Batchelor v Nuix Limited and Ors (ongoing), appearing for a non-executive director in relation to alleged misleading and deceptive prospectus, and alleged contraventions of the continuous disclosure rules. Led by Patrick Knowles SC. Instructed by Mangioni Biggs + Co.

Insurance

Hakea Holdings Pty Limited v McGrath & Anor (2022), appearing for the successful 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 Holdings' application to reopen its case is [here](#); the final judgment at first instance is [here](#); and the Full Court's judgment is [here](#). Led by Stuart Lawrance SC. Instructed by Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Sphere Healthcare Pty Limited & Anor v Allianz Australia appearing for Sphere Healthcare in proceedings seeking declaratory relief as to indemnity. The Supreme Court's judgment is [here](#). Led by Michael Jones SC. Instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills.

Argo Managing Agency Limited v Quintis Limited (2021), 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 Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Wilson v Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Helibrook Pty Limited & Matthew Wright & Anor appearing for insurers, in Federal Court proceedings following the death of a crocodile egg collector in a helicopter crash in the Northern Territory. Led by Tom Brennan SC and



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instructed by Carter Newell.

General commercial

Rauland Australia Pty Limited v Law & Hills Limited (2022) (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.

Commercial arbitration (2024) (settled), appearing for the designers of a large infrastructure project. Led by Peter Braham SC. Instructed by Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Commercial arbitration (2025) (ongoing), appearing for the designers and suppliers of hydroelectricity equipment. Led by Michael Elliot SC. Instructed by Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Food For Love Pty Limited & Ors v Papparich Australia Pty Limited & Anor (2022) (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 Colin Biggers & Paisley.

Cranitch v Lachcran Pty Limited & Ors (2022) (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 (settled), 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 (2023) (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.

Apostle Holdings Pty Ltd v Frawley Design Services Pty Ltd (2023) (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 Colin Biggers & Paisley.



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Banking & finance

Commonwealth Bank of Australia v Kyriacou (2024), 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 (2024) (settled), appearing for NAB in contested enforcement proceedings in the NSW Supreme Court. Unled. Instructed by Dentons Australia.

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 (2023), appearing for Qantas in respect of a claim arising from damaged luggage. Successful invocation of the Montreal Convention 1999. Unled. Instructed by Norton White.

Professional discipline

Advising and appearing in various disciplinary and related proceedings for legal practitioners. Led and unled.

Various applications

Liz regularly appears unled on applications for discovery, preliminary discovery, cross vesting, strike outs and summary dismissals, including:

BJP1 v Salesian Society (VIC) Inc (2021) 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 (2023), appearing 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.



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