**Jonathan Stephens**

**Barrister**

**Third Floor St James’ Hall Chambers**

**Level 3, 169 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000**

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**AREAS OF PRACTICE**

Commercial law, corporations law, statutory interpretation and contractual construction, commissions of inquiry, civil penalty proceedings, administrative law, constitutional law

**ADMISSIONS**

**Call to NSW Bar:** 2025

**Solicitor, NSW and High Court of Australia:** 2013

**SELECTED MATTERS AND JUDGMENTS (SOLICITOR)**

*Chief Disruption Officer Pty Ltd (as trustee) v Michel, in the matter of Laava ID Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2022] FCA 249 (liability, oppression claim, solicitor for first to fourth defendants)

*Chief Disruption Officer Pty Ltd (as trustee) v Michel, in the matter of Laava ID Pty Ltd (No 3)* [2022] FCA 1302 (relief)

*Chief Disruption Officer Pty Ltd (as trustee) v Michel, in the matter of Laava ID Pty Ltd (No 4)* [2023] FCA 25 (costs)

*Zoobury Pty Ltd v Cariste Pty Ltd* [2022] NSWSC 18 (dispute involving allegations of misleading or deceptive conduct, misrepresentation, validation of acts of deregistered corporation pursuant to *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) s 601AH, mistake and duress, solicitor for plaintiff / cross-claimant)

*Zoobury Pty Ltd v Cariste Pty Ltd (No 2)* [2022] NSWSC 1018 (application for indemnity costs on merits, solicitor for plaintiff / indemnity costs applicant)

*NSW Police v Yazbek* (2024, Local Court of NSW, guilty plea and sentencing, offence of knowingly displaying a prohibited symbol, solicitor for defendant)

*Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* **(**2013, Case Study 2, acting for interested party)

*Greyhound Racing New South Wales v Leslie* [2019] NSWSC 1591 (administrative law, application to lift injunction restraining board of directors of an agricultural and historical society, acting for board of directors (matter settled))

*Valuestream Investment Management Ltd v Drenside Pty Ltd and ors* (2017-2024, Supreme Court of NSW, allegations of misleading or deceptive conduct in trade or commerce, deceit in respect of sale of business, solicitor for plaintiff)

*New Life International Inc v Seneviratne and ors* (2018-2023, commercial dispute, Federal Court of Australia, solicitor for applicant (settled))

*Star Combo Australia Pty Ltd v Medlab Pty Ltd* (2023, District Court of NSW, commercial dispute, solicitor for plaintiff / cross-defendant (settled))

*Khattar v Hills Shoppingtown Pty Ltd* (2020, Supreme Court of NSW proceeding involving property dispute and allegations of breach of settlement deed in respect of commercial shopping centre and residential apartments)

*Colas Australia Group Pty Ltd v Roy and ors* (2018, claims against former employees and officers, Supreme Court of NSW, acting for plaintiff (settled))

*Baiada Poultry Pty Ltd and anor v Ridley Agriproducts* (2018, Federal Court of Australia proceedings involving allegations of breach of contract and misleading or deceptive conduct in trade or commerce, acting for applicants (settled))

*Ethan Group Pty Ltd v MG Logistics Pty Ltd* (2017, Supreme Court of NSW, commercial dispute, acting for plaintiff (settled))

*Geagea Family Custodians Trois Pty Ltd v Currans Automotives Pty Ltd (trading as Currans Accident Repair Centre) (as trustee)* (2020, District Court of NSW proceeding, allegation of wrongful detention and conversion of motor vehicle, solicitor for plaintiff (settled))

*Dowling v Ultraceuticals Pty Ltd; Ultraceuticals Pty Ltd v Dowling* (2016, Supreme Court of NSW, commercial dispute, acting for defendant / cross-claimant, (settled))

*ACCC v Cornerstone Investment Aust Pty Ltd* (2015, Federal Court of Australia, pecuniary penalty proceeding)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO BAR**

**Principal, J Stephens & Associates**  Dec 2020-2025

**Principal, Automic Legal** Sep 2019 – Dec 2020

**Senior Associate, Whittens & McKeough / Automic Legal** 2017-2019

**Solicitor, Whittens & McKeough** 2015-2017

**Associate, the Hon Jayne Jagot**, Federal Court of Australia 2014 – Feb 2015

**Solicitor, Whittens & McKeough** 2013

**Research Assistant, University of New South Wales**  2010–2012  
Faculty of Law, incl the Australian Prisons Project

**Internship, Administrative Appeals Tribunal** 2011  
Sydney Registry, Chambers of Senior Member Britton

**Research Assistant, Australian National University** 2005–2010

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION & AWARDS**

**Juris Doctor** (Hons, 1st class) – 2010-2012  
University of New South Wales

**Awards and advocacy experience**

* Deans’ list (2012, Statutory Interpretation)
* Deans’ list (2011, Legal History)
* World Human Rights Moot, University of Pretoria, Speaker (2012)
* UNSW Beginners' Mooting, Champion and Best Speaker (2010)
* University of Queensland Shine National Torts Moot, Semi-finalist (2011)
* UNSW Beginners' Mooting, Judge (2011)
* UNSW Intermediate Mooting, Judge (2011)
* UNSW Trial Advocacy, Quarter-finalist (2010)

**Bachelor of Music (Composition)** (Hons, 1st class) — 2002–2005  
Australian National University

**Awards**

* Hector Allen Memorial Prize for Composition, Australian National University (2003)

**PUBLICATIONS/AUTHORSHIP**

Baldry, Eileen, Chris Cunneen, Alex Steel, Mark Brown, Melanie Schwartz, Jonathan Stephens, Submissionto the New South Wales Law Reform Commission, *Review of the law of bail*, 22 July 2011.