

Matthew McDermott
Barrister-at-law

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QUALIFICATIONS / EDUCATION

July 2018	Called to the Bar (Queensland)
2016	Master of Laws (University of Queensland)
2012	Admitted as a practitioner in the High Court of Australia
2010	Admitted as a lawyer by the Supreme Court of Queensland
2007	Admitted as Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand
2006	Bachelor of Laws (Well)
2005	Bachelor of Arts (Well)

SIGNIFICANT CASES AND PRACTICE AREAS

Practice Areas

- Commercial litigation
- Planning and Environment
- Property
- Body Corporate
- Defamation
- Regulatory prosecutions

Significant cases

Byrne v Palmer

[2024] QSC 46

Acted for applicants in proceedings relating to mistake of title and statutory right of user

Schafer v Bacon

[2023] QCA 55

Acted for local government in Court of Appeal in relation to local government enforcement proceedings

ISG Financial Services v Australian Financial Complaints Authority Ltd & Ors; ANLP Pty Ltd atf AP Superannuation Fund v ISG Financial Services Ltd

[2022] QSC 120

Acted for complainant against financial services provider in proceedings to compel compliance with AFCA determination.

SDA Property Nominees Pty Ltd v Scenic Rim Regional Council

[2022] QPEC 39; [2024] QPELR 1

Acted for Council in Planning and Environment Court appeal against Council decision

Dunlop & Anor v Body Corporate for Port Douglas Queenslander CTS 886 & Ors

[2021] QSC 85 and [2021] QSC 265

Acted for Body Corporate and associated defendants in proceedings relating to allegations of misleading and deceptive conduct under the Australian Consumer Law

Gavin & Anor v Sunshine Coast Regional Council

[2021] QCA 217; (2021) 9 QR 191

Acting for Appellant in appeal from Planning and Environment Court decision

Sandstrom & Ors v Sunshine Coast Regional Council & Windansea Boardriders Club

[2020] QPEC 062; [2021] QPELR 1107

Acting for community surf club in Planning and Environment Court proceedings

Ashvan Investments Unit Trust v Brisbane City Council & Ors

[2019] QPEC 16; [2019] QPELR 793

Acting for the submitter Co-Respondents by Election in Planning and Environment Court Appeal

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

September 2016 – June 2018	Thomson Geer Lawyers <i>Senior Associate</i>
November 2010 – September 2016	Corrs Chambers Westgarth <i>Senior Associate</i>
January 2007 – October 2010	Simpson Grierson, Barristers and Solicitors (NZ) <i>Associate (2009-2010) and Solicitor (2007-2008)</i>
Dec 2005 – January 2007	Environmental Risk Management Authority (now the Environmental Protection Authority New Zealand), <i>Legal Assistant / Law Clerk</i>

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES / MEMBERSHIPS

2025	Deputy Chair of Bar Association Planning and Environment Sub-committee
2018-	Member of Bar Association of Queensland
2010 - 2018	Member of Queensland Law Society
2010 – present	Member of the Queensland Environmental Law Association (QELA)
2007-2009	Member of the Resource Management Law Association (NZ)
2007-2010	Member of the New Zealand Law Society

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

12 March 2024	<i>Recent Developments: Case Law and Legislation update</i> , Legalwise Environment and Planning Law Forum
29 November 2018	<i>Nerinda Pty Ltd v Redland City Council; Revisiting the Coty principle</i> ‘Planning and Environment Court Update’, QELA Seminar
11 May 2017	<i>The Rise of the Exception: Trump, Brexit and the new Planning Act</i> ‘Capture the Moment’ QELA Conference 2017 (10-12 May 2017)
5 March 2013	<i>Effective Environmental Dispute Resolution in the Planning and Environment Court</i> Environment and Planning Law Journal (2013) 30 EPLJ 2, 150.