

KAREN GASTON

BARRISTER

CONTACT

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Brisbane, Queensland
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EDUCATION

QLS Accredited Specialist
Succession Law
2013

Masters of Laws
QUT
2013

Bachelor of Laws /
Bachelor of Arts
(Journalism)
QUT
2001

AWARDS

HIGHEST ACHIEVER
QLS Specialist
Accreditation
2013

PRE-EMINENT
WILLS + ESTATE
LITIGATION JUNIOR
COUNSEL
Doyle's Guide
2025

SUMMARY

- I am an experienced commercial litigator.
- I have an established reputation for excellence in wills, estates, trusts and equity litigation.
- I have a particular interest in trust and estate litigation involving broader commercial and equitable remedies.
- In litigation that often involves complex law and which is factually dense, I am known for both my strategic approach and attention to detail.
- In 2025, I was ranked as "leading" by Doyles on their list estate litigation junior counsel. I was ranked as "recommended" in 2022, my first year at the Bar.
- I was ranked as "preeminent" by Doyles on their list of Wills and Estate Litigation Lawyers in 2020 and 2021 (while a solicitor).
- Until 30 June 2023, I was a QLS Accredited Specialist in Succession Law.
- I have a demonstrated interest in the education of the profession. I have delivered guest lectures for QUT, UQ and the College of Law at undergraduate and post graduate level. I regularly present for the QLS and other CLE providers.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BARRISTER
Year of call, 2022

PARTNER & HEAD OF PRIVATE CLIENTS
Thynne & Macartney, 2015-2021

LAWYER, ASSOCIATE, SENIOR ASSOCIATE
de Groot's wills & estates lawyers, 2006-2015

ARTICLED CLERK, LAWYER
Thynne & Macartney, 2002-2006

ASSOCIATE, JUDGE O'SULLIVAN
District Court of Queensland, 2001

ADMISSION

Admitted as a solicitor
Supreme Court of
Queensland
2004

Admitted as a solicitor
High Court of Australia
2004

Called to the Bar
in Queensland
2022

MEMBERSHIPS

QUEENSLAND LAW
SOCIETY

HEMMANT'S LIST

SOCIETY OF TRUST AND
ESTATE PRACTITIONERS
(STEP)

FAMILY LAW
PRACTITIONERS
ASSOCIATION (FLPA)

WOMEN LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION
QUEENSLAND (WLAQ)

EXPERTISE

Commercial Litigation
Succession Law

Superannuation Disputes

Trust & Estates Disputes

Alternative Dispute
Resolution

DECISIONS

I have appeared in the following matters:

- *DSS v Hulett* [2025] FCA 23
- *Re O'Connor; Ex parte Lennox* [2024] QSC 224
- *Lingard v Commonwealth Bank Officers Superannuation Corporation Pty Limited (No 2)* [2024] FCA 536
- *Lingard v Commonwealth Bank Officers Superannuation Corporation Pty Limited* [2024] FCA 174
- *Re Rentis Pty Ltd* [2023] QSC 252.

I have been principally involved in the following (as a solicitor):

- *Blumke v Campbell & Hook* [2020] QCA 217
- *Re Graham (deceased) (No 2)* [2020] QSC 168
- *Re GEW* [2020] QSC 119
- *Campbell & Hook v Blumke & Ors* (2020) Queensland Supreme Court, Bradley J, unreported, 15 March 2020
- *Campbell & Hook v T L Clacher (No2) Pty Ltd & Ors* [2020] QSC 35
- *Re Graham* [2020] QSC 27
- *Spink v Russell* [2019] QCA 107
- *Spink v Russell* (2019) Queensland Supreme Court – Ryan J, unreported, 4 February 2019
- *Campbell & Hook v T L Clacher (No2) Pty Ltd & Ors* [2019] QSC 218
- *Roberts v Pollock (No2)* [2019] QSC 188
- *Roberts v Pollock* [2019] QSC 184
- *Allingham v Fuller* [2013] QSC 81
- *Catelan v Herceg* [2012] QSC 320
- *Micallef & Anor v Micallef & Anor, Arrowsmith v Micallef & Ors* [2012] QSC 239
- *Johnston & Anor v Herrod & Ors* [2012] QSC 98
- *O'Donnell v Gillespie & Anor* [2010] QSC 22
- *Hensler v Padget & Ors* [2008] QSC 82

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND - SUCCESSION LAW
COMMITTEE
Committee Member, 2022 – present

QLS SUCCESSION LAW COMMITTEE
Committee Member, 2020-present

QLS SPECIALIST ACCREDITATION SUCCESSION LAW
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Committee Member, 2019-2023