

11TH FLOOR / ST JAMES' HALL

Michael Pruscino

Barrister

11th Floor St James' Hall Chambers
169 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000
DX 676 Sydney

Telephone: +61 2 8226 2365
Facsimile: +61 2 8226 2399
Mobile: +61 434 187 482
m.pruscino@stjames.net.au

ADMISSION / EDUCATION

- 2021** Barrister (Tutors: Trent Glover SC and Georgina Wright SC)
- 2013** Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales
- 2013** *Juris Doctor (Hons)* (UNSW)
- 2005** *Bachelor of Economics/ Bachelor of Social Science* (UNSW)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017 – 2021** **Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions**
Senior Federal Prosecutor – Commercial, Financial and Corruption/Revenue & Benefits Fraud (Sydney)
- 2015 – 2017** **Federal Court of Australia**
Associate to the Hon. Justice Markovic
- 2012 – 2015** **Ashurst Australia (formerly Blake Dawson)**
Solicitor – Litigation & Dispute Resolution (Sydney)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – 2017** **Tristan Jepson Memorial Foundation Ltd (t/as Minds Count)**
Company Secretary

SELECTED MATTERS

Inquiries and Investigations

- *Independent Commission Against Corruption – Operation Landan* (Junior counsel for the NSW Department of Education – led by D Hogan Doran SC)
- *Royal Commission into the Robodebt Scheme* (appearing at hearings, taking witness statements and preparing witnesses for hearing, drafting closing submissions, advising on tortious and criminal aspects of witness conduct including probity of private sector consulting arrangements – led by D Hogan Doran SC on behalf of the Commonwealth)
- Advising the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department on statutory powers in relation to requests for international extradition and requests for mutual assistance in criminal matters (ongoing)
- Advising NSW Crime Commission on statutory powers and the conduct of investigations for purpose of confiscation proceedings under the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) (ongoing)
- Advising private defence and national security supply chain clients including in respect of

Commonwealth procurement rules, tendering arrangements and commercial matters (ongoing)

- Advising on evidence and prospects of conviction in respect of Commonwealth fraud, corporate and public sector offending
- Advised various clients on exercise of investigative powers including issue of compulsory notices and search warrants
- *Independent Commission Against Corruption – Operation Cyrus* (as solicitor) responsible for conduct of review of historical agency records – Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority)

NSW Government Agencies Representation

- *NSW Crime Commission v So & Anor* (NSWSC 2023/221857) (Application for reasonable living expenses in confiscation proceedings under *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – led by T Glover SC for the Commission) (ongoing)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Garcia* (NSWSC 2015/158633) (Confiscation proceedings under the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – led by T Glover SC for the Commission) (ongoing)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Hammoud* [2026] NSWSC 388 (Construction of s 10B(3)(a) of the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – unled for the Commission)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Yucel* (unreported, NSWSC, Rigg J, 4 August 2025) (Construction of s 16A of the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – unled for the Commission)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Han* [2025] NSWSC 1399 (Confiscation proceedings under the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – unled for the Commission)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Smith* [2025] NSWSC 664 (Application for and administration of examination order under s 12 of the *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – unled for the Commission)
- *NSW Crime Commission v Alizadeh* (NSWSC 2023/120078) (Advice on settlement of confiscation proceedings under *Criminal Assets Recovery Act 1990* (NSW) – unled for Commission)

Commonwealth Government Agencies Representation

- *Rivas v Minister for Finance & Anor* [2026] FCA 388 (judicial review of surrender decision pursuant to s 22 of the *Extradition Act 1988* (Cth) – led by T Glover SC for the Minister)
- *Rivas v Minister for Finance (Privilege Issue)* [2025] FCA 138; *Rivas v Minister for Finance (Adjournment Application)* [2025] FCA 178; *Rivas v Minister for Finance* [2025] FCA 824 (Resisting application for leave to appeal) (led by Trent Glover SC for the Minister)
- *Rivas v Republic of Chile* [2021] FCAFC 214 (Appeal of eligibility determination under s 19 of the *Extradition Act 1988* (Cth) – led by T Glover for the Republic of Chile)
- *Waters v Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department (Cth)* [2021] NSWCCA 193 (Resisting subpoena to AGD in international extradition matter – led by T Glover for the Secretary)
- *Gale v Homewood (No 2)* [2024] FCA 1165 (Confirmation of control order – led by T Glover for the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police)
- *Fogarty v Jakovac (No 2)* [2023] FCA 234 (Confirmation of control order – led by T Glover for the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police)
- *Fogarty v Jakovac* [2022] FCA 1454 (Interim control order – led by T Glover for the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police)
- Appearing unled in various extradition proceedings pursuant to Part II of the *Extradition Act 1988* (Cth) on behalf of the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department
- Appearing unled on behalf of Commonwealth Government agencies pursuant to claims for public interest immunity.

Bankruptcy

- *Saklani v Valder* [2023] FedCFamC1A 163 (Appeal of creditors application to set aside orders

altering property interests – led by D McGovern SC for the appellant)

Class Actions

- *McLean-Phillips v Carnival plc t/as P&O Cruises Australia* (NSD 1039/2022) (Failure to comply with consumer guarantees in the provision of passenger cruise services pursuant to s 61(1) and (2) of the *Australian Consumer Law* – led by P Zappia KC and G Donnellan for the applicant) (ongoing)
- *McLean-Phillips v Carnival plc t/as P&O Cruises Australia (No 3)* [2023] FCA 985 (Resisting application to strike out – led by J Sheehan KC and R Francois)
- *McLean-Phillips v Carnival plc t/as P&O Cruises Australia (No 2)* [2023] FCA 627 (Resisting application for costs agreement in representative proceedings – led by R Francois)
- *McLean-Phillips v Carnival plc t/as P&O Cruises Australia* [2023] FCA 328 (Resisting application to strike out – led by R Francois)

Commercial

- *Gibbs & Anor v Skinner v Anor* (NSWSC 2024/474976) (Claim for possession of land and cross-claim for proprietary estoppel – led by P Newton SC for the defendants) (ongoing)
- *Pintley v Andersen & Anor* (NSWDC 2023/328022) (Alleged misleading and deceptive conduct, settled at mediation – unled for the plaintiff)
- *Jakucs v Piskadlo* (NSWDC 2023/330195) (Claims for unpaid rent and retail lease expenses including historical claims under the *Limitation Act 1969* (NSW), settled at mediation – unled for the defendant)
- *Livingstone v Mitchell & Anor* (NSWDC 2022/125987) (Resisting application to strike out, anshun estoppel, abuse of process, dismissed – unled for the defendant)

Corporations and Insolvency

- *Foulsham & Geddes Pty Ltd v Geddes & Anor* (NSWSC 2023/152783) (Alleged breaches of employment contract and breaches of fiduciary and directors duties under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and tortious inducement to breach contract – led by J Horowitz for the plaintiff) (ongoing)
- *Geodata Engineering Pty Ltd v International Development Solutions Pty Ltd & Anor* (NSWSC 2025/93920) (Alleged breaches of director duties, restitution – unled for the plaintiff) (ongoing)
- *Richard Albarran in his capacity as liquidator of CGA (Aust) Pty Ltd (in liq) v Colemans Fencing Solutions Pty Ltd & Anor* (NSWSC 2023/41377) (Voidable transactions and unreasonable director related transactions, settled at mediation – led by P Newton SC for the defendant)

Crime

- *R v Fleming (Costs)* [2023] NSWSC 1258 (Costs in indictable criminal proceedings sought against the Commonwealth – led by P McDonald SC)
- *Budvalt Pty Ltd v Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resources Access Regulator* [2022] NSWCCA 9 (Sentence appeal – led by G Wright SC for the Regulator)
- *Application by Christopher Cranney pursuant to s 78 of the Crimes (Appeal and Review) Act 2001 (NSW)* [2022] NSWSC 1005 (led by T Glover)
- *Environment Protection Authority v Forestry Corporation of New South Wales (Tomerong State Forest)* (NSWLEC 2021/134498 and 2021/134499) (led by J Single SC and J Edwards for the prosecution)
- *ASIC v Corey Dean Ireland* (NSWLC 2020/359459); *ASIC v Prudence Jane Ireland* (NSWLC 2020/3594458) (2 x Failure to help liquidator pursuant to s 530A of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), defended hearing, acquittal – unled for the defendants)

Taxation

- *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Kocic* (NSD 1283/2024) (Application for declarations of beneficial ownership or alienations to defraud creditors –led by David McGovern SC for the taxpayer) (ongoing)
- *Kocic v Deputy Commissioner of Taxation* [2024] FCA 1386; *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Kocic (No 3)* [2024] FCA 972; *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation v Kocic (No 2)* [2024] FCA 372 (Application for leave to appeal decision granting leave to file amended fraud pleadings – Applications for leave to file amended fraud pleadings – led by David McGovern SC)

Wills and Estates

- *Estate of Colin Morton Bell; Bell v Bolinger* [2024] NSWSC 416 (Validity of will, testamentary capacity, suspicious circumstances, undue influence, fraud, application to pass over executor – led by Ashley Crossland)
- Acting in respect of and in response to applications for family provision for various clients

Solicitor

Commercial

- *OXS Pty Ltd v Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority* [2016] NSWCA 120 (Contract, equitable remedies, specific performance, misleading and deceptive conduct – instructing)
- *OXS Pty Ltd v Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and Minister for Planning and Environment* [2014] NSWSC 1174 (Contracts, equitable remedies, trade practices, misleading or deceptive conduct, unconscionable conduct – instructing)
- *Northern Inland Council for the Environment v Minister for the Environment* [2013] FCA 1419 (Judicial review, *Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) – instructing)

Crime

- *DPP (Cth) v Citigroup Global Markets Australia Pty Ltd & Ors* [2021] FCA 757 (Objection to indictment, criminal cartel conduct – instructing for the prosecution)
- *DPP (Cth) v Citigroup Global Markets Australia Pty Ltd & Ors* [2021] FCA 511 (Privilege, criminal cartel conduct – instructing for the prosecution)
- *DPP (Cth) v Wallenius Wilhelmsen Oceans AS* [2021] FCA 52 (Sentence for criminal cartel conduct – instructing for the prosecution)
- *DPP (Cth) v Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd* [2019] FCA 1170 (Sentence for criminal cartel conduct – instructing for the prosecution)
- *R v Tham* [2020] NSWCCA 338 (Appeal against sentence – instructing for the prosecution)
- *R v Tham* [2019] NSWDC 766 (Passport fraud and social security fraud, sentence, unled as solicitor advocate for the prosecution)
- *ASIC v John Hunter Benn Goldsbrough* (NSWLC 2019/178053) (Sentence and disqualification for 2 x false and misleading statement to ASIC pursuant to s 1308 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) – unled as solicitor advocate for the prosecution)
- *Department of Human Services (Medicare) v Alexander Samad Wazin* (NSWLC 2018/270062) (Superannuation fraud, sentence, unled as solicitor advocate for the prosecution)

PUBLICATIONS

D Hogan-Doran SC and M Pruscino, *When the NACC comes knocking* (forthcoming)

M Pruscino, *Willy Wonka's golden ticket and the price of criminal immunity: developments in criminal immunity for criminal cartel conduct* (2021) 37(6) CCLN 58