# Advocacy 2011

Effective and practical litigation skills 3 March 2011, Marriott Hotel, Brisbane

### Program highlights

- Observations from the bench and feedback on advocacy
- Tips on how to **tactically plan** your approach before appearing at interlocutory hearings
- Strategies to master the challenges of courtroom decorum and establish exceptional distinctive communication skills
- Refine essential tools and techniques to effectively develop your legal analysis and prepare your written submissions
- Ways to work **smart with evidence**, for and against
- Master the art of delivering an argument and making the most of your case
- Discover practical ways to implement the new legislation

### **Speakers**

- The Honourable Judge Terence Martin SC, District Court of Queensland
- The Honourable Judge Leanne Clare SC, District Court of Queensland
- Keith Wilson SC, Barrister, Queensland Bar and Retired Federal Magistrate
- Robert Wensley QC, Barrister, Queensland Bar
- Craig Smith, Barrister and Lecturer, Queensland
   University of Technology
- David Topp, Barrister, Queensland Bar and Treasurer, Queensland Young Lawyers Association

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# Advocacy 2011

### Effective and practical litigation skills exposed

- 8:30 Registration and coffee
- 8:50 Opening remarks from the Chairperson

Danielle Keyes, Associate, Norton Rose Lawyers and President, Queensland Young Lawyers Association

### **BENCH PERSPECTIVE**

- 9.00 Practical directions for preparation and common errors to avoid A view from the Bench
  - · How to be an effective advocate
  - Citing common mistakes and areas for improvement
  - Key bench tips

## The Honourable Judge Terence Martin SC, District Court of Queensland

### COMMON COURTROOM APPEARANCES & INTERLOCUTORY HEARINGS

- 9.30 Tactically planning your approach before appearing at interlocutory hearings
  - What to do when faced with appearing as a solicitor advocate
  - Overview of court procedures: Magistrate, Supreme, Federal and Family Courts
  - Understand the operation of case management and court lists
  - Knowing what to do at appearances, call-overs, applications, directions or adjournment hearings
  - Updates on new rules and procedures

Frances Williams, Special Counsel, Corrs Chambers Westgarth Lawyers

## 10.15 Mastering the challenges of courtroom decorum and establish exceptional communication skills

- Recognising unwritten rules: protocols and ethics, professionalism and courtesy
- Responsibilities and duties to court
- Overcoming nerves when presenting or making submissions in court
- Knowing what to say and/or do when you appear in court
- Techniques for effective communications with the judge
- Practical speaking skills and answering questions from the bench
- Dealing with confrontations and harsh comments from the bench
- Common mistakes made in courtrooms and how to avoid
   them

Sarah Minnery, Partner, Hemming + Hart Lawyers

### 11.00 Morning tea

### PARTNERSHIP: SOLICITORS AND BARRISTERS Joint Presentation

# 11.15 A successful partnership: solicitors' role and barristers' role

- Who does what?
- Preparing the perfect counsel brief
- Adequate and inadequate instructions from a solicitor
- Setting out a balanced overview of strengths and weaknesses in advice
  - Tips on how to conduct a 'smooth' partnership and a winning case

David Topp, Barrister, Queensland Bar and Treasurer, Queensland Young Lawyers Association and Helena Mrmos, Solicitor, Quinn & Scattini Lawyers

#### PREPARATIONS FOR TRIAL

# 11.45 Essential tools and techniques to effectively develop your legal analysis and prepare your written submissions

- Determine purpose, practice logical structure and organisation to develop a winning case
- · Developing a good and strong case theory
- Analysing your client's case and correctly advising your client
- Methods of coordinating your main point with necessary and relevant evidence
- Build structure and use appropriate length
- · Practical interviewing skills to adopt
- Writing skills to take away and practice

### Craig Smith, Barrister and Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology

### DEALING WITH EVIDENCE

## 12.45 Gathering and working smart with evidence, for and against

- Fundamental rules of evidence: admissibility, relevance and reliability
- Gathering evidence, interviewing witnesses and assessing your client's evidence thoroughly
- Which evidence to use: oral, documentary, real, privilege and opinion evidence
- Evidence and the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules (UCPR)

#### Robert Wensley QC, Barrister, Queensland Bar

1.30 Networking lunch



### 3 March 2011, Marriott Hotel, Brisbane

### TRIAL HEARING ADVOCACY

## 2.30 Effectively leading evidence in chief and keys to cross examination

- Potential traps for Plaintiffs and Defendants
- Skills for leading evidence and delivering it effectively during examination in chief
- How to build momentum with facts not in dispute
- Controlling witnesses with short, simple questions, one at a time
- Basic rules of cross examination and their limitations
- Analysing effective techniques to cross-examining witnesses successfully
- Dealing with inconsistent, unexpected or surprising answers

#### Richard Morgan, Barrister, Queensland Bar

#### 3.15 Delivering an argument: making the most of your case

- How to get your point across in oral submissions
- Opening and closing addresses
- Techniques that work and those that don't

### The Honourable Judge Leanne Clare SC, District Court of Queensland

### 4.00 Afternoon tea

### Who should attend?

- Practitioners of all levels who are keen to excel and develop their advocacy skills and knowledge
- Junior Barristers
- Junior and Graduate Solicitors
- Mentors developing and training junior practitioners
- Legal Officers
- Associates
- Law and Article Clerks
- Paralegals

#### 4.15 STREAMED MINI-WORKSHOPS

Choose between the Civil Stream or Family Stream

### PRACTICE TO MASTER THE ART OF ADVOCACY

Advocacy starts once you receive instructions to delivering closing addresses. Apply what you have learnt today at these mini-workshops to practice and become a winning advocate.

#### Activity: Civil or Family Stream

Delegates will divide into groups where they will put together a case and present before a 'judge' based on a hypothetical scenario. Choose your participation in either Civil or Family stream. This workshop will train, allow you to practice and succeed at being an advocate.

#### Feedback:

Facilitators will act as 'judges' and provide delegates with feedback on their presentation and provide a summary of best practice approach. Delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss their concerns.

#### **Practice materials:**

Practice materials will be provided to delegates by email prior to the conference for perusal and preparation.

**Workshop Facilitators** 

#### **Civil Law Stream**

Joanne Stagg-Taylor, Barrister and Acting Director, Griffith University Legal Practice Centre

#### **Family Law Stream**

Keith Wilson SC, Barrister, Queensland Bar and Retired Federal Magistrate

### 5.30 Closing remarks from the Chair and close of conference

5.30 - 6.30 Drinks and networking





# Priority registration form Advocacy 2011

# to register

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Event date & venue

3 March 2011 Marriott Hotel 515 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000

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