

Principal Areas of Practice

- Administrative Law
- Bankruptcy Law
- Commercial Law
- Class Actions / Representative Proceedings
- Consumer Protection Law
- Contract Disputes
- Civil Penalty Proceedings
- Corporations and Securities Law
- Disciplinary Proceedings
- Equity and Trusts Law
- Freedom of Information and Privacy Law
- Health and Medical Law
- Insolvency Law
- Professional Negligence
- Regulatory Matters (Compliance and Investigation)

Educational Qualifications

Australian Institute of Business, Master of Business Administration (major in financial management), 2019-2022

University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Laws (LLB): 2004-2008

- Graduated with First Class (H1) Honours in 2008
- Ranked fourth overall in graduating class of 2008
- Received the top mark and the Frank Galbally Memorial Prize in Advanced Criminal Law in semester 1, 2008
- Received the top mark in Refugee Law in semester 2, 2008

University of Melbourne, Bachelor of Science: 2004-2008

- Majored in Genetics

Legal Experience & Awards

- Chair, Firearms Appeals Committee, March 2021 to February 2023
- Member, Firearms Appeals Committee, February 2020 to February 2023
- Winner, "Barrister of the Year", Lawyers' Weekly "2018 Australian Law Awards"
- Winner, "Barrister of the Year", Lawyers' Weekly "Women in Law Awards"
- Tutorial teaching staff, Monash University Law School (contracts and equity), 2017 to 2018
- Signed Bar Roll of the Victorian Bar on 24 October 2013 (read with Andrew Hanak)
- Reporter, Federal Court Reports, Thomson Reuters, April 2014 to 2019
- Reporter, Federal Law Reports, Thomson Reuters, October 2013 to 2019
- Federal Court of Australia, Associate to the Honourable Justice John Middleton: July 2012 to August 2013
- Federal Court of Australia, Interim Associate to the Honourable Justice Michelle Gordon: May to June 2011
- Arnold Bloch Leibler, Paralegal, Law Graduate and then Solicitor: 2008 to June 2012

Key Matters

Katherine accepts briefs in all areas of commercial and corporate law.

In terms of her educational achievements, Katherine has a Bachelor of Laws degree with First Class Honours and a Bachelor of Science degree with a Genetics major, both from the University of Melbourne (from which she graduated in 2008). In mid-2022, she completed a Master of Business Administration, with a major in financial management. She is presently enrolled in the study of paramedicine.

Before coming to the Bar, Katherine was an Associate at the Federal Court of Australia, first to the Honourable Justice Michelle Gordon in 2011, and then to the Honourable Justice John Middleton in 2012 and 2013. Prior to that Katherine was a solicitor at Arnold Bloch Leibler, in the firm's Litigation department.

Since coming to the Bar, Katherine has been briefed to act for a range of regulators, government departments, companies and individuals. She appears both led and unled in all Victorian and federal tribunals and courts.

She has worked on a range of complex matters, involving banking and finance, bankruptcy, insolvency, taxation, intellectual property, health, civil penalties, class actions, professional negligence and corporations law (including a number of matters involving liquidators' examinations under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth)). In particular, she has considerable class action experience, and has acted for both plaintiffs and defendants in this regard.

She has also worked on numerous regulatory and disciplinary matters (both advice and appearance work), involving entities such as the Medical Board of Australia, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Australian Tax Office and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

She also has considerable Royal Commission experience, having been briefed in the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry, the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements and the Royal Commission into the Casino Operator and Licence. Katherine also appeared in the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Inquiry in 2020.

Katherine has previously been a reporter for the Thomson Reuters Federal Law Reports and Federal Court Reports, and a member of the teaching staff at Monash University Law School (where she taught a mixture of undergraduate, postgraduate (JD) and Masters classes).

Between February 2020 and February 2023, Katherine was a member of the Firearms Appeals Committee, a statutory body (independent of government) established under the *Firearms Act 1996* (Vic) to determine applications for review of certain decisions of the Chief Commissioner of Police made under that Act. Katherine was Chairperson of that Committee between about March 2021 and February 2023. In that role, Katherine was responsible for overseeing the management and running of the Committee, as well as presiding over hearings and writing reasons for decision as a legal member of the Committee. She also introduced a number of corporate governance reforms to streamline the practice and processes of the Committee, and improve access to justice for applicants (including by substantially reducing the number of days between applications for review being filed, and final orders being pronounced).

In October 2017, Katherine won the award for "Barrister of the Year" at the Lawyers' Weekly Women in Law Awards. In August 2018, Katherine won the award for "Barrister of the Year" at the Lawyers' Weekly Australian Law Awards.

She is frequently listed in Doyle's Guide and similar publications which identify leading and recommended Counsel in particular areas of law.

Katherine read with Andrew Hanak KC of the Victorian Bar.