



## Nicholas Olson

NEW/CHAMBERS

BA (Syd), LLB (Hons I) (Syd)

---

Telephone	+61 2 9151 2081
Clerk's telephone	+61 2 9151 2080
Fax	+61 2 9233 1850
Email	<a href="mailto:olson@newchambers.com.au">olson@newchambers.com.au</a>

---

Admitted to the legal profession	2013
Admitted as a barrister in NSW	2017
Also entitled to practise in	All Australian jurisdictions (Commonwealth, State and Territory)

---

### Principal areas of practice

Administrative law	Defamation and privacy
Appellate	Equity and trusts
Bankruptcy and insolvency	Insurance and reinsurance
Building, construction and technology	Privacy and breach of confidence
Class actions	Professional negligence and discipline
Commercial law	Real property
Constitutional law	Trade practices
Corporations and securities	

---

### Previous professional experience

HWL Ebsworth Lawyers: 2014 – 2017  
Piper Alderman Lawyers: 2012 – 2013

### Professional memberships

Australian Insurance Law Association  
Communications and Media Law Association

### Additional Information

Nicholas has been an examiner in Federal Constitutional Law at the University of Sydney since 2014.

Nicholas has also been a volunteer examiner for the Governor-General's Prize, a constitutional law essay competition administered by the Constitution Education Fund Australia.

### Selected cases (as a counsel)

- **Fairfax Digital Australia & New Zealand Pty Ltd v Kazal** [2018] NSWCA 77 – Defamation; contextual truth; mitigation of damages. Led by B R McClintock SC and S T Chrysanthou.
- **Nationwide News Pty Ltd v Rush** [2018] FCAFC 70 – Defamation; qualified privilege; appeal from interlocutory orders. Led by R G McHugh SC.
- **Rush v Nationwide News Pty Ltd (No 2)** [2018] FCA 550 – Defamation; mitigation of damage; joint and several liability for defamation. Led by S T Chrysanthou
- **Feldman v Polaris Media Pty Ltd (No. 2)** [2018] NSWSC 1035 – Defamation; honest opinion; justification; contextual truth; qualified privilege; fair report. Led by S T Chrysanthou.
- **Feldman v Polaris Media Pty Ltd (No. 3)** [2018] NSWSC 1201 – Defamation; application to set aside judgment after entry. Unled.
- **Commonwealth Steel Company Ltd v BHP Billiton Marine & General Insurance Pty Ltd** [2018] NSWCA 242; **Commonwealth Steel Company Ltd v BHP Billiton Marine & General Insurance Pty Ltd** [2017] NSWSC 1445 – Insurance; contractual construction; use of contextual evidence in aid of contractual construction. Led by D McLure SC.
- **Benhayon v Rockett (No. 4)** [2018] NSWSC 1312; **(No. 5)** [2018] NSWSC 1394; **(No. 6)** [2018] NSWSC 1403; **(No. 7)** [2018] NSWSC 1477; **(No. 8)** [2019] NSWSC 169 – Defamation; jury trial; justification; honest opinion; contextual truth; qualified privilege. Led by K Smark SC.
- **Benhayon v Rockett (No. 9)** [2019] NSWSC 172 – Defamation; indemnity costs; collateral use of documents obtained pursuant to court orders. Unled.

- **Wood v State of New South Wales** – Malicious prosecution; legal and ethical duties of Crown Prosecutors; proof of malice; issue estoppel.
- **Cummings v Fairfax Media Publications Pty Ltd** [2018] NSWCA 325 – Defamation; defamatory meaning; identification; fair summary of public documents; qualified privilege. Led by T K Tobin QC.
- **Dailymail.com Australia Pty Ltd v Spedding** – Defamation; extension of limitation period. Led by S T Chrysanthou.
- **Park v Palmer** - Defamation; liability for republication; justification; honest opinion; triviality. Led by M A Karam.
- **Plymouth Brethren (Exclusive Brethren) Christian Church Ltd v The Age Company Ltd** [2018] NSWCA 95 – Defamation; identification. Led by B R McClintock SC and S T Chrysanthou.
- **Alsuleiman v Nationwide News Pty Ltd & anor** – Defamation; justification; contextual truth; *David Syme & Co Ltd v Hore-Lacy* (2000) 1 VR 667. Led by K Smark SC.
- **Triguboff v Fairfax Media Publications Pty Ltd** [2018] FCA 845 – Defamation; identification. Led by S T Chrysanthou.
- **Cosco v Hutley** [2019] NSWSC 114 – Costs; no determination of liability. Led by S T Chrysanthou.
- **AZH17 v Minister for Immigration & Border Protection** [2018] FCCA 464 – Judicial review; *Migration Act 1958*. Unled.

- Selected cases (as a solicitor)**
- Acting for the publisher and author of the unauthorised biography of a prominent Australian political figure in defamation proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia.
  - Acting for a Commonwealth government agency in proceedings brought by a self-represented litigant for breach of privacy and breach of confidence in the District Court of New South Wales and New South Wales Court of Appeal.
  - Defamation and privacy law advice for the NSW Police Force, local councils and medical indemnity insurers.
  - Advising London Market and Dutch insurers on coverage issues and private international law issues arising out of a shareholders' class action in the Federal Court of Australia relating to the issue of a defective product disclosure statement.
  - Advising London Market insurers on coverage issues arising out of a class action in the Supreme Court of New South Wales against a government corporation in relation to property damage caused by the 2010-2011 Brisbane Floods.
  - Acting for a major Australian resources company in the High Court of Australia, the New South Wales Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court of South Australia in a series of test cases relating to exposures to asbestos in the company's shipbuilding and steelworks operations between the 1960s and the 1980s.

**Professional profile** [linkedin.com/in/nicholas-olson-96535a74](https://www.linkedin.com/in/nicholas-olson-96535a74)