

CURRICULUM VITAE FOR GREG AHERN RELATING TO RURAL LAW



PERSONAL DETAILS

Mr. Greg Ahern
14 November 1965
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PROFESSION

Barrister (Corporate and Commercial Law) at the Victorian Bar since November 1995
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

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Profile can be viewed on www.deverslist.com.au and www.vicbar.com.au

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

B.Ec, 1987, Monash University

LL.B, 1989, Monash University

PROFESSIONAL DETAILS AND BACKGROUND

- » Admitted to the Legal Profession: 2 April 1990
- » Signed Victorian Bar Roll on 30 November 1995 following 5 years as a corporate solicitor with Freehill Hollingdale & Page (now Herbert Smith Freehills) and a period as a consultant to the State of Victoria (electricity supply industry reform unit – the legal advisers to whom were Freehill Hollingdale & Page, Mallesons Stephen Jacques and Allens Arthur Robinson) (as they were then known)
- » Have practiced at the Victorian Bar since 30 November 1995.

PERSONAL BACKGROUND - RAISED AND EDUCATED IN RURAL VICTORIA

- » Before attending Monash University, I grew up in a small town in the Wimmera wheat growing region of Victoria and completed my secondary education at a nearby High School
- » My parents were wheat farmers and school bus operators.

AREAS OF PRACTICE AND EXPERTISE

- » At the Bar, I have acted in a broad range of commercial matters, including matters in the areas of company takeovers and reconstructions (through schemes of arrangement), investor class actions, corporate insolvency, managed investment schemes, shareholder disputes (including oppression proceedings), professional negligence (including in the financial services industry), partnership disputes, trade practices, aged care and copyright.

RURAL LAW MATTERS

In addition to my corporate and commercial practice at the Bar, I have acted in a broad range of matters for clients in rural Victoria, including:

- » Acting for a farmer in a farming partnership dispute (which matter is on-going)
- » Giving advice under the Water Act in connection with a proposed compulsory acquisition of land
- » Acting in compulsory acquisition of land proceedings
- » Giving advise under the Water Act in relation to groundwater rights
- » Acting for the Macedon Ranges Shire Council in relation to a proceeding arising out of a sub-division
- » Giving advice in relation to a proposed restructure/amalgamation of certain corporate entities through a scheme of arrangement
- » Acting for a son in a farming dispute where the issue related to alleged entitlements to farming equipment and land
- » Acting on behalf of the owners and operators of a commercial vineyard arising out of the presence of the insect known as Phylloxera in that vineyard
- » Acting for a small business operator in relation to an employee dispute.
- » Acting for a defendant in a defamation proceeding which arose in a country fire authority context

APPLICATION OF CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL LAW EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE TO RURAL LAW CLIENTS

The areas of corporate and commercial law in which I practice would also enable me to assist rural law clients in the following matters:

- » Private company shareholder disputes
- » Private company corporate governance matters (which may also apply to farming operations that operate through a trust structure with a corporate trustee)
- » Partnership disputes
- » Partnership governance matters
- » Duties of directors of small to medium businesses
- » Duties of trustees, including in the context where a business is operated through a trust with a corporate trustee
- » Whether options are open to corporate groups to stream line their corporate structure through a scheme of arrangement (where the purpose of the scheme of arrangement would be to effect a reconstruction or amalgamation of that corporate group)
- » Corporate insolvency matters
- » Agricultural managed investment schemes
- » Professional negligence

Dated: 21 December 2017