

ANNA E. CAPPELLANO

Year of call - 2008

DIRECT CONTACT DETAILS:

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PERSONAL ASSISTANT DETAILS:

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Criminal Law
Appellate
Inquests
Inquiries

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws (Hons), University of Queensland
Bachelor of Arts (Double Major in Political Science), University of Queensland

CAREER HISTORY

Anna is passionate about social justice and providing fearless advocacy for people who find themselves confronting the criminal justice system.

Anna commenced her career as the Associate to Justice Holmes in the Supreme Court of Queensland (former Chief Justice for the State of Queensland). It was in this role that Anna first developed her passion for criminal law as Her Honour was then the Manager of the Criminal Law list in the Supreme Court.

After her time as an Associate, Anna was employed as an articled clerk at a busy criminal law firm in Brisbane. She was admitted as a solicitor in the Supreme Court of Queensland in 2006 and worked as a solicitor in private practice before being called to the Bar in 2008.

Anna has practised at the private Bar in Queensland since 2008. She practices primarily in criminal law where she appears in trials and other hearings in the Supreme, District, Childrens and Magistrates Courts of Queensland, and in appeals in the Queensland Court of Appeal.

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Anna also appears in regulatory matters, inquiries and inquests. In 2022, Anna was one of the Counsel Assisting the Independent Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence. The inquiry's report, "A Call for Change" was presented to the Queensland Government in November 2022. In 2024, Anna was one of the Counsel Assisting the Inquest in relation to the shooting deaths at Wieambilla on 12 December 2022.

Anna is a member of the Queensland Bar Association and is an active member of the Bar Association's Criminal Law Committee.

Anna is also the Bar Association's representative on the Expert Evidence Steering Committee chaired by His Honour Judge Byrne KC and the Sexual Violence Case Management Pilot Steering Committee chaired by His Honour Chief Judge Devereaux SC.

Anna is a Board Member of inCommunity, a not-for-profit organisation that provides a range of services to homeless, at risk and disadvantaged members of the community.

Outside of work, Anna loves AFL football. She is able to channel her passion for both law and football in her role as the Chair of the AFL Queensland Tribunal. She has also represented AFLW players in hearings before the National AFL Tribunal.

SIGNIFICANT CASES

R v Featherstone; Ex parte Director of Public Prosecutions (Qld) [2024] QCA 197

R v Tong (a pseudonym) [2021] QCA 261

R v Delander [2019] QCA 69

R v Hines [2016] QCA 3

R v Brackenrig [2010] QCA 41

R v Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions v Mare & Ors [2009] Qld R 209

R v Pollock [2008] QCA 205

R v Pollock [2009] QCA 268

R v Pollock [2010] HCA 35

R v Pollock [2012] QCA 231

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RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- 11 October 2024 Presenter, Queensland Law Society Family and Criminal Law Conference 2024, Community Safety and Youth Justice
- 10 May 2024 Presenter, Legalwise – New Updates on Youth Justice: Session 1, Strengthening Community Safety and Other Legislative Developments in the Youth Justice Space
- 17 November 2023 Presenter, Legalwise – Criminal Law: Evidence and Critical Updates, Major Amendments Affecting Sexual Offences: What do Trial Lawyers Need to Know
- 16 June 2023 Presenter, Prisoner’s Legal Service Seminar – Human Rights and the Criminal Justice System, The changing landscape of DFV law
- 25 March 2023 Chair and Presenter, Reasonable Cause Criminal Law CPD Conference, Sexual offences: recent and upcoming changes
- 17 March 2023 Presenter, Legalwise – Criminal Law Symposium 2023, Criminalising Coercive Control

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