

CHRISTOPHER LOUIS ZELESTIS QC

Curriculum Vitae

1948	Born Perth, Western Australia
1969	Graduated LLB (Hons First Class) University of Western Australia
1970-1974	2 years articles, followed by period as solicitor in a firm
1974	Joined the independent Bar in Perth, Western Australia
1975-1976	Spent 9 months reading at the Bar in London, pursuant to an informal pupillage arrangement
1976	Returned to the Bar in Perth
1987	Appointed Queen's Counsel
1993-1994	President WA Bar Association
1990, 1994, 1995	Three short periods as Supreme Court Commissioner (acting judge)
2004-2015	Chair, Legal Profession Complaints Committee (WA statutory supervisory body, part time role)
2009-2011	Part time acting Parliamentary Inspector, Corruption and Crime Commission
December 2013	Ceased providing oral advocacy services, to focus on advisory work and acting as arbitrator, mediator and expert decision-maker
Personal	Married, two children

I have appeared in numerous matters in the High Court of Australia, the Federal Court of Australia, the Supreme Court of Western Australia and other Courts and Tribunals.

I have also appeared in many arbitrations and expert determinations as counsel, including an international arbitration held in Sweden in 2006.

I have acted as an arbitrator, mediator and expert decision-maker on numerous occasions.

I have acted for many major Australian and International corporations, for the State Government of Western Australia and many of its agencies and for several Commonwealth Government agencies.

I have conducted inquiries for the State Government of Western Australia and delivered written reports of outcomes.

My work as counsel and as arbitrator, mediator and expert has covered the fields of contract, commercial law, administrative law, corporations, mining law, planning law, construction and engineering disputes, medical negligence, trusts, insolvency and trade practices.

I have had extensive experience in dealing with legal issues arising from the resources industries (oil, gas and mining), including in relation to joint venture agreements, farm-in agreements, tenement sales, water supply, minerals processing, royalty disputes, shareholders' rights and commodity price reviews.

I have also had extensive experience in regulatory, pricing and infrastructure access disputes, both as counsel and as decision-maker, in relation to gas supply, gas pipelines, ports, electricity supply and rail.

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