

Workshop 2: Golden Rules for Construction Litigation

Thursday 11 July | 1.15-4.45pm | Law Society House



3 CPD points |

Program

12.45pm **Lunch**

1.15pm **Workshop commences**

Session 1 – Stress testing the litigation

Presenters:

Florence Chen, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Darren Ho, Consultant, Construction and Infrastructure, McInnes Wilson Lawyers

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

Session 2 – Briefing the experts, the how, the what and the why

Presenter: **Peter Travers**, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

Afternoon tea

Session 3 – Mediation & other dispute resolution mechanisms

Presenter: **Susie McNeil**, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

Session 4 – The pitfalls of construction litigation

Presenters:

Florence Chen, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Darren Ho, Consultant, Construction and Infrastructure, McInnes Wilson Lawyers

Susie McNeil, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Peter Travers, Barrister, Queensland Bar

Chair: **Jesse Hill**, Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

4.45pm **Workshop concludes**

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Presenters



Florence Chen

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Florence Chen is a barrister at Level 27 Chambers and has a broad commercial practice, specialising in building and construction law and tax law. She is recognised as a leading tax barrister by Doyle's Guide and Chambers and Partners.

Prior to being called to the Bar in 2014, Florence was a Judge's Associate at the Supreme Court of Queensland to the Honourable Justice Fryberg and the Honourable Justice Jackson.

Florence is a proactive member of the legal community and currently sits on the Bar Association of Queensland Bar Council. She is a former President of the Queensland Young Lawyers.



Jesse Hill

Senior Legal Professional Development Executive, Queensland Law Society

Jesse comes to the QLS from private practice, where he worked exclusively in commercial litigation. Prior to his time in litigation, he worked in the Queensland Public Service in highly pressurised roles.

Jesse is acutely aware of many of the challenges faced by the legal profession both in the private and public sphere. He now seeks to equip legal practitioners with the tools and knowledge they need to thrive in practice.

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Darren Ho

Consultant, Construction and Infrastructure, McInnes Wilson Lawyers

Darren Ho is a consultant within McInnes Wilson Lawyers' Construction and Infrastructure team. He has over 25 years of post-admission experience in tailoring legal solutions for the building and construction industry. Darren provides both front and back end legal services to government, developers, building contractors, engineers, architects, building certifiers and (building) industry associations. His clientele currently ranges from ASX listed companies to 'mum-and-dad' contracting businesses.

Darren's construction law expertise covers a broad spectrum, ranging from construction and engineering to restrictive trade practices law. This expertise includes providing advice and document preparation, due diligence, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution services, adjudication services, review of decisions of the Queensland Building and Construction Commission, and litigation in the Supreme, District and Magistrates Courts.



Susie McNeil

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Susie has been a barrister at the private Bar in Queensland since 2007. She has a commercial practice which encompasses building and construction disputes, contract, insurance, body corporate and property disputes. She regularly acts as a mediator in commercial disputes. Susie has experience across the various Courts and Tribunals in Queensland, from QCAT to the Court of Appeal, as well as arbitrations.

Susie has been named in Doyle's Guide as one of Queensland's leading building and construction junior counsel since 2017, and as one of Australia's recommended building and construction junior counsel since 2018. She has also been recognised in the 2025 edition of Best Lawyers in Australia in the areas of Commercial Law, Insurance Law and Litigation.

Susie is the immediate past president of the Building Dispute Practitioners Society (Qld Chapter), having been on the committee since 2013. She was on the Women Lawyers of Queensland Committee between 2003 to 2015, serving as the president between 2009 to 2011.

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Peter Travers

Barrister, Queensland Bar

Peter has a broad commercial practice with a particular focus on contractual and property disputes, building and construction matters, professional negligence, and corporate and personal insolvency. Peter is also briefed in family law and administrative matters.

Peter appears in all state and federal Courts and specialist tribunals and is also experienced in mediations. Peter has over 10 years of project management experience, including several commercial construction projects, which provides him a unique understanding of the matters in which he is briefed.

Prior to being called to the Bar, Peter practised as a litigation and dispute resolution solicitor in a leading mid-tier firm. Before coming to the law, Peter served as an officer in the Royal Australian Air Force for 15 years and continues to serve in a reserve capacity.