

CARMEN DE MARCO

Year called – 2019
Year admitted – 2013

CONTACT DETAILS:

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Appellate
Criminal Law
Family Law
Inquests, Commissions of Inquiry, Statutory Tribunals
Regulatory Law
Work, Health & Safety Litigation

EDUCATION

2019 – First call to the Queensland Bar
2013 – Admitted as a legal practitioner
2013 – Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, Australian National University
2011 – Bachelor of Laws, University of Queensland

CAREER HISTORY

After obtaining a Bachelor of Laws in 2011, I undertook a graduate role with the Department of Defence in Canberra, working primarily in military discipline law. I subsequently obtained a position in the Office of the JAG assisting in Courts Martial and Defence Force Magistrate proceedings.

Upon admission as a legal practitioner in 2013, I returned to Brisbane to commence practice as a Federal Prosecutor with the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Prior to commencing at the private Bar, I practiced for eight years as a Federal Prosecutor and then Senior Federal Prosecutor. During this time, I prosecuted a variety of criminal offences and appeared in Supreme, District, and Magistrates Courts throughout Queensland in respect of both Commonwealth and State offences.

HIGGINSCHAMBERS

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SIGNIFICANT CASES

R v Robards (Unreported, District Court of Queensland at Brisbane, Jarro DCJ, 2 December 2021)

Prosecuted the defendant in respect of 14 x counts related to encouraging others to sexually abuse children overseas, preparing to engage in sexual intercourse with children overseas, and soliciting, obtaining, and importing child abuse material. The defendant encouraged and directed women located in the Philippines to abuse their child/children and to send him recordings of the abuse in exchange for money. Convicted and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment, with a non-parole period of 2 years.

R v Daly (Unreported, Supreme Court of Queensland at Brisbane, Bowskill J, 25 August 2021)

Prosecuted the defendant in respect of importing approx. 50 kg of liquid GBL (commonly known as the “date rape drug”), which the defendant intended to provide to a larger drug trafficking syndicate for sale. The defendant was also charged in respect of State trafficking offences. Convicted and sentenced to 8 years imprisonment, with a non-parole of 3 years.

R v Dunnett (Unreported, District Court of Queensland at Brisbane, Rinaudo DCJ, 21 April 2021)

Conducted the first prosecution and conviction in Australia of the newly created offence of importing and possessing child sex dolls, introduced by the *Combating Child Sexual Exploitation Legislation Amendment Act 2019*. The defendant imported one child sex doll into Australia and possessed two additional child sex dolls at his home and other child abuse material. Convicted and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment, released forthwith, and probation of 2 years.

R v Baggaley & Baggaley (Unreported, Supreme Court of Queensland at Brisbane, Lyons SJA, 27 July 2021)
Instructing Ben Power QC and Sophie Harburg of counsel.

Former Olympian Nathan Baggaley and his brother Dru Baggaley, were convicted and sentenced after trial in respect of attempting to import approx. 700 kg of cocaine off the coast of Tweed Heads. Nathan Baggaley was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment and his brother was sentenced to 28 years imprisonment.

R v Yanko (Unreported, District Court of Queensland at Brisbane, McGinness DCJ, 10 June 2021)
Instructing Lincoln Crowley QC and Sophie Harburg of counsel.

First person in Australia to be successfully convicted after trial in respect of Commonwealth offences of cross-border acquisition/disposal of firearms. The defendant was involved, with others, in purchasing a number of semiautomatic handguns in various states and selling these weapons to known criminals in other states. Convicted and sentenced to 8.5 years imprisonment with a non-parole period of 6 years.

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