

NITRA KIDSON QC

Year of call - 2006
Year of silk - 2019

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Administrative law
Constitutional law
Native title
Human rights
Information law
Regulatory proceedings

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws (Hons), UQ
Bachelor of Arts, UQ

CAREER HISTORY

Nitra commenced at the private bar in 2006 and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2019. Nitra practises almost exclusively in public law, predominantly in the areas of administrative law, constitutional law, native title, human rights, information law and regulatory proceedings. She has appeared for and against all tiers of government and a range of statutory agencies. Nitra appears regularly in federal courts, including at the appellate level, as well as in the Supreme Court.

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SIGNIFICANT CASES

HIGH COURT

***Northern Land Council v Quall* (2020) 383 ALR 378; [2020] HCA 33**

Nitra appeared as lead counsel for the Northern Territory, with junior counsel Lachlan Peattie. Statutory construction as to whether the certification function of a representative body under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) was capable of delegation and whether power to delegate available.

Link to case: <http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/HCA/2020/33.html>

***Western Australia v Manado* (2020) 270 CLR 81; [2020] HCA 9**

Nitra appeared for the Commonwealth of Australia, led by the Commonwealth Solicitor-General, Dr Stephen Donaghue QC. Statutory construction of provision preserving public access to beaches where native title determined to exist.

Link to case: <http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/HCA/2020/9.html>

***Northern Territory v Griffiths* (2019) 269 CLR 1; [2019] HCA 7**

Nitra appeared for the Commonwealth of Australia, led by Stephen Lloyd SC. First litigated determination of compensation under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) for the historical extinguishment of indigenous rights in land.

Link to case: <http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/HCA/2019/7.html>

***Kline v Official Secretary to the Governor-General* (2013) 249 CLR 645; [2013] HCA 52**

Nitra appeared for the Official Secretary, led by the Commonwealth Solicitor-General, Justin Gleeson SC. Exclusion of documents from disclosure under *Freedom of information Act 1982* (Cth) unless related to 'matters of an administrative nature'.

Link to case: <http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/cth/HCA/2013/52.html>

FEDERAL COURT

***Saunders v Queensland* [2021] FCA 190**

Nitra appeared as lead counsel for the State of Queensland, with junior counsel Carla Klease. Strikeout of application for compensation under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). Statutory construction of qualifying criteria.

Link to case: <http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/FCA/2021/190.html>

***Drury v State of Western Australia* (2020) 276 FCR 203; [2020] FCAFC 69**

Nitra appeared for the State of Queensland, led by Stephen Lloyd SC. Whether Court has power to appoint more than one prescribed body corporate under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) with respect to the same area of land.

Link to case: <http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/cth/FCAFC/2020/69.html>

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SUPREME COURT OF QUEENSLAND

***SQH v Scott* [2022] QSC 16**

Nitra appeared as lead counsel for the Crime and Corruption Commission, with Junior counsel Renee Berry. Application of *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld) to reasonable excuse not to answer a question at a Commission hearing.

Link to case: <http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/qld/QSC/2022/16.html>

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